

Report of the European Expert Meeting in Preparation of SBSTTA-15

September 26 - 28, 2011

**Convened by the
German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation
at the International Academy for Nature Conservation,
Isle of Vilm**

Horst Korn, Kathrin Bockmühl & Rainer Schliep (Eds.)

- **Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020**
- **Ecosystem Restoration**
- **Global Taxonomy Initiative**
- **Invasive Alien Species**
- **Inland Water Biodiversity**
- **Sustainable Use of Biodiversity**
- **Arctic Biodiversity**

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Glossary of Acronyms

ABA	Arctic Biodiversity Assessment (CAFF)
AHTEG	Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group
BIP	Biodiversity Indicators Partnership
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CAFF	Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (Biodiversity working group of the Arctic Council)
CBMP	Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Programme (CAFF)
CHM	Clearing-House Mechanism
CIC	International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation
CIFOR	Center for International Forestry Research
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
CMS	Convention on Migratory Species
COMIFAC	Central African Forests Commission
COP	Conference of the Parties
ES	Executive Secretary
EU	European Union
FAO	United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization
GBIF	Global Biodiversity Information Facility
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GEO-BON	Group on Earth Observations - Biodiversity Observation Network
GSPC	Global Strategy for Plant Conservation
GTI	Global Taxonomy Initiative
IAS	Invasive Alien Species
IPBES	Intergovernmental Panel on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPPC	International Plant Protection Convention
ITTO	International Tropical Timber Organization
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
LGBM	Liaison Group on Bushmeat
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MEA	Multilateral Environmental Agreement
MOC	Memorandum of Collaboration
NBSAP	National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plan
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OIE	World Organisation for Animal Health
PoW	Programme of Work
RBI	River Basin Initiative
SBSTTA	Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (CBD)

SEBI	Streamlining European Biodiversity Indicators
SPS	Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (WTO)
TEEB	the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity
TRAFFIC	the Wildlife Trade Monitoring Network
UN	United Nations
UNEP	United Nations Environmental Program
WCMC	UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre
WGRI	Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation (CBD)
WTO	World Trade Organisation

1 Introduction

The European expert meeting in preparation of the upcoming fifteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA-15) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was held as an informal scientific workshop, **aiming to exchange information and opinions on the topics to be discussed at the upcoming meeting of SBSTTA. The 42 participants from 18 European and other countries** (EU member states, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Ghana, Greenland, Norway and Switzerland) **attended in their personal capacity as biodiversity experts**. Mr. Robert Höft from the CBD Secretariat took part in the meeting as an observer. The experts introducing their respective topics to the meeting were Ms. Monika Bertzky (UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre, UK), Mr. Peter Bos (Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation, The Netherlands), Ms. Ana Delgado (Department for Environmental, Food and Rural Affairs, UK), Ms. Thilde Flindt (Ministry of the Environment / Nature Agency, Denmark), Mr. Christoph Häuser (Museum für Naturkunde Berlin, Germany), Mr. Andras Krolopp (Central and East European Working Group for the Enhancement of Biodiversity (CEE-WEB), Hungary), Mr. Roland Melisch (TRAFFIC - the wildlife trade monitoring network, Germany), Mr. Axel Paulsch (Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, Germany), Mr. Jan Plesnik (Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection, Czech Republic), Ms. Tone Solhaug (Ministry of the Environment, Norway) and Ms. Inge Thaulow (The Ministry of Domestic Affairs, Nature and Environment, Greenland).

The participants of the preparatory meeting to SBSTTA-15 were welcomed by Mr. Horst Korn from the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation, who chaired the meeting. The topics were introduced briefly by the above named specialists in their field and discussed extensively in plenary. **In this report, the main points of discussion are summarised and general comments on the Secretariat's documents are given. In addition, amendments to the recommendations given in the Secretariat's documents are suggested.** Topics of the Secretariat's documents not mentioned specifically in this report were widely agreed on by the workshop. The major points raised during the discussion are represented in this report. **The aim of the expert meeting was not to reach a consensus on the individual points but rather to have an exchange of opinions and ideas.** A high degree of similar points of view was apparent. **This report is intended to help individuals and delegations in their preparation of the topics on the agenda of SBSTTA-15.**

How to read the report

Amendments and additions to the original SBSTTA-15 documents are marked as follows throughout the report:

~~Text~~ = text is suggested to be deleted

Text = suggestion for new text

[(Text)] = comment or rationale

Only those passages of the Secretariat's documents to which amendments are proposed are reproduced in the report.

2 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020

Item 3.1 of the provisional agenda

- **Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/2: Suggested Indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets Document**
- **Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/3: Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 Provisional Technical Rationale, Possible Indicators and Suggested Milestones for the Aichi Biodiversity Targets**

Introductory Remark

Ms. Ana Delgado and Ms. Tone Solhaug introduced documents UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/2 and UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/3 on suggested indicators and on the provisional technical rationale, possible indicators and suggested milestones for the Aichi Biodiversity Targets for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 - 2020 with comments on the draft texts and some suggestions for further work highlighting the crucial relevance of these documents for the further work of the Convention.

General Comment

The participants at the Vilnius workshop highlighted that the two documents for agenda item 3.1 are addressing different and complementary aspects of the Strategic Plan. Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/3 presents revised technical rationales as further explanatory guidance to Parties to strengthen implementation; Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/2 outlines the proposed indicator framework to monitor progress towards implementation of the Strategic Plan.

The participants of the Vilnius workshop were delighted that there are 22 global indicators ready for use.

When presenting guidance on funding priorities to the GEF, COP-11 should give high priority to processes enhancing implementation and monitoring of the Strategic Plan. The need for further cooperation in developing and using indicators (such as the BIP process) is important in order to measure global progress towards the 2020 targets and requires funding to support Parties in their monitoring efforts.

Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/2:

Suggestions on the text:

**SUGGESTED INDICATORS FOR THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020
AND THE AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS**

Note by the Executive Secretary

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

abridged; continued

SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATIONS

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice may wish to make a recommendation along the following lines:

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice:

1. Welcomes the report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/6) and requests the Executive Secretary to circulate it widely to partner organizations to solicit their comments and inputs;

2. Also welcomes the contribution made by the Group on Earth Observation Biodiversity Observation Network, in collaboration with IUCN – The World Conservation Union and the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre on the Adequacy of Biodiversity Observation Systems to Support the CBD 2020 Targets (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/8);

3. Further welcomes the review of National Indicators, Monitoring and Reporting for Global Biodiversity Targets commissioned by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs of the United Kingdom and carried out by the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/9);

4. Takes note of the conclusions of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group concerning the indicator framework for the Strategic Plan for biodiversity 2011-2020, including the following:

(a) Communication of biodiversity information should be organized around the following overarching policy questions: How is the status of biodiversity changing? (*State of biodiversity*); Why are we losing biodiversity? (*Pressures on biodiversity and their underlying causes*); What are the implications? (*Benefits from biodiversity*); and What do we do about it? (*Responses to address biodiversity loss at all levels*);

