



Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/18/16
1 May 2014

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC,
TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

Eighteenth meeting

Montreal, 23-28 June 2014

Item 9.6 of the provisional agenda*

SUSTAINABLE USE OF BIODIVERSITY: BUSHMEAT AND SUSTAINABLE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Note by the Executive Secretary

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In decision XI/25, the Conference of the Parties welcomed the revised recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat, as a potential complement to the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity related to sustainable wildlife management in tropical and subtropical countries, and invited Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to make use of them (paragraphs 11, and 13 (a)). In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to liaise with relevant organizations with a view to facilitating the early establishment of a collaborative partnership on sustainable wildlife management, with an initial focus on bushmeat (paragraph 15 (f)).

2. In paragraph 15 (a) of the same decision, the Executive Secretary was requested, subject to the availability of financial resources, to support capacity-building initiatives in the management of wildlife for customary sustainable use, with the full participation of indigenous and local communities and to explore opportunities for the fair and equitable commercialization of goods and products derived from the sustainable use of biodiversity, under the management of indigenous and local communities.

3. Further, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to facilitate the exchange of information and experience on sustainable wildlife management, including on the initiatives, actions and experiences of indigenous and local communities (paragraph 15 (c)).

4. This note provides an update on the establishment and work of the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management (CPW) in section III, and on other collaborative activities of the Secretariat, in section IV. Section V provides a synthesis of the experiences of Parties in sustainable wildlife management, including relevant initiatives, actions and experiences of indigenous and local communities on sustainable customary use and opportunities for the fair and equitable commercialization of goods and products derived from the sustainable use of biodiversity.

* UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/18/1.

5. Progress made on sustainable wildlife management, in particular bushmeat species management and customary sustainable use and related capacity-building requirements, as requested in paragraphs 15 (d) and (e) of decision XI/25, will be reported to the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

II. BACKGROUND

6. The sustainable use of the components of biological diversity is one of the three objectives of the Convention and is addressed in Article 10, which requires Parties to adopt measures relating to the use of biodiversity to avoid or minimize impacts on biological diversity. Article 2 of the Convention defines sustainable use as “the use of components of biological diversity in a way and at a rate that does not lead to the long-term decline of biological diversity, thereby maintaining its potential to meet the needs and aspirations of present and future generations”.

7. Various Aichi Biodiversity Targets are closely related to the issue of sustainable wildlife management:

(a) Aichi Biodiversity Target 12 focuses on wildlife conservation: “By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained;”

(b) Aichi Biodiversity Target 14 highlights the role of wildlife in food security and livelihoods, ecosystem resilience and human health: “By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.” The target recognizes that wildlife is particularly relevant to many of the world’s poorest people and vulnerable groups, including indigenous and local communities, which rely on it to meet their basic needs. For example, local animals provide meat protein, local trees provide fuel, and both plants and animals provide components of traditional medicines. In an interconnected landscape, species are also a critical component, ensuring healthy, resilient and productive ecosystems;

(c) Aichi Biodiversity Target 18 focuses on customary sustainable use and the role of traditional knowledge: “By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels;”

(d) Other Aichi Biodiversity Targets are related to the reduction of threats to wildlife, such as Targets 5 and 7: “By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced;” and “by 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity;”

(e) Aichi Biodiversity Targets 2 and 4 also address sustainable consumption in a market context: “By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems” and “ by 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits.”

8. Other relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties include decision VII/12 which contains the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for Sustainable Use of Biodiversity. The importance of incorporating customary sustainable use of biological diversity into national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) was highlighted in paragraph 8 of decision XI/14 F.

