



CBD



**Convention on
Biological Diversity**

Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/18/INF/16
30 May 2014

ENGLISH ONLY

SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC,
TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE
Eighteenth meeting
Montreal, 23-28 June 2014
Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

**SUMMARY OF VIEWS ON THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF TOOLS AND GUIDANCE
TO ASSIST IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION AND THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR
BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020**

Note by the Executive Secretary

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In accordance with decision X/9, paragraph (b) (v), a mid-term review of progress towards the goals of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, including the programmes of work and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, will be undertaken at the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, to take place from 6 to 17 October 2014, in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea. The Conference of the Parties will consider, under agenda item 16 of the provisional agenda,¹ the further development of tools and guidance to assist implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.
2. In decision XI/13 B, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to prepare information and report on progress, *inter alia*, on policy support tools, observations and data systems for monitoring, and scientific and technical needs related to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. The Conference of the Parties requested the Subsidiary Body, on the basis of its analysis of this report, to identify scientific and technical needs related to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and to report thereon to the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting. Accordingly, the Subsidiary Body, at its seventeenth meeting, considered ways and means to facilitate the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and adopted recommendation XVII/1 on scientific and technical needs related to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.
3. To further facilitate the consideration of agenda item 16 by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting, the Secretariat, by notification 2014-014 (ref.: SCBD/SAM/DC/SS/ac/83121, dated 27 January 2014), invited Parties and organizations to provide views and inputs on possible elements for tools and guidance to assist implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020

* UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/18/1.

¹ Documents for the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties are available at: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=COP-12>
/...

and provide further momentum for the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The Secretariat received inputs from: Australia; Colombia; European Commission²; Iraq; Oman; Uganda; Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; Mediterranean Protected Areas Network and Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas; Local Governments for Sustainability; Brighter Green and Global Forest Coalition; International Tropical Timber Organization; Natural Justice; and a joint submission from the Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Territories and Areas (ICCA) Consortium, Kalpavriksh, the Global Forest Coalition and Natural Justice.

4. The present note provides a summary of views submitted by Parties and organizations in response to the notification. The information contained in this note may be considered together with the information contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/18/2/ADD1 which is intended to assist the Subsidiary Body in considering the implications of the findings of the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook for the future work of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and inform the consideration of the Conference of the Parties, at its twelfth meeting, on the steps to enhance the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (the "Pyeongchang Roadmap"; see UNEP/CBD/COP/12/1/Add.1).

II. TOOLS AND GUIDANCE RELATED TO THE OUTCOMES OF THE SEVENTEENTH MEETING OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

5. A number of submissions referred to the consideration of scientific and technical needs related to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 at the seventeenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body. The comments overall generally reinforce the conclusions of the meeting as presented in recommendation XVII/13, or provide suggestions for the consideration of additional or complementary tools and guidance.

6. For example, Colombia recommended the consideration of a number of additional or complementary elements to those identified in recommendation XVII/1. In particular, Colombia highlighted the importance of Strategic Environmental Assessments as policy support tools.

7. Regarding needs related to planning and mainstreaming, Colombia reiterated the need for the productive sectors, especially agriculture, to incorporate the management of ecosystem services as a key aspect of production and spatial planning.

8. With regards to protected area management, Colombia suggested prioritizing the development of tools for areas that have been subjected to change or intervention, in particular integrated land management tools.

9. With regards to needs for data, monitoring, observation systems and indicators, Colombia recommended the consideration of tools to standardize scales and relevant variables, as well as open source tools for assessment and monitoring of biodiversity and ecosystem services. Uganda highlighted the need for geographical information systems. Also, in relation to regional collaborative programmes that promote biodiversity observation networks and support data analysis, Colombia suggested the consideration of bi- or multilateral support for information management for the management of transboundary ecosystems.

10. Regarding tools for enhancing the links between science and policy, Colombia mentioned the need to generate impact indicators and to have tools and instruments to monitor whether the information has been,

²The European Commission did not make a formal submission in response to notification 2014-014, but rather directed the Secretariat to previous submissions made on similar topics (see paragraph 11 of this Note), and to the website of the Biodiversity Information System for Europe.

³ Recommendations adopted by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at its seventeenth meeting: <http://www.cbd.int/doc/recommendations/sbstta-17/full/sbstta-17-rec-en.pdf>

or has not been, incorporated into the decisions, and monitor their effectiveness for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystem services.

11. In responding to notification 2014-014, the European Commission referred to an earlier submission in response to notification 2013-005 (ref.: SCBD/STTM/DC/ac/81207, dated 21 January 2013) regarding the identification of scientific and technical needs related to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and Aichi Biodiversity Targets, which was sent to collect information in preparation for the seventeenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body. Needs identified included the development of indicators for measuring biodiversity and ecosystem services and for tracking resources needed for the implementation of the Strategic Plan. Another gap identified was regarding the impacts of climate change on biodiversity and tipping points or planetary boundaries of biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation.

12. The European Commission suggested using existing science-policy platforms and networks for engaging the scientific community to strengthen the scientific basis in measuring progress in implementing the Strategic Plan, in particular, the Intergovernmental science-policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES). Furthermore, the link between enhancing sustainable consumption and production patterns and halting biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation could be strengthened through cooperation, such as with UNEP's International Resources Panel.