(b) A set of 12 headline indicators can be used to present information relevant to the high-level policy questions and covers the ambitions set out in the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;

(c) Each headline indicator covers several sub-topics for which distinct metrics or operational indicators are required;

(d) A number of operational indicators (currently 22) are ready for use at the global level; another group (currently 51) consists of indicators that should be developed as a priority for use at the global level and development is already underway for a number of them. The main needs for the further development of indicators pertain to Strategic Goals A (mainstreaming), D (benefits), and E (implementation);

(e) The Aichi Biodiversity Targets and proposed indicator framework provide a flexible framework for Parties to be adapted, taking into account national priorities and circumstances. For most headline indicators it is likely that Parties will use different metrics and methodologies for their indicators depending on national targets and available data and methods;

(f) A list of indicators primarily for use at the sub-global level has been developed as guidance for Parties as they develop monitoring programmes for their national biodiversity strategies in accordance with decision X/2;

(g) Countries with limited capacities for developing and applying indicators based on national data and monitoring will require financial resources and technical support to design and carry out priority monitoring activities required at the national level. ~~Members of the~~ The Biodiversity Indicators Partnership could have a role in providing technical assistance as appropriate;

(h) The mid-term evaluation of the Strategic Plan, as well as the experience in using the indicators in the fifth National Reports and in the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, will provide opportunities to review progress in developing and using indicators and to assess the adequacy and effectiveness of indicator framework for monitoring progress, at national and global levels, towards the achievement of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

5. **Invites the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership to co-ordinate and facilitate the work in delivering global indicators and fill remaining gaps identified in Annex 2 of Doc. UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/2. ([Rationale: To emphasise the important role of BIP and to re-affirm its role on indicator delivery to track progress of the new Strategic Plan.]**

6. **Invites GEO-BON to complete its work on identifying essential biodiversity variables and data sets as presented in UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/8 and then report to a future meeting of SBSTTA. ([Rationale: The identification of essential variables and data sets illustrates the importance of continuing with these data sets and also shows how a suite of indicators can be delivered by a core set of data, value for money.]**

7. **Requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the members of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership, indicator lead agencies and other relevant organizations indicator lead agencies, to develop technical guidance on methodology and data source to facilitate the application of the indicators for global use, for which such guidance has not already been developed. ([Rationale: To be more specific on exactly which type of guidance is required.]**

6. *Recommends* that the Conference of the Parties:

(a) *Thanks* the European Union for its financial support of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and to the Government of Canada, the European Environment Agency, Norway, Switzerland and the United Kingdom for their support of the International Expert Workshop held from 20-22 June 2011 in High Wycombe, United Kingdom, in support of the AHTEG on Indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;

(b) *Agrees* that the indicator framework (consisting of a conceptual model, policy questions, headline indicators, indicator sub-topics and prioritized operational indicators) provides a sufficient **initial** basis to assess progress in the achievement of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 at various scales, **and encourages its immediate application; ([Rationale: To explain that the framework is a starting point that should be applied immediately.]**

(c) *Confirms* that the indicator framework should be applied flexibly for specific purposes and be considered as guidance for Parties and other Governments in the development or refinement of their monitoring and assessment systems to support the development and implementation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) as well as implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;

(d) **Decides that the further development of global indicators is required to ensure that each Aichi Biodiversity Target can be monitored by at least one global indicator by 2014 and that work should be continued on developing additional indicators as identified in Annex II of Doc. UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/2, and furthermore requests SBSTTA to assess progress being made to-**

wards indicator development for consideration by COP-12; ([Rationale: It is important that each target can be tracked at a global level – this gives SBSTTA a mandate to assess how work is progressing and to take further action if needed.])

(de) *Decides* that the indicator framework for the Strategic Plan should be kept under review with a view to enabling the future incorporation of relevant indicators developed by other Conventions and processes that are relevant to monitoring biodiversity,

(ef) Considering that the mid-term evaluation of the implementation of the Strategic Plan as well as the ongoing experience in the use of the indicators in the fifth National Reports and in the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook will provide opportunities to review ~~of~~ progress in the development and use of indicators and the adequacy and effectiveness of the indicator framework for monitoring progress, at national and global levels, towards the achievement of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, *requests* the Executive Secretary to provide regular **progress** reports to a meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice prior to each of the meetings of the Conference of the Parties until 2020; **([Rationale: To emphasise that the reports should examine progress on the development and use of indicators etc.])**

(fg) Noting that the information obtained through the 5th National Report will be a key input to the fourth edition of Global Biodiversity Outlook and contribute to the evaluation of the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals in 2015, **urges** ~~invites~~ Parties and **invites** other Governments to make significant efforts towards preparing indicator-based reports where appropriate; **([Rationale: To make this more operative.])**

(gh) *Encourages* Parties, especially those with limited resources (and not yet using systematically produced indicators in their official reports) to initially establish a few ~~simple~~ **easily applicable** indicators for priority issues identified within their national biodiversity strategies and action plans and in line with the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, to demonstrate the benefits of the use of the indicators and build support for the development and use of additional indicators for other issues in a step-by-step manner; **([Rationale: The indicators are not simple, they should however be easily applicable.])**

(hi) *Encourages* Parties and other Governments to **establish or identify institutional arrangements and to** contribute to, update, verify and maintain relevant national data in regional and global data sets as a contribution to optimize and coordinate the production of indicators for monitoring and reporting at various scales, **if they have not already done so; ([Rationale: To bring in line with the AHTEG recommendation to institutionalise arrangements for indicator development and monitoring.])**

(ij) *Invites* **GEF and other funding bodies and** relevant organizations, ~~including funding bodies,~~ to encourage and support the long-term monitoring and reporting of priority information, including **the strengthening and development of cooperation, best-practise sharing and citizen science** by promoting the development or strengthening of ‘communities of practice’ on biodiversity monitoring and by ~~ensuring~~ **encouraging** that available data at all scales are made publicly available; **([Rationale: To clarify what is meant by ‘communities of practice’ and to encourage GEF funding.])**

(jk) ~~*Invites Requests*~~ the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre and other members of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership, to compile technical guidance materials ~~for capacity building and support to Parties~~ for the further development of indicators and monitoring and reporting systems and to make it accessible in form of a toolkit, building on the material already available on the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership web pages. **([Rationale: Indicator information/co-ordination etc., is a role that UNEP-WCMC should undertake with BIP.])**

abridged

Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/3:

Suggestions on the text:

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020

**PROVISIONAL TECHNICAL RATIONALE, POSSIBLE INDICATORS AND SUGGESTED
MILESTONES FOR THE AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS**

Note by the Executive Secretary

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

abridged; continued

SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATIONS

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice may wish to adopt a recommendation along the following lines:

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice,

Takes note of the technical rationales, for the Aichi Biodiversity Targets for further consideration at the national level,