9. Pursuant to paragraph 2 of decision XI/14 F, the Working Group on Article 8(j), at its eighth meeting, advanced on a new component of its work programme dealing with Article 10(c), and prepared a

draft plan of action on customary sustainable use of biological diversity, for adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting (recommendation 8/2). The draft plan of action contains four sections: objective, general principles, considerations of special relevance and rationale. It also illustrates elements of the first phase of the draft plan of action, with three tasks and two sub-tasks, main actors, possible actions, timeframes for phased implementation and possible indicators and means of verification. The actions set out in the draft plan could inform and support initiatives in the management of wildlife for customary sustainable use, by identifying best practices for promoting and operationalizing the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities in management practices for the sustainable use of biodiversity, in particular bushmeat species. This would ensure, for example, the inclusion of traditional knowledge on the role of bushmeat in the diets and cultures of indigenous and local communities.

III. THE COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP ON SUSTAINABLE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

10. The Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management¹ was established pursuant to paragraph 15 (f) of decision XI/25. It is a voluntary association of international organizations² with substantive mandates and programmes to promote the sustainable use and conservation of wildlife resources. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations provides the secretariat of the Partnership. The current chair of the Partnership is the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity. The mission of the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management is to increase cooperation and coordination among its members to promote the sustainable management of terrestrial vertebrate wildlife in all biomes and geographic areas, contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and to human food security, livelihoods and well-being. It provides a platform for addressing wildlife management issues that require national and supra-national responses.

11. The first meeting of the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management was co-convened by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on 10 March 2013 in Bangkok, on the margins of the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. The meeting considered the terms of reference of the Partnership, including operational procedures, and a work plan for 2013-2014, including possible activities and projects during this period.³

12. The second meeting of the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management was held from 30 September - 1 October 2013 in Windhoek, in the margins of the 19th session of the African Forestry and Wildlife Commission of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. The Partnership adopted its shared work plan for 2013-2014 to coordinate activities among its members, further engage indigenous and local community representatives and compile and disseminate best practices to improve the understanding of sustainable wildlife management. For 2013-2014, the Partnership will focus on the following thematic areas:

(a) Wildlife, food security and livelihoods (objective: provision of knowledge and back-up support for members and countries to address bushmeat and other issues related to wildlife, food security and sustainable livelihoods);

(b) Human-wildlife-conflict (objectives: improved understanding of the direct and underlying causes of human-wildlife-conflict in the different regions of the world with a focus on larger terrestrial vertebrate wildlife; dissemination of successful response mechanisms); and

¹ www.fao.org/forestry/wildlife-partnership

² The CPW is comprised of 12 members: CBD, CIC, CIFOR, CITES, CMS, FAO, IIFB, IUCN, IUFRO, TRAFFIC, UNEP and OIE. ITC joined the CPW as of April 2014.

³ www.fao.org/forestry/wildlife-partnership/en

(c) Illegal/unsustainable hunting (objectives: identify and promote successful strategies, policies, and management systems that contribute to a reduction in illegal hunting and can provide incentives in support of anti-poaching efforts).

13. The objectives of the Partnership and its outreach strategy were also defined at its third meeting. Building on elements of the outreach strategy, the first joint message among members of the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management was issued in celebration of the World Wildlife Day, on 3 March 2014.

14. The third meeting of the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management was held from 23 to 24 April 2014 in Milan, Italy, on the margins of the 61st General Assembly session of the International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (CIC) and Global Summit “Hunters United against Wildlife Crime”. Initiatives linked to the thematic areas mentioned in paragraph 12 were discussed with a focus on members’ contributions and resource requirements. For example, the bushmeat sourcebook was agreed as an initiative of the Partnership for possible launching at the IUCN World Parks Congress in Sydney, from 12 to 19 November 2014. Other initiatives include a Wildlife Terminology Initiative; an assessment report on the economic contribution of sustainable wildlife management for local economies and livelihoods; and a series of sustainable wildlife management fact sheets. In addition, new initiatives were proposed to improve information management and to assess the values of wildlife and wildlife resource management and their contribution to the attainment of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Also, the International Trade Centre joined the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management as a new member in April 2014.

IV. OTHER COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES

15. The Executive Secretary collaborated with the Regional Forestry Commissions of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations through participation in the 19th Session of the African Forestry and Wildlife Commission, and the 21st Near East Forestry and Range Commission. Follow-up work with the Forestry Department of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations is expected to contribute to the achievement of a range of Aichi Biodiversity Targets, in particular Targets 4, 5, 7, 11, 15 and 18.