III. GAPS AND NEEDS TO ENHANCE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION AND THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020

13. In addition to scientific and technical needs related to the outcomes of the seventeenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body described above, a number of submissions outlined specific gaps and needs for the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

14. It was recognized that many policy support tools and methodologies have already been developed under the Convention and its Protocols, including strategies, targets, principles, voluntary guidelines, programmes of work, toolkits and databases. According to Australia, the policy support tools and methodologies developed under the Convention and available to Parties are generally useful and technically sound. For example, Australia uses a number of the policy support tools and methodologies that have been developed under the Convention, and in many cases, adapts them for use depending on needs and circumstances. Australia, while recognizing that there are a number of gaps in policy support tools and methodologies available for each of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, is of the view that any new policy support tools and methodologies should be developed on an 'as needed' basis and serve a direct purpose for multiple Parties. Australia also highlighted the importance of avoiding duplication of existing tools, methodologies and guidance that exists at the international, regional and national level, or from other related forums and organizations, that may serve to contribute to the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

15. In addition, Australia noted that, given existing tools already in place, increased effort could be devoted to communicating the existence and value of the policy support tools and methodologies to potential users, to assist in uptake by Parties and reduce the need to develop new tools, unless where there is a clearly demonstrable requirement to do so. According to Australia, in some cases, and subject to the availability of resources, there may be a need to develop additional explanatory and/or practical demonstration material to help facilitate understanding of the applicability of the tools to differing circumstances and needs. Australia noted that relevant capacity-building workshops organized by the Secretariat of the Convention are valuable forums for Parties to exchange their experiences with the use and application of the tools.

16. Iraq identified the need for more information on resource mobilization, and guidelines on topics such as habitat loss, valuation of ecosystem services and traditional knowledge. It was suggested that this could be provided through e-learning curricula.

17. Oman identified the need for financial support to increase conservation efforts and raise awareness of the value of biodiversity, as well as the need for national mechanisms to exchange information at the local level. Capacity-building on the topic of environmental law was also recommended.

18. Brighter Green and the Global Forest Coalition, in their submission, highlighted the importance of the redirection of perverse incentives for unsustainable livestock production as an example of the implementation of Aichi Biodiversity Target 3.

19. The joint submission from the Indigenous Peoples' and Community Conserved Territories and Areas (ICCA) Consortium, Kalpavriksh, the Global Forest Coalition and Natural Justice highlighted the importance of Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas as an approach to biodiversity conservation, and as an instrument to achieve the different Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The joint submission mentioned the need to enhance the capacity of Indigenous Peoples and local communities to assess the resilience of their own integrated conservation approaches. Such community conservation resilience assessments should include an assessment of the role, rights, and needs of women in conservation initiatives.

20. In its submission, Natural Justice suggested greater focus on defining 'other effective area-based conservation measures' (OCMs) as they relate to protected areas. It proposed the creation of a collaborative programme of work to further explore a number of OCM-related questions.

IV. TOOLS DEVELOPED BY RELEVANT ORGANIZATIONS

21. The submission from the Mediterranean Protected Areas Network (MedPAN) and Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (RAC/SPA) focused on paragraph 58 of recommendation XVII/1, which relates to Aichi Biodiversity Target 11: "The programme of work on protected areas provides guidance on elements of Target 11 and many organizations have contributed to the significant number of tools covering most aspects of Target 11 as well as providing support to the implementation of activities aimed to achieve the target at national, regional and global levels". In support of this point, MedPAN and RAC/SPA provided information on the Roadmap for Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas⁴ that was prepared through a collaborative and consulted work that resulted from the Antalya 2012 Forum of Marine Protected Areas in the Mediterranean. This roadmap defines the steps that Mediterranean States, relevant organizations and other stakeholders could individually and/or jointly undertake to achieve, by 2020, the objectives set by the Aichi target 11 for the network of marine protected areas.

22. Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI) provided a list of tools and resources developed for local governments on the management of biodiversity, including guidelines for Local Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plans, a manual on ecosystem services in urban management, and a toolkit for mainstreaming local biodiversity and ecosystem management into local processes.

23. The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) provided a list of tools to improve the success of ecological restoration in tropical forests and the maintenance of tropical forest ecosystems resilience. The tools also aim to improve understanding of the performance of economic instruments related to tropical forests and for achieving sustainable consumption of tropical forest resources.

⁴ http://www.medmpaforum2012.org/sites/default/files/mediterranean_mpa_roadmap.pdf

24. In its submission, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) provided a list of existing or upcoming biodiversity related tools and guidance developed by FAO that could assist countries to implement the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. In addition to FAO's periodic assessments of natural resources, which are relevant to most Aichi Biodiversity Targets, FAO also submitted a list of tools and guidance that apply to specific Aichi Biodiversity Targets, including, *inter alia*, voluntary guidelines on the responsible governance of tenure of land, fisheries and forests in the context of national food security, Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and its technical guidelines, Sustainability Assessment of Food and Agriculture systems, International Standards on Phytosanitary Measures, International Guidelines on the Management of Deep-sea Fisheries in the High Seas, tools and guidelines for *in situ* conservation and on-farm management of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, and the plans of action for plant, animal and forest genetic resources.

V. CONCLUDING REMARKS

25. A number of submissions referred to the conclusions of the Subsidiary Body, at its seventeenth meeting, and the information identified in preparation for this meeting, in terms of scientific and technical needs related to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and proposed areas where additional or complementary information is needed.

26. Other submissions stressed that many tools and methodologies have already been developed under the Convention and other related forums, and that duplication should be avoided. Increased use of existing tools and guidance should be prioritized and facilitated. Suggested methods included capacity building workshops and electronic curricula. Increased awareness and use of existing tools developed by relevant organizations should also be promoted.