Requests the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with relevant international organizations, to develop explanatory technical guidance based on the table annexed to this document, on each of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, including possible steps to achieve these targets and example indicators to monitor progress and disseminate this information widely in all UN-languages, in order to further facilitate their implementation and integration into national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

Recommends the Conference of the Parties to:

- 1. Welcome the explanatory technical guidance provided by the Executive Secretary;**
- 2. Invite Parties, as appropriate, to translate the explanatory guidance / information into national languages and to disseminate the information widely.**

abridged

3 Ecosystem Restoration

Item 3.2 of the provisional agenda

- **Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/4: Ways and Means to Support Ecosystem Restoration**

Introductory Remark

The document suggesting ways and means to support ecosystem restoration (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/4) was introduced by Mr. Axel Paulsch, who also provided a short overview on definitions and underpinnings of ecosystem degradation and destruction as well as on targets for ecosystem restoration formulated by the CBD COP and SBSTTA. Mr. Axel Paulsch provided a comprehensive list of suggested improvements to the recommendations that were discussed and amended in a working group and reported back to the plenary.

General Comment

The participants of the Vilm workshop realized both the urgency of the matter and its specificity regarding time and place. They recommend considering to speed up the process of fact-finding by direct requests from SBSTTA to the Executive Secretary so that substantive input will be available for COP-11. They also suggest moving some activities to the regional level which, in many cases, is more adequate to address specific problems and proposed solutions.

Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/4:

Suggestions on the text:

WAYS AND MEANS TO SUPPORT ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION

Note by the Executive Secretary

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

abridged; continued

SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATIONS

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice

1. Requests the Executive Secretary in collaboration with relevant international organisations and other partners to: [(Rationale: The following list of activities to be undertaken by the Executive Secretary builds on the list of tasks that were originally proposed for a potential AHTEG.)]

(a) Compile the information on practical guidance or guidelines developed by government agencies around the world, NGOs, and academic and research institutions for the restoration of specific landscapes, ecosystems, habitats, and/or biotic/abiotic components of ecosystems; identify gaps, if any, in their scope or coverage of types of degraded ecosystems, taking into consideration the causes of degradation, and gaps in their objectives (whether for rehabilitation/revitalization, partial or full restoration), and suggest ways for filling those gaps;

(b) Consolidate, in collaboration with partners, after inviting views of the specific needs of end users such as policy makers, implementing agencies, and on the ground practitioners, existing guidance to cater for these needs;

(c) Compile the most frequently used definitions/descriptions of key terms and highlight the links to the Strategic Plan and the Aichi Targets;

(d) Compile information on tools and technologies used at different spatial scales and for specific ecosystems to be addressed at regional level;

(e) Convene, subject to the availability of funding, prior to COP-11, regional expert workshops to consolidate these tools and technologies, discuss prioritisation criteria, and identify effective ways and means for dissemination to support (i) informed decision-making on restoration policy, legislation, and regulation, (ii) adherence to best practices for ecosystem restoration among implementing agencies, and (iii) the effective design, implementation, and monitoring of restoration projects/programmes on the ground;

(f) Synthesize the results of the regional expert workshops and submit these to COP.

2. Further requests the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of funding, to:

(a) Convene regional and sub-regional capacity-building workshops;

(b) Further develop and make available through the clearing-house mechanism a range of implementation tools for ecosystem restoration aimed at different audiences and translated into all United Nations languages and facilitate, in collaboration with partners, the development of a user-friendly, comprehensive webpage on ecosystem restoration;

(c) Explore, in collaboration with partners, options for facilitating the sharing of expertise with countries that seek specific technical advice on ecosystem restoration; and

(d) Develop, in collaboration with partners, a TEMATEA issue based module on ecosystem restoration.

3. Stresses the urgency that action be taken by Parties and other Governments, organizations and donors to provide adequate technical and other support to the Executive Secretary for the capacity development initiatives.

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice may wish to recommend that the Conference of the Parties adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties,

~~Takes note of the key messages developed by SBSTTA contained in section IV of the present note.~~

Noting that¹: [(Rationale: Better stress key messages from section IV.)]

¹ Key messages are largely drawn from the document Nellemann, C., E. Corcoran (eds). 2010. *Dead Planet, Living Planet – Biodiversity and Ecosystem Restoration for Sustainable Development. A Rapid Response Assessment*. United Nations Environment Programme, GRID-Arendal.

(a) Restoration is not a substitute to conservation, nor is it a conduit for allowing intentional destruction or unsustainable use. It is the last resort for ameliorating degraded ecosystems to the benefit of all life on Earth.

(b) Ecosystems deliver essential services to humankind estimated to be worth over US\$ 21-72 trillion a year – comparable to the World Gross National Income. Yet in 2010, nearly two-thirds of the globe's ecosystems were considered degraded as a result of damage, mismanagement and a failure to invest and reinvest in their productivity, health and sustainability.

(c) The ability of world's expanding population to thrive, let alone survive, over the coming decades will in part depend on maintaining, enhancing and investing in restoring ecological infrastructure and expanding rather than squandering the planet's natural capital.

(d) Mismanagement of natural and nature-based assets is under-cutting development on a scale that dwarfs the recent economic crisis.²

(e) It is time that governments systematically factor not only ecosystem management but also restoration into national and regional development plans.

(f) Effective conservation is the cheapest and most optimal option for securing ecosystem goods and services. Protected areas are the most-used and effective conservation method. However, protected areas cover only 13 per cent of world's terrestrial surface, 6 per cent of territorial waters and <1 per cent of the high seas, and many of them are not under effective management. Of the 80–90 per cent of the planet outside of protected areas, almost one-third of the ecosystems have been converted for human activities and another third have been degraded to some extent. With such levels of degradation major improvements and efforts are needed to restore and manage these ecosystems and at a much greater scale to achieve targets 14 and 15 by 2020, and taking into account targets 4 and 8 of the GSPC.

(g) Well planned restoration, compared to loss of ecosystem services, may provide benefit/cost ratios of 3–75 in return on investment and an internal rate of return of 7–79 per cent, depending on the ecosystem restored and its economic context, thus providing in many cases some of the most profitable public investments including generation of jobs directly and indirectly related to improving environment and health.