16. Pursuant to paragraph 12 of decision XI/25, the Secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) have explored opportunities to enhance cooperation on activities related to bushmeat. Within CITES, this is mainly guided by Resolution Conf. 13.11 on Bushmeat, which was adopted at the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES in 2004, and has not been revised since. At its 16th meeting, through decision 16.149, the Conference of the Parties of CITES instructed the Standing Committee, assisted by the Secretariat, and in consultation with interested Parties, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Tropical Timber Organization, relevant United Nations programmes, relevant Parties, the Animals and Plants Committees as appropriate, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and other experts and stakeholders to review Resolution Conf. 13.11 on bushmeat, taking into consideration the decisions and guidance developed under the Convention on Biological Diversity, the outcomes of the joint CITES/CBD meeting on bushmeat and other relevant sources of information for consideration by CITES COP-17.

17. At its 65th meeting to be held from 7 to 11 July 2014 in Geneva, the Standing Committee of CITES is expected to form a working group to review Resolution Conf. 13.11. The Standing Committee will also initiate its review of Resolution 13.4 (Rev. CoP16) on the conservation of, and trade in, great apes. Decision 16.67 directs the Standing Committee, assisted by the Secretariat, and in consultation with interested Parties, GRASP, the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Animals Committee and other bodies as appropriate, to review this resolution, with a view to establishing an illegal trade reporting mechanism, and present a summary of its consultations and its recommendations at CITES COP-17. The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity will contribute information on recent developments in

conservation of and trade in great apes, building on the information provided by Parties through their fifth national report, revised national biodiversity strategies and action plans and other sources. As of 14 April 2014, six countries⁴ had reported on the status of great apes in their fifth national reports.

V. EXPERIENCE ON SUSTAINABLE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AND INITIATIVES OF INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A. *Experience of Parties based on fifth national reports and national biodiversity strategies and action plans*

18. At the time of writing, 41 of the fifth national reports submitted to the Secretariat were reviewed.⁵ Ten Parties⁶ explicitly referred to bushmeat⁷ issues; 24 Parties⁸ described wildlife conservation and management related practices; and 21 Parties⁹ reported on illegal hunting and poaching-related challenges and associated threats due to habitat loss and fragmentation, invasive species, among others.

19. For example, Ecuador's national report highlighted the status of wildlife, noting that 530 species of its terrestrial vertebrates were under some category of threat. Comparing this figure to Ecuador's fourth national report to the Convention on Biological Diversity, in the past 4 year period an additional 154 species have been exposed to some type of threat. South Africa also reported on its Threatened Species Programme, with the Red List assessment revealing that one in five terrestrial mammal species is threatened.

20. Species of special concern due to their particular ecological, economic or cultural significance were also noted. In the South African context, terrestrial vertebrate species of concern include (but are not limited to) rhinoceros, because of unprecedented levels of poaching, and species that provide the basis for non-consumptive ecotourism.

21. Cameroon's fifth national report contains a trans-border poaching action plan for 2012-2017 devised to address illegal poaching and other wildlife crimes. It includes measures to secure financial and human resources, and the participation of local and indigenous communities outside protected areas. Malaysia's fifth national report mentions its Wildlife Conservation Act 2010 which includes a number of provisions related to offences ranging from licensing requirements, prohibition of certain acts within wildlife sanctuaries and reserves, hunting, possessing, dealing or keeping of wildlife without lawful authority, and various other offences involving cruelty to wildlife.

22. Legal hunting on privately owned game farms and reserves can, on the other hand, also contribute to the economic viability of wildlife management, with an economic incentive for the conservation of wild species and their habitats. The fifth national report of Uganda underscores positive results from sports hunting programmes, with indigenous and local communities' involvement to protect wildlife that stray outside protected areas. In keeping with sustainable management practices, South Africa also noted legal hunting practices in which limited numbers of animals are removed annually from established populations to keep the populations productive and in secured areas. Uganda further reported that the population numbers of large mammals have increased in areas where sports hunting programmes have been implemented. Uganda also reported on efforts taken by local governments to monitor and enforce

⁴ Countries include: Burundi, Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Malaysia, Rwanda, and Uganda.

