

CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

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SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL
AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

Fifteenth meeting
Montreal, 7-11 November
Agenda item 3.3.

DRAFT CAPACITY-BUILDING STRATEGY FOR THE GLOBAL TAXONOMY INITIATIVE

Draft recommendation submitted by the Chair

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice

I. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

Recommends that the Conference of the Parties, at its eleventh meeting, adopts a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Emphasizes* that the new Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets provide the overall framework for the implementation of the Convention towards 2020, and in this context *welcomes*, as useful guidance, the capacity-building strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI Capacity-building Strategy) that addresses the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/5);

2. *Invites* Parties and other Governments to integrate, in a timely manner, the actions of the GTI capacity-building strategy in their updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs), noting that taxonomic capacity-building requires multidisciplinary participation, including participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, and taking into account countries' circumstances and priorities;

3. *Invites* taxonomic and other relevant organizations, including, *inter alia*, taxonomic networks, scientific institutions and partners that contribute to the capacity-building strategy for the GTI to pay particular attention to the achievement of the outcome-oriented deliverables for the implementation of the programme of work for the GTI annexed to decision IX/22;

4. *Further invites* these organizations to make particular efforts to sustain and increase human resources for inventorying, monitoring and further generation of taxonomic information, as well as to build and maintain public information systems and facilities for collections of genetic resources;

5. *Recognizing* the importance of an interdisciplinary approach to the study of biodiversity, *encourages* collaboration between taxonomic and other institutions and organizations;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of increasing the scientific standing of taxonomic research, strengthening taxonomic expertise, in particular, on poorly studied or lesser known groups, and of creating new jobs for young taxonomists;

7. *Requests* Parties to report on the effectiveness of their capacity-building efforts to support the implementation of the GTI through their fifth and sixth national reports to the Convention and *requests* the Executive Secretary to report on the progress of implementation of the GTI, based on the national reports received from Parties to the corresponding meetings of the Conference of the Parties;

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8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to organize, as far as feasible, in partnership with other biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements and relevant international organizations:

(a) Regional workshops and programmes to assist Parties and their GTI national focal points to use the GTI capacity-building strategy to integrate taxonomy in updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans. Partners in these workshops and programmes include GTI national focal points and other relevant stakeholders such as the holders of indigenous and traditional taxonomic knowledge;

(b) Workshops and programmes, in collaboration with GTI national focal points and partners to provide practical tools to improve the taxonomic and related skills of human resources and to raise awareness of a wide range of stakeholders on the usefulness of taxonomic information in the context of the implementation of the Convention, including the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefit Arising from Their Utilization;

(c) The development, in collaboration with the GTI Coordination Mechanism and partners, including holders of indigenous and traditional taxonomic knowledge, a practical learning kit for the CBD and GTI national focal points to promote the GTI and facilitate their communication with all relevant stakeholders to strengthen the engagement of all relevant sectors and to support the actions of the GTI capacity-building strategy;

9. *Recognizing* that taxonomic research may involve the movement of genetic materials between countries, *emphasizes* the need for these activities to be undertaken in line with the provisions of the Convention on Access and Benefit Sharing and, as appropriate the Nagoya Protocol;

10. *Recognizes* the holistic views and management of ecosystems by indigenous and local communities and related indigenous taxonomic knowledge and the need for free prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples;

11. *Recognizing* the need for financial resources for capacity-building, including the consolidated guidance to the financial mechanism, *urges* Parties and *invites* other Governments, organizations and donors to provide adequate financial and technical support for Parties to carry out taxonomic projects and activities that prioritize the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;

12. *Takes note* of the revised terms of reference for the Coordination Mechanism for the Global Taxonomy Initiative, contained in the information document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/5 as well as the questionnaires for taxonomic needs and capacity assessments, contained in information document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/4, which will be helpful for setting priorities for taxonomic capacity-building in updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

II. REQUEST TO THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the GTI Coordination mechanism, to further refine the contents of the capacity-building strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative annexed to UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/5, in the light of comments submitted by Parties at the fifteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, and to make the refined strategy available through the clearing-house mechanism prior to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