(h) It is essential to raise awareness among the general public, policymakers and environmental managers on the crucial role of ecosystems and biodiversity in providing valuable ecosystem services and the high costs associated with ecosystem degradation not only toward replacing those services but also lost labour productivity, lost incomes for example from tourism, and increased expenses in production;

Emphasizing that the new Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets provide the overall frame for the work of the Convention towards 2020, which should also guide the future work of all its cross-cutting issues and thematic areas;

Ways and means to support ecosystem restoration

14. Urges Parties and invites other Governments and relevant organizations to make concerted efforts to achieve targets 14 and 15 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and targets 4 and 8 of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation including by effectively implementing the restoration-related provisions in previous decisions of the Conference of the Parties and relevant thematic and cross-cutting programmes of work, by addressing both underlying and direct causes of ecosystem degradation or destruction, by improving the status and resilience of ecosystems, and by further enhancing the use of ecosystem restoration as a means of *inter alia* carbon sequestration, ecosystem based adaptation and mitigation of climate change as well as other ecosystem services;

25. Invites Parties, other Governments, relevant intergovernmental organizations, the Society for Ecological Restoration, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, The World Resources

² Achim Steiner at <http://www.care2.com/causes/how-do-we-value-birds-bees-and-trees-world-environment-day-calls-for-action.html>

Institute, the Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration, the International Tropical Timber Organization and other relevant organizations to support countries in implementing ecosystem restoration by:

- (a) Making available tools such as e-learning programmes;
- (b) Compiling and disseminating case-studies, best practices and socioeconomic aspects;
- (c) Facilitating the sharing of public information and knowledge;
- (d) Supporting and/or coordinating capacity-building workshops;
- (e) Convening regional/sub-regional technical training on key themes;
- (f) Enhancing partnerships and exchange programmes between agencies and restoration practitioners;
- (g) Developing and implementing communication programmes highlighting the economic, ecological and social benefits of ecosystem restoration including awareness raising amongst the general public, policy makers and environmental managers not only on the crucial role that ecosystems and biodiversity play in providing ecosystem services but also on the costs associated with ecosystem degradation, lost incomes, increased expenses in production, the cost savings, benefits and the potential solutions to common political challenges that restoration can contribute;
- (h) Supporting the development of regional, sub-regional or national plans or ~~national~~ programmes for restoration of ecosystems ~~or other disturbed areas~~ **[(Comment: other areas are also ecosystems)], taking into account the Ecosystem Approach;** and
- (i) Supporting the execution of projects that implement the results of research on ecological restoration and rehabilitation, **including their short term as well as long term monitoring.**

6. Urges Parties and invites other Governments, organizations and donors to provide adequate technical and other support to the Executive Secretary for the capacity development and implementation initiatives.

3. ~~Requests~~ the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of funding, to:

- ~~— (a) — Convene regional and subregional capacity building workshops;~~
- ~~— (b) — Further develop and make available through the clearing house mechanism a range of implementation tools for ecosystem restoration aimed at different audiences and translated into all United Nations languages;~~
- ~~— (c) — Facilitate the development of a user-friendly, comprehensive central webpage on ecosystem restoration in collaboration with partners; and~~
- ~~— (d) — Develop, in collaboration with partners, a TEMATEA issue-based module on ecosystem restoration.~~

4. ~~Urges Parties, and invites other Governments, organizations and donors to provide adequate financial and technical support to the Executive Secretary for the capacity development initiatives.~~

Possible development of practical guidance on ecosystem restoration

5. ~~Establishes an Ad hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) in accordance with the procedures outlined in the consolidated *modus operandi* of SBSTTA (decision VIII/10, annex III) and taking into account the need to draw upon the experience of relevant international organizations. The AHTEG would:~~

- ~~(a) — Compile the information on practical guidance or guidelines developed by government agencies around the world, NGOs, and academic and research institutions for the restoration of specific landscapes, ecosystems, habitats, and/or biotic/abiotic components of ecosystems; identify gaps, if any, in their scope or coverage of types of degraded ecosystems, taking into consideration the causes of degradation, and in their objectives (whether for rehabilitation/revitalization, partial or full restoration), and suggest ways for filling those gaps;~~

(b) — Consolidate the existing guidance to cater to the needs of different targeted end users such as policy makers, implementing agencies, and on the ground practitioners;

(c) — Compile information on tools and technologies used at different spatial scales and for specific ecosystems; consolidate these tools and suggest ways and means to effectively disseminate them to support (i) informed decision making on restoration policy, legislation, and regulation, (ii) adherence to best practices for ecosystem restoration among implementing agencies, and (iii) the effective design, implementation, and monitoring of restoration projects/programmes on the ground;

(d) — Propose a *modus operandi* for reaching targets 14 and 15 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and targets 4 and 8 of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation including a roadmap with milestones and indicators of progress; and

(e) — Compile the most used definitions/descriptions of key terms.

6. — Requests the Executive Secretary:

(a) — Subject to the availability of funding, to convene the meeting of the AHTEG described above and submit its report for consideration at a meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice prior to the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and

(b) — Compile all decisions of the Conference of the Parties and required actions related to ecosystem restoration for wider dissemination to Parties and others for concerted action to implement them for achieving targets 14 and 15 and related targets of GSPC by 2020.

abridged

4 Global Taxonomy Initiative

Item 3.3 of the provisional agenda

- Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/5: Draft Comprehensive Capacity-Building Strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative

Introductory Remark

Mr. Christoph Häuser introduced document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/5 on the draft comprehensive capacity-building strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative, the results and lessons learned from regional taxonomic needs assessments, the resulting “taxonomic impediment” and the identification of priorities. His suggestions on the text were discussed in a break-out group; the results were presented to the plenary.

Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/5:

Suggestions on the text:

DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE CAPACITY-BUILDING STRATEGY FOR THE GLOBAL TAXONOMY INITIATIVE

Note by the Executive Secretary

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

abridged; continued

SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATIONS

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) may wish to recommend that the Conference of the Parties adopt 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 frame for the work of the Convention towards 2020, which should also guide the future work of all its cross-cutting issues and thematic areas, and acknowledges the importance of the comprehensive Capacity-building Strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI Capacity-building Strategy), in this context;**

2. **Endorses** the comprehensive Capacity-building Strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI Capacity-building Strategy) that addresses the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, as annexed hereto;

3. **Invites** Parties and other Governments to integrate the actions of the GTI Capacity-building Strategy in their updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) taking

into account that taxonomic capacity-building requires multi-disciplinary participation, and undertake the actions of the GTI Capacity-building Strategy in timely manner;

~~34.~~ *Invites* relevant organizations, including, *inter alia*, taxonomic networks, scientific institutions and partners that contribute in capacity-building to further produce and maximize the use of the outcome-oriented deliverables for the implementation of the programme of work on the GTI annexed to decision IX/22, **in particular efforts to sustain and increase human resources and provide job opportunities for trained experts, and also efforts to strengthen the scientific standing of taxonomic research by acknowledging their taxonomic contributions in addition to peer-reviewed publications;**

~~45.~~ *Requests* Parties to report on the effectiveness of their capacity-building efforts to support the implementation of the GTI within 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 and *invites* the corresponding body to review the implementation of the Convention to provide further guidance;

~~56.~~ *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to organize:

(a) Regional workshops to assist Parties and the GTI national focal points to facilitate integration of the GTI Capacity-building Strategy in updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans;

(b) Workshops in collaboration with the GTI national focal points and partners to improve the taxonomic **and accompanying** skills of a wide range of stakeholders in the context of the implementation of the Convention **including the Nagoya Protocol** and accordingly;

(c) **the development,** ~~Develop,~~ in collaboration with the GTI Coordination Mechanism and partners, of 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;

~~6. — Urges Parties and invites other Governments, organizations and donors to provide adequate financial and technical support to the Executive Secretary for capacity development initiatives;~~
[(Rationale: Matter of COP.)]