⁵ Belgium, Burundi, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Denmark, Dominica, Ecuador, Germany, India, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Madagascar, Malaysia, Moldova, Mongolia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Niue, Pakistan, Palau, Poland, Rwanda, Senegal, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Uganda.

⁶ Cameroon, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Madagascar, Nigeria, Rwanda, Somalia, Uganda.

⁷ The Liaison Group on Bushmeat defined bushmeat (or wild meat) hunting as the harvesting of wild animals in tropical and sub-tropical forests for food and for non-food purposes, including for medicinal use.

⁸ Belgium, China, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Denmark, Ecuador, Germany, India, Japan, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, Pakistan, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Uganda.

⁹ Cameroon, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, India, Iraq, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Niger, Niue, Pakistan, Republic of Moldova, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sudan, Uganda.

laws on sustainable hunting. In South Africa and other southern African countries like Namibia, the sale of animals hunted by the private sector in accordance with regulations generates important revenue for conservation authorities and the wildlife industry.

23. A livelihood perspective with viable alternatives for food, income and survival can also contribute to successful wildlife management approaches. Namibia reported in its fifth national report that community conservation has generated over N\$58.3 million for local communities in 2012, while facilitating the creation of 6,477 jobs and 99 enterprises based on natural resources. This has been achieved mainly through trophy hunting, accommodation establishments, and the harvesting and sale of natural resource products and crafts.

24. Nearly all national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) identify sustainable use of biological resources in buffer zones outside protected areas as a priority area of action. Targets on wildlife management incorporated in NBSAPs can help to mainstream biodiversity values into other sectors. For example Germany, in relating targets of its National Strategy on Biological Diversity with the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, reports that the country's target equivalent to aspects of Aichi Biodiversity Target 7 aims to safeguard and increase the populations of most species (especially wild species) typical of cultural landscapes used for agriculture by 2015. The target corresponding to Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 aims for Germany to have a representative and functional system of interlinked biotopes covering 10 per cent of its territory and this network lending itself to permanently protecting the habitats of wild species as an integral component of a European system of interlinked biotopes. The designations of rest zones and wilderness areas are also targeted by 2020 for the Alps and other mountainous areas. National wildlife management targets have also been adopted for Aichi Biodiversity Targets 12, 13 and 18.

25. Cameroon's NBSAP highlights the socioeconomic value of bushmeat and timber resources and the role of customary sustainable use among local populations that depend on these resources as sources of income and livelihoods. Through the Forestry Law of 20 January 1994, Cameroon's Government adopted measures allowing the local population to own forest resources on government land through community forestry. The process permits the local population to fell planted trees or spontaneous growth in its community forest. Similarly, the law allows the local population to manage wildlife in community hunting zones.

B. Information reported in submissions

26. The Executive Secretary issued notification 2013-114 (Ref. No. SCBD/SAM/DC/CS/ac/82981), inviting Governments and relevant organizations, and in particular indigenous and local communities, to submit information on experience with sustainable wildlife management and on related capacity-building requirements, including in particular on: (i) experience in implementing the revised recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat (annexed to decision XI/25); (ii) relevant initiatives, actions and experiences of indigenous and local communities; and (iii) opportunities for the fair and equitable commercialization of goods and products derived from the sustainable use of biodiversity under the management of indigenous and local communities. In response to this notification, ten submissions have been received, including nine from Governments (Australia, Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, France, Honduras, Namibia, New Zealand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland¹⁰) and one from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, drawing on information provided by its subregional offices in Central Africa and Southern and Eastern Africa and reflecting the experience and activities undertaken by member States of the Central African Forest Commission (COMIFAC) and the Southern African Development Community.