7. *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).

abridged

5 Invasive Alien Species

Item 4.1 of the provisional agenda

- **Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/6: Invasive Alien Species: Proposals on Ways and Means to Address Gaps in International Standards Regarding Invasive Alien Species Introduced as Pets, Aquarium and Terrarium Species, as Live Bait and Live Food**

Introductory Remark

Ms. Thilde Flindt introduced document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/6 on proposals on ways and means to address gaps in international standards regarding invasive alien species, particularly species introduced as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, as live bait and live food. Her suggestions on the text were intensively discussed in plenary and the results of the break-out group led by Ms. Thilde Flindt were welcomed by the plenary.

Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/6:

Suggestions on the text:

**INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES: PROPOSALS ON WAYS AND MEANS TO ADDRESS GAPS
IN INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS REGARDING INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES
INTRODUCED AS PETS, AQUARIUM AND TERRARIUM SPECIES, AS LIVE BAIT AND
LIVE FOOD**

Note by the Executive Secretary

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

abridged; continued

SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATIONS

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) **recognising the increasing role of Invasive Alien Species as one of the main drivers of biodiversity loss as well as their impact on other sectors, all of them negatively affecting human wellbeing, emphasizes the urgent need to continue to work on this issue. SBSTTA** may further wish to recommend that the Conference of the Parties adopt a decision along the following lines: **[(Rationale: History on IAS, other pathways are important, urgent cooperative action is needed.)]**

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) meeting on Addressing the Risks Associated with the Introduction of Alien Species as Pets, Aquarium and Terrarium Species, and as Live Bait and Live Food (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/1);

2. *Expresses* its gratitude to the Co-Chairs and members of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on Addressing Risks Associated with the Introduction of Alien Species as Pets, Aquarium and Terrarium Species, and as Live Bait and Live Food and for its work and to the Governments of Spain and Japan for their financial support;

Recalling decision IX/4 A paragraphs 4-6,

3. *Recognizing* the multi-sectoral nature of the issues associated with invasive alien species, *reiterates* that “The Guiding Principles” adopted in decision VI/23* continue to provide relevant guidance for addressing the risks associated with the introduction of alien species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food;

4. *Encourages* Parties and Governments to ensure effective collaboration at the national level among the Convention on Biological Diversity focal points and the national, among national authorities that deal with the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), the Codex Alimentarius Commission, the World Trade Organization’s Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (WTO-SPS Agreement), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), thus addressing sanitary and phytosanitary measures and with threats from invasive alien species, and, as appropriate, when addressing the risks associated with introduction of alien animal species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food to make full use of existing standards developed under the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), the Codex Alimentarius Commission, the World Trade Organization’s Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (WTO-SPS Agreement), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); **[(Rationale: The standard-setting bodies of the WTO address many but not all threats relevant for biodiversity and ecosystems. Adding CBD focal points is therefore necessary.)]**

5. *Further encourages* Parties, other Governments and relevant and organizations, including local taxonomic institutions to develop capacity for Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to meet target 9 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;

6. *Encourages* members of the World Trade Organization (WTO) SPS committee, and members of its recognized standard-setting organizations to further address the risks posed by introductions of alien invasive species that are not considered pests of plants, taking note that the risks associated with the introduction of alien species may include impacts on ecosystem functioning **and that cooperation with the Convention on Biological Diversity bodies on this issue is necessary; [(Rationale: include CBD knowledge.)]**

7. *Encourages* the IPPC to request its members to **give specific attention to** broaden their phytosanitary measures to ensure the protection of plants in marine environments in particular, and as well as in terrestrial and freshwater environments, and to consider further broadening the application of the IPPC to protect also the health of bryophytes and algae species, and also to **clarify** ascertain whether or not the **IPPC** mandate extends to fungi health and protection; **[(Rationale: Ensure biodiversity attention.)]**

8. *Encourages* the OIE to continue its efforts in considering the impacts of invasive alien species on ecosystems and animal health, and to update the OIE Aquatic Code and OIE Terrestrial Code, and provide advice and guidance on the assessment of the risk of invasion of alien species on ecosystems;

9. **Reiterates decision SBSTTA IX/15 (d iii), requesting the Executive Secretary to renew his application for observer status in the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS) of the World Trade Organization with a view to enhancing the exchange of information on deliberations and recent development in the respective bodies of relevance to invasive alien species, in light of the increasing importance of the ecosystem level on establishing adequate standards. [(Rationale: Ensure two way communication and influence by CBD.)]**

910. *Recognizing* the relevance, importance and applicability of existing international standards, guidelines and recommendations to addressing the risks associated with the introduction of alien species, *requests* the Executive Secretary in line with decision X/38 (paragraph 3(c)), in collaboration with the relevant international organizations that set international standards, guidelines and recommendations to develop guidance for Parties regarding the application of extant international standards, guidelines and recommendations. The guidance should include:

(a) How to apply the existing international regulatory framework, including the Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, and the standards developed by the IPPC, OIE, CITES and other relevant international agreements, as well as the Guiding Principles annexed to decision VI/23*, in ways applicable to the relevant sectors at national and regional levels, as appropriate;

(b) Relevant risk-analysis tools and information;

(c) National invasive alien species strategies and advice on how to integrate these into national policy;

(d) Lessons learned from countries' use of lists of alien species for all stakeholders, including border control officials, traders and consumers, regulating whether a particular species may be imported, kept, bred, applied for trade or not; as well as information on the relative strengths and limitations of white or black lists;

(e) Voluntary measures applicable in specific circumstances of countries or regions in capacity, geography and policy in the region;

(f) Information on capacity development for identification of species, e.g. the Green Customs initiative;

(g) Advice on how national authorities and industry can develop close collaboration to ensure compliance with national regulations on the import of alien species, and that relevant and accurate information tags are displayed via delivery services such as post, courier, including delivery services in the internet marketplace; and

(h) Regional cooperation to harmonize policy on introduction of alien species as pets and as live bait and live food;

1011. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary, with the further inputs of the experts, members of the AHTEG, and in collaboration with the members of the Liaison Group, to prepare proposals for more detailed guidance for Parties on the drafting and implementation of national measures ~~to address the specific gap~~ associated with the introduction of alien animal species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food, in order to complete the tasks set out in the annex to decision X/38; **[(Comment: The scientific task of identifying gaps is not relevant here.)]**

~~14~~**12.** *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to continue to pursue the tasks set out in decision IX/4 A (paras. 11, 12 and 13) and X/38 (para.s 13), **especially regarding progress in the relationship with WTO standard-setting bodies and other relevant organizations; [(Rationale: The relationship with WTO standard-setting bodies are addressed in paras. 6 - 8.)]**

~~13~~**13.** *Recognizing* the rapid growth of international market places over the internet, including the sale and purchase of live animal species, *requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To explore methodologies and instruments in use by law enforcement agencies to monitor and control related trade and cross-border movements of alien species introduced as pets and as live bait and live food; and

(b) To collect information on best practices to raise public awareness and disseminate guidance to internet traders;

~~13~~**14.** *Recognizing* the potential risks of invasion of alien animal species from commercial zoos and safari parks resulting from accidental escapes of the animals, and the release and escape of animals used as live food, *requests* the Executive Secretary to continue to work on risks particular to these separate pathways;

~~14~~**15.** *Takes note* of the potential risks associated with unintentional release and escapes of captive bred alien ~~individuals populations~~ and genotypes as pets impacting on native genetic diversity, and *requests* the Executive Secretary to collect case-studies and explore measures in collaboration with relevant international organizations; **[(Rationale: Not populations, but individuals escape.)]** and

~~15~~**16.** *Recalling* decision X/38, para 7, *welcomes* the work of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) to organize a workshop to improve the interoperability of online databases and networks, and facilitate the use of information necessary to conduct risk and/or impact assessments and *encourages* Parties, Governments and relevant institutions and organizations to participate in developing interoperable information systems that can be used in developing early-detection and rapid response systems.

abridged

6 Inland Water Biodiversity

Item 4.2 of the provisional agenda

- **Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/8: Biological Diversity of Inland Water Ecosystems: Implications of Changes in the Water Cycle, and Freshwater Resources, in the Implementation of the Thematic and Cross-Cutting Programmes of Work**

Introductory Remark

Mr. Andras Krolopp introduced documents UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/8, UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/9 and UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/10. He reported on the in-depth review of implementation of the Programme of Work on Inland Waters Biodiversity and presented an overview on the history and on the linkages to the Strategic Plan of the Programme of Work. Mr. Krolopp further made suggestions concerning the draft recommendations in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/8 and the further development of the River Basin Initiative. The results of the respective break-out group were presented to the plenary for discussion.

Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/8:

Suggestions on the text:

BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY OF INLAND WATER ECOSYSTEMS: IMPLICATIONS OF CHANGES IN THE WATER CYCLE, AND FRESHWATER RESOURCES, IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE THEMATIC AND CROSS-CUTTING PROGRAMMES OF WORK

Note by the Executive Secretary

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

abridged; continued

SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATIONS

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice may wish to adopt a recommendation along the following lines:

1. *Welcomes* with appreciation the reports prepared by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/8; UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/9; UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/10; and UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/11);

2. **Emphasizes that the new Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets provide the overall frame for the work of the Convention towards 2020, which should also guide the future work of all its cross-cutting issues and thematic areas;**

23. Takes note of the implications of the water cycle, and freshwater resources, in the implementation of all the thematic and cross-cutting programmes of work of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2010–2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets including, *inter alia*, that:

(a) The water cycle is a bio-physical process underpinned by ecosystems and that changes in water availability (and quality), including *inter alia* humidity, soil moisture and evapo-transpiration of plants, affect ecosystem functions and service delivery;

(b) The implications of the way in which the water cycle functions are many and varied necessitating that water be considered as a “cross-cutting” subject under the framework of the ecosystem approach;

(c) The water cycle forges strong links between the various Aichi Biodiversity Targets and it remains important to adequately capture the relevant aspects of the water cycle through the monitoring framework for the Strategic Plan under further development (decision X/7);

(d) Biodiversity (“natural infrastructure”) plays a key role in achieving water security for ecosystems and people and this presents opportunities for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 to contribute to improved water security particularly through the potential cost-benefits of natural infrastructure approaches to sustainable land and water management which also capture the other co-benefits on offer;

(e) Water issues and solutions are very much case and locality specific and it is not possible to be prescriptive or exhaustive regarding priorities but some key areas for additional attention can be identified such as: (i) the role of vegetation in sustaining local and regional rainfall and humidity; (ii) the importance of soil biodiversity with regards to soil moisture and water balances and therefore in sustaining land functionality; (iii) the importance of the water cycle in sustaining desirable levels of sediment transfer and deposition and the substantial ecosystem services this underpins (particularly in coastal areas); and (iv) the role of biodiversity/ecosystems in regulating the extremes of water availability (including both drought, through for example soil and land-cover restoration, and flooding, through for example wetlands restoration);

(f) **Since nutrient loading, including the impacts of agricultural production, as one of the main pressures on biological diversity, especially on inland water and coastal biodiversity, has not yet been addressed as a specific issue within the CBD, more attention should be paid to eutrophication in freshwater as well as in coastal ecosystem world-wide;**

(g) **There are regional initiatives which establish a legally binding framework for integrated water management that can serve as models for other regions;**

(h) **The findings, tools and methods which are already available should be applied at the local, national or regional levels in order to address inland water ecosystems, their functions and services;**

(i) **The year 2013 will be the UN Year of Water Cooperation and provides, together with the current International Decade for Action 'Water for Life' 2005 – 2015, opportunities to bring Inland Water Biodiversity issues to broad public attention.**

34. Notes that the scientific work ongoing on this topic (as described in the progress report on the work in addressing paragraphs 39 to 41 of decision X/28 on review of information, and the provision of key policy relevant messages, on maintaining the ability of biodiversity to continue to support the water cycle (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/11)) will be a useful basis for considering any further and more specific advice;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to further streamline its activities with the Ramsar Secretariat in order to make best use of available resources.

abridged

7 Sustainable Use of Biodiversity

Item 4.3 of the provisional agenda

- **Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/12: Sustainable Use: Options for Small-Scale Food and Income Alternatives in Tropical and Sub-Tropical Countries and Revised Recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat**
- **Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/13: Report on how to Improve Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in a Landscape Perspective**

Introductory Remark

Mr. Roland Melisch introduced document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/12 and reported on the progress of the „Joint Meeting of the CBD Liaison Group on Bushmeat (LGBM) and the CITES Central Africa Bushmeat Working Group“, convened in June 2011 in Nairobi, Kenya. He presented the policy frameworks on bushmeat in Multilateral Environmental Agreements and highlighted the relevance of the bushmeat topic in relation to CBD and CITES. His suggestions on the recommendations were discussed in a break-out group and the results reported back to the plenary.

Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/13 was presented by Peter Bos. He proposed a thorough revision of the existing recommendation to make it more useful and relevant with respect to the crucial role of the sustainable use concept in the frame of the CBD. The elements to be considered for improving the recommendation include underpinning, scope, target groups and guidance. The suggestions on the text were developed in the respective working group and discussed in plenary.