27. In broad terms, the submissions provided information on engagement with the private sector, national policies and legal frameworks, science, traditional and indigenous knowledge and monitoring, and capacity-building, training, education and awareness-raising.

¹⁰ Declaration from the London Conference on the Illegal Wildlife Trade.

Engagement with the private sector

28. Nearly all the submissions received highlighted multi-stakeholder partnerships between conservation organizations, development agencies, governmental bodies, indigenous and local communities and the private sector, and their framework for intervention.

29. Examples of effective partnerships between government agencies, the private sector, and indigenous and local communities were reported by Canada in its submission. Other partnership arrangements were reported by France on the establishment of a monitoring observatory for sustainable wildlife trade for the member States of the COMIFAC. The partnership among the Congolese Ministry of Forestry Economy, the Congolaise Industrielle des Bois (CIB) and the Wildlife Conservation Society around the Nouabalé-Ndoki National Park in Congo has also been noted as a unique partnership.

30. Colombia underscored advancements in its collaborative work with the Colombian Petroleum Company (ECOPETROL) to better understand the demand and use of the green iguana species (*Iguana Iguana*) in different regions of the country. As the green iguana is used in the Company's logo, ECOPETROL provides resources to generate information on the species and its use. This experience has heightened efforts to replicate initiatives on other wild species which are used for protein intake or for their parts to derive products.

National policies and legal frameworks

31. The use of legal frameworks to protect and manage important flora, fauna and ecological communities was mentioned in various submissions.

32. Namibia reported on its regulatory frameworks for wildlife use, which recognize the established rights of indigenous and local communities. Permissions have been granted to particular communities to hunt using traditional weapons such as bows and arrows to ensure sustainable use of wildlife species. Namibia also pointed to established standard operating procedures for the management of conservancies and other community-based organizations such as associations of people living inside protected areas.

33. Namibia also operates community-based and community-driven conservancy programmes in order to include indigenous and local communities' views on the role of bushmeat in their diets and cultures. Depending on the type of land (freehold or communal) and the type of fences around such land, the rights of utilization are determined. In communal conservancies, where communities have been given conditional rights over wildlife, the Ministry of Environment and Tourism approves utilization quotas for game meat. In addition, from a health perspective, game meat butcheries are required by law to apply for a license on a yearly basis, registering game meat, with copies of the permits showing where game meat was sourced. To ensure compliance, regular inspections are carried out by officials of the Ministry of Environment and Tourism.

34. Honduras submitted information on a technical manual under development for the management and use of wildlife. The manual will contain regulatory requirements for the establishment of wild animal breeding grounds for consumption and commercialization at national and international levels.

35. In its submission, New Zealand noted its Wildlife Act of 1953¹¹ which protects most native species from hunting (some can be hunted at certain times of the year), lists those which can be hunted (mainly introduced species) and specifies that permits are required from the Department of Conservation to hunt on public conservation land. The example of New Zealand's deer management regulation¹² was also included in the submission.

36. Australia's submission mentioned its Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act of 1999 which recognizes the role of indigenous and local communities in the conservation and sustainable use of Australia's natural environment and indigenous heritage. In other cases, the lack of clearly defined land tenure regulations and rights to access natural resources, like in the case of the Maori

¹¹ <http://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1953/0031/latest/DLM276814.html>.

¹² <http://www.doc.govt.nz/Documents/about-doc/concessions-and-permits/conservation-revealed/deer-lowres.pdf>.

in New Zealand, has challenged local users from adopting sustainable practices, building on customary sustainable use.

37. Australia also reported on the development of the Dugong and Turtle Protection Plan as a multi-agency response to provide greater protection for marine turtles and dugong of far North Queensland, involving the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, the Australian Crime Commission and Commonwealth and State government departments. To this end, a specialized indigenous ranger programme for marine conservation along the North Queensland coast has been established to strengthen the ranger's enforcement capacity.

38. Canada's submission noted the reliance on wildlife as a country food source and the efforts taken by several indigenous groups to commercialize the harvest of species. Sustainable wildlife harvest management in Canada and its commercialization include the hunting of wildlife in Nunavut, under the purview of the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board. Wildlife management practices aim to recognise traditional Inuit harvesting rights and to involve Inuit, while contributing to the conservation of wildlife and the protection of wildlife habitat. Linked to this is the creation of employment and income opportunities for residents of Nunavut.

39. Bolivia has proposed a management approach for living systems highlighting in its submission efforts taken to operationalize the joint mitigation and adaption approach for the integral and sustainable management of forests. Under the Approach for Living Systems, Bolivia has permitted local and indigenous communities to generate goods and products which may be included in market-based mechanisms for income generation. The experience of Bolivia has generated several lessons learned on the conservation and sustainable use of vicuna and the commercialization of the vicuna fibre within national and international markets.

40. Colombia reported on advancements based on an analytical study on policy instruments related to the use of wildlife and the identification of important considerations for its management. The analysis revealed gaps associated with limited sustainability and political measures to effectively control trade. Colombia is also revising its normative framework on legal and sustainable use and is developing a National Policy on Wildlife. Technical regulations to address sanitary problems and unregulated use in specific parts of the country were also reported by Colombia.

41. Colombia also noted its contribution to global policy processes on sustainable use of biodiversity and alternative livelihood options under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and the Convention on Biological Diversity. Colombia's experience at the global level has mobilized national level discussions to adjust political and regulatory frameworks that target opportunities for indigenous and local communities in the sustainable use of wildlife.

Science, traditional and indigenous knowledge and monitoring

42. In its submission, Colombia noted a national study to monitor levels of bushmeat harvest and consumption and its contribution to food security, drawing from data between 2000 and 2011. Results from the study provided baseline information, serving as a reference for the sustainable management of wildlife resources to inform improved policy and planning. This analysis helped to define an operational framework for monitoring bushmeat and its contribution to human well-being. It also helped to identify the impacts of unsustainable bushmeat harvesting and trade on indigenous and local communities and their livelihoods. Workshops were carried out to address livelihood alternatives and experiences in two regions of Colombia (Orinoquia and Amazonia Colombo-Venezolana). Studies conducted by Tropenbos International have focused on the local perspectives on alternative livelihood options, based on local knowledge.

43. These efforts in Colombia have helped to raise attention of the critical role that bushmeat plays to human well-being in different social and geographic regions in the country. Mechanisms for the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities have also been established, in Orinoquia and the Colombian Amazon, generating a better understanding of the role that wildlife plays in the diets and

cultures of many vulnerable people, as well as the impacts of unsustainable bushmeat use on livelihoods and in traditional practices.

44. The Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Namibia has also strengthened its capacity to monitor levels of game meat harvesting across the country. While national statistics on consumption are yet to be available, Namibia has collected data on the number of species hunted for game meat in a specific year.

Capacity-building, training, education and awareness-raising

45. Some submissions acknowledged the importance of providing information on the impacts of the bushmeat trade to enable individuals to make informed decisions regarding their purchasing practices. Local languages, customs and history also play a central role in the design of any public awareness campaign. Colombia has taken concerted efforts to build awareness and recognize collective territories of indigenous and afro-descendent communities, and to include their cultural knowledge into sustainable use processes. Intercultural dialogues were used to address sustainable management of wildlife consumption, through social and participatory guidelines.

46. Further, global media has helped to generate press coverage reaching a wide variety of individuals. The outcomes of the London Conference on illegal wildlife trade, held in London, from 12 to 13 February 2014, for example, stressed the considerable scale and detrimental economic, social and environmental consequences of the illegal trade in wildlife. The Conference called upon the international community to act together to raise awareness and change behavior to ensure demand and supply side reduction efforts for illegal wildlife products. Efforts to criminalize poaching, wildlife trafficking, and related crimes and strengthen law enforcement were also urged. Related to the work of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Conference called for increased capacity of local communities to pursue sustainable livelihood opportunities and eradicate poverty, through the promotion of innovative partnerships for conserving wildlife through shared management responsibilities.