General Comment

The participants at the Vilm workshop highlighted and were delighted that recommendations of the LGBM as in Annex I of document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/12 were agreed upon in a broad participatory manner with input from a large range of parties, including the secretariats of three conventions (CBD, CITES and CMS), UN organizations and programmes (FAO, UNEP-GRASP), the Central African Forests Commission (COMIFAC), representatives of indigenous people and local communities, the Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC), and TRAFFIC - the Wildlife Trade Monitoring Network.

The participants of the Vilm workshop were further delighted that the recommendations of the LGBM as in Annex I of document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/12 were ready for use and implementation.

The participants of the Vilm workshop further realised the urgency and specificity of the subject, and suggested therefore to adopt the recommendations of the LGBM as in Annex I of document

UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/12 and to speed up the actions to be taken, so that substantive progress can be reported already at COP-11.

Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/12:

Suggestions on the text:

SUSTAINABLE USE: OPTIONS FOR SMALL-SCALE FOOD AND INCOME ALTERNATIVES IN TROPICAL AND SUB-TROPICAL COUNTRIES AND REVISED RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE LIAISON GROUP ON BUSHMEAT

Note by the Executive Secretary

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

abridged; continued

SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATIONS

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice may wish to recommend that the Conference of the Parties adopt a decision along the following lines:

[(Comment: Whilst fully supporting the adoption of the recommendations of the LGBM as in the annex I of Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/12, the participants of the Vilm workshop suggested to amend the recommendations given in the Secretariat's document to refer generically to wild fauna rather than exclusively to tropical and sub-tropical fauna.)]

The Conference of the Parties

1. **Adopts the recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat (annex I of the present document) as a specific complement to the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity related to sustainable wildlife management in tropical and sub-tropical and other countries, as appropriate; [(Rationale: Examples exist from countries outside the tropics and sub-tropics where these recommendations would be equally useful and applicable, e. g. concerning threatened waterbirds, Central Asian gazelles, musk deer etc.)]**

2. **Welcomes the progress on Art. 10c on customary sustainable use as this relates to the sustainable use of bushmeat; [(Rationale: Reference to results and progress of WG 8(j) text on Art. 10c.)]**

23. **Urges Parties and invites other Governments and relevant organizations to:**

(a) **Implement the recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat as annexed to this decision, where appropriate, taking into account Article 10(c) of the Convention;**

(b) **Develop and promote methods and systems, and build capacity to determine levels of sustainable harvest of wild fauna at national and other levels, with a particular view to improve sustainable wildlife management and customary sustainable use; [(Rationale: New para-**

graph added due to the fact that an important point on the baseline for decisions is missing, reflecting Rec. 6 of LGBM.)]

(b~~c~~) Develop and promote ~~appropriate~~ alternatives to the unsustainable harvesting of ~~wild~~ tropical and sub-tropical fauna, depending on the local and national context, ~~with a particular view to improve sustainable wildlife management and customary sustainable use, based on the recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat~~ **[(Comment: Deleted text has been moved up to new (b).)], and engage with development and agricultural institutions and the scientific community in creating alternatives not detrimental to biodiversity. [(Rationale: important because development of appropriate alternatives is not simple and can itself become detrimental to biodiversity.)]**

34. Requests the Executive Secretary to:

(a) Explore options for the development of a collaborative partnership ~~on wildlife management~~, to support the implementation of **the recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat** ~~this decision and other relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties, and to enhance cooperation and coordination on wildlife management issues.~~ **[(Comment: Cannot be called 'decision' at this point of time.)]**

(b) Facilitate the exchange of information and experience between Parties.

(c) **Develop the linkages between the work on Art. 10c and customary sustainable use of bushmeat. [(Rationale: Reference to results and progress of WG 8(j) text on Art. 10c.)]**

(d) Based on submission from Parties and relevant organizations, and with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, report on progress of the implementation of the recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat, and on related capacity-building requirements, to the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

abridged

Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/13:

Suggestions on the text:

REPORT ON HOW TO IMPROVE SUSTAINABLE USE OF BIODIVERSITY IN A LANDSCAPE PERSPECTIVE

Note by the Executive Secretary

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

abridged; continued

SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATIONS

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice may wish to recommend that the Conference of the Parties adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties

Highlighting the sustainable use of biological diversity and its components as the second objective of the Convention;

Recalling existing guidance on sustainable use already developed within the CBD in particular the Addis Ababa principles and guidelines and Ecosystem Approach as well as relevant elements of the thematic programmes of work, selected targets of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, the recommendation from the Liason Group on Bushmeat and ongoing work on customary sustainable use (Article 10(c));

Acknowledging the importance of the work on the application of sustainable use carried out by international organizations in particular FAO and ITTO as well as relevant conventions and international agreements;

Emphasizing that sustainable use is a precondition to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets of the Strategic Plan;

1. Encourages Parties to strengthen application of principles of sustainable use in all spatial planning and sectoral policies that relate to the wider land and seascape and its components.

2. Recognizing the importance of existing guidance in the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines and in the Ecosystem Approach guidelines; therefore encourages parties to use relevant guidance.

3. Invites the Environmental Management Group, in cooperation with other relevant organizations to compile, assess, further develop and disseminate existing guidance on sustainable use in key sectors as they relate to the Strategic Plan and each of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

4. Encourages Parties to acknowledge the important role of local and indigenous communities to facilitate their full and effective participation in achieving sustainable use of the components of biological diversity.

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to explore options for the development of a collaborative partnership on sustainable use of biodiversity and its components with relevant organizations and learning from positive experience of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests.

~~Invites Parties and other Governments and organizations to use the existing guidance in the note by the Executive Secretary on how to improve sustainable use of biodiversity in a landscape perspective (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/13) as a complement to existing guidance including the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity. [(Comment: This section is included in bullet points 2. and 3.)]~~

abridged

8 Arctic Biodiversity

Item 4.4 of the provisional agenda

- Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/14: Arctic Biodiversity

Introductory Remark

Ms. Inge Thaulow introduced document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/14 on arctic biodiversity highlighting the relevance of the arctic ecosystems for global biodiversity, introducing the challenges for arctic ecosystems and the institutional framework for the governance of arctic biodiversity, presenting key findings emerging from the Arctic Biodiversity Assessment. She further elaborated on the suggested recommendations that were discussed by the participants in plenary.

Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/14:

Suggestions on the text:

ARCTIC BIODIVERSITY

Note by the Executive Secretary

SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATIONS

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific Technical and Technological Advice may wish to make a recommendation along the following lines:

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific Technical and Technological Advice

1. Welcomes the report on Arctic biodiversity prepared by the International Secretariat of the Working Group of the Arctic Council on the Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF) and notes in particular that: [(Rationale: Highlight the importance of the Arctic in a global biodiversity perspective, as follows.)]