47. With regard to capacity-building, in Namibia, communities are provided various types of trainings such as book keeping, wildlife management, water management, crafts making, game courting, and tourism management among others.

48. Capacity-building initiatives to reduce poaching have also been supported by international and regional organizations. For example in Central Africa, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, together with the COMIFAC is implementing a project on management of wildlife and the bushmeat sector in Central Africa. The project is designed to address the current absence of wildlife resource management systems and constraints in wildlife management goals in legislative frameworks and to define a subregional strategy to foster sustainable wildlife use in the Congo Basin. An expert consultation on the development of a Central African wildlife management strategy was held in Brazzaville, in January 2014.

49. The Subregional Office for Southern Africa of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations supported an expert report on bushmeat in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region, lead by Panthera in collaboration with the Wildlife Conservation Society, the Zoological Society of London and TRAFFIC. The report “Illegal Hunting and the Bushmeat Trade in Savanna Africa: Drivers, Impacts and Solutions to address the Problem”¹³ was presented to the countries of the Southern African Development Community in a regional workshop on bushmeat in October 2012. The meeting prepared a set of guiding principles to address the illegal use and trade of wild meat in the region.¹⁴

¹³ <http://www.panthera.org/sites/default/files/bushmeat%20report%20v2%20lo.pdf>.

¹⁴ FAO submission in response to notification 2013-114.

50. Activities implemented in Central Africa with the support of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations include the development of a national strategy on human-wildlife-conflict management for Gabon, approved by the Government of Gabon in October 2012. Drawing from this experience, an adapted toolkit on human-wildlife-conflict management has been prepared for the subregion, with Cameroon, Gabon, Congo and the Democratic Republic of the Congo engaged in a testing phase. Other activities have been developed, within the framework of a project by the Global Environment Facility on “Sustainable management of wildlife and the bushmeat sector in Central Africa”. The project focuses on the development of tools for participatory wildlife management. Also reported were efforts to integrate into the revised COMIFAC convergence plan, the COMIFAC programme of work on forest and wildlife products for food security and nutrition and the working group on protected areas and wildlife.

51. The International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO) has also been supporting tropical timber producing countries to promote sustainable forest management and the conservation of biodiversity in tropical forests. Activities supported by ITTO include work to reduce the impact of forest management on wildlife in and around forest concessions and to promote sustainable harvesting practices among local populations.

52. With the financial support from the Guiana Shield Facility (GSF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Colombian Humboldt Institute has been implementing a project on traditional knowledge and governance in the Mataven Jungle.¹⁵ The project has developed local capacities for monitoring and research, support for the customary and traditional use of biodiversity and a financial mechanism to mobilize actions for the conservation of ecosystems and for the development of local communities. The recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat have been incorporated into these cases, providing an exchange of experiences and lessons learned to initiatives with local communities.

C. Conclusions

53. The fifth national reports submitted by 28 April 2014 illustrate the experience of some Parties in sustainable wildlife management. Parties undertook a range of activities, many of which are reflected in Parties’ national biodiversity strategies and action plans. Reported activities include community conservation and forestry, regulated and sports hunting programmes, efforts to combat poaching and illegal trade and measures for the sustainable use of biological resources, as well as other socioeconomic dimensions of wildlife management.

54. Submissions by Parties and organizations also provided information and examples for good practices on engagement with the private sector, national policies and legal frameworks, science, traditional and indigenous knowledge and monitoring, and capacity building, training, education and awareness raising.

55. The examples provided by Parties and organizations may inspire the efforts of other Parties to implement the recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat, as contained in the annex to decision XI/25, in particular the recommendations on engaging the private sector and extractive industries; rights and tenure, and traditional knowledge; review of national policies and legal frameworks; science, traditional and indigenous knowledge and monitoring; and on capacity-building, training, education and awareness-raising. For future compilations of experiences with sustainable wildlife management, further efforts should be undertaken to solicit the experiences and views of indigenous and local communities.

¹⁵ Colombian submission in response to notification 2013-114.