(a) The Arctic plays host to a vast array of biodiversity, including many globally significant populations of fauna and flora;

(b) Arctic ecosystems provide essential services including for the livelihoods of indigenous and local communities;

(c) Climate change is emerging as the most far reaching and significant stressor on arctic biodiversity;

(d) Changes in Arctic biodiversity have global repercussions;

(e) Conservation of Arctic biodiversity contributes to the implementation of the Strategic Plan.

2. Recommends that the Conference of the Parties may wish to adopt a decision along the following lines:

Recalling the MOC between CBD and CAFF; [(Rationale: Highlights existing collaboration.)]

23. Encourages the **increased** ~~continued~~ collaboration between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Working Group on the Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna with regard to monitoring and assessments of status and trends in, and threats to, biodiversity. [(Rationale: Monitoring more specific in bullet point five.)]

4. Following the lead partner approach, **acknowledges the role of the CAFF Working Group within the Arctic Council as the lead organization on Arctic biodiversity issues; [(Rationale: Recognise CAFF as the main forum to address Arctic biodiversity issues.)]**

5. Encourages the Arctic Council to continue development of the Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Program (CBMP), to facilitate more rapid detection, communication, and response with respect to significant biodiversity-related trends and pressures affecting the Arctic environment; [(Rationale: To acknowledge the role of CBMP as a corner stone of the Arctic biodiversity monitoring efforts.)]

6. Urges Parties and invites other Governments, especially those that are members of the Arctic Council, to ensure that the CBD Strategic Plan and all Programmes of Work are fully implemented in this region;

7. Invites Parties and other Governments, especially those that are members of the Arctic Council, to make available through their national Clearing-House Mechanisms as appropriate data and information generated through activities of CAFF, including from the CBMP and CAFF's Arctic Biodiversity Assessment (ABA), and to make full use of them in their reports to the CBD and to other conventions, where relevant;

8. Requests the Executive Secretary to make use of data and information generated by the Arctic Council; [(Rationale: Secure inclusion of data generated by the Arctic Council in the work of CBD.)]

abridged

European Expert Meeting in Preparation of the Fifteenth Meeting of SBSTTA (SBSTTA-15)

September 26 – 28, 2011

at the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation
International Academy for Nature Conservation,
Isle of Vilm, Germany

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European Expert Meeting in Preparation of SBSTTA-15

Objectives

The goal of the expert meeting was to exchange information on topics on the agenda of the upcoming fifteenth meeting of SBSTTA (SBSTTA-15) among national experts from European countries. The informal discussion was based on the documents prepared by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Programme

Sunday, 25.09.2011

Arrival of the participants

20.30 HORST KORN

Welcome of the participants of the expert meeting

Opening of the meeting, short introduction

Monday, 26.09.2011

08.10 *Breakfast*

09.00 TONE SOLHAUG

Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 – 2020: Provisional Technical Rationale, Possible Indicators and Suggested Milestones for the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

Discussion

09.45 ANA DELGADO

Tracking Progress: Indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 – 2020

Discussion

10.45 *Coffee / Tea break*

11.15 CHRISTOPH HÄUSER

Capacity-building Strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative

Discussion

11.45 INGE THAULOW

Arctic Biodiversity

Discussion

12.30 *Lunch*

14.00 PETER BOS

Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in a Landscape Perspective

Discussion

14.45 ROLAND MELISCH

Sustainable Use of Biodiversity: Report of the progress of the “Joint Meeting of the CBD Liaison Group on Bushmeat and the CITES Central Africa Bushmeat Working Group”, June 2011, Nairobi, Kenya

Discussion

15.30 *Coffee / Tea break*

16.00 Drafting groups, part 1:

Contributions to the workshop report

18.30 *Dinner*

19.30 Plenary:

Final discussion of Arctic biodiversity, afterwards drafting groups, part 2 (if necessary)

Tuesday, 27.09.2011

08.10 *Breakfast*

09.00 MONIKA BERTZKY

Presentation of the Project “Carbon, Biodiversity & Ecosystem Services: Exploring Co-benefits” with Special Focus on the Module on Restoration Ecology

Discussion

09.45 AXEL PAULSCH

Ways and Means to Support Ecosystem Restoration

Discussion

10.30 *Coffee / Tea break*

11.00 ANDRAS KROLOPP

Biological Diversity of Inland Water Ecosystems

Discussion

11.45 THILDE FLINDT
Invasive Alien Species
Discussion

12.30 *Lunch*

14.00 *Guided tour in the nature reserve of the Isle of Vilm*

15.30 *Coffee / Tea break*

16.00 Plenary

17.00 Drafting groups:
Contributions to the workshop report (part 3)

18.30 *Dinner*

20.00 JAN PLESNIK
Ways and Means to Improve the Effectiveness of SBSTTA
(For information only)

20.30 Plenary:
Short progress of the drafting groups, afterwards drafting groups, part 4 (if necessary)

Wednesday, 28.09.2011

08.10 *Breakfast*

09.00 Drafting groups, part 5:
Contributions to the workshop report

10.30 *Coffee / Tea break*

11.00 Plenary: Finalization of the workshop report

12.30 *Lunch*

14.00 Plenary: Finalization of the workshop report

16.00 *Coffee / Tea break*

Programme

16.30 Plenary: Finalization of the workshop report

18.30 *Dinner*

Thursday, 29.09.2011

Departure of the participants

**PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR THE FIFTEENTH MEETING OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL
AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE**

	<i>Plenary</i>	<i>Working Group I</i>	<i>Working Group II</i>
Monday, 7 November 2011 10 a.m. – 11.30 a.m.	<i>Agenda items:</i> 1. Opening of the meeting; 2. Election of officers, adoption of the agenda and organization of work; Keynote presentation		
11.30 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3.3. Draft comprehensive capacity-building strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative.		
3 p.m. – 6 p.m.	3.1. Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020: Updated technical rationales and indicators		
6 p.m.	Poster session begins		
Tuesday, 8 November 2011 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3.2. Ways and means to support ecosystem restoration		
3 p.m. – 6 p.m.		4.1. Invasive alien species: Proposals on ways and means to address gaps in international standards regarding invasive alien species introduced as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, as live bait and live food	4.2. Inland water biodiversity: Implications of changes in the water cycle, and freshwater resources in the implementation of the programmes of work

	<i>Plenary</i>	<i>Working Group I</i>	<i>Working Group II</i>
Wednesday, 9 November 2011 10 a.m.–1 p.m.		4.3. Sustainable use of biodiversity: revised recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat including options for small-scale food and income alternatives, and report on how to improve sustainable use in a landscape perspective	4.4. Arctic biodiversity
3 p.m.–6 p.m.	5. Ways and means to improve the effectiveness of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.		
Thursday, 10 November 2011 10 a.m.–1 p.m.	Pending issues		
3 p.m.–6 p.m.		Pending issues	Pending issues
Friday, 11 November 2011 10 a.m.–1 p.m.	Pending issues		
3 p.m.–6 p.m.	6. Draft provisional agenda, and dates and venue for the sixteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice 7. Adoption of the report and closure of the meeting		