

SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC,
TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE
Twentieth meeting
Montreal, Canada, 25-30 April 2016
Agenda item 3

**PROTECTED AREAS: PROGRESS TOWARDS THE ACHIEVEMENT OF AICHI
BIODIVERSITY TARGETS 11 AND 12**

Draft recommendation submitted by the Chair

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice *recommends* that the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting adopt a decision along the following lines, taking into account also any updated information on progress that is available at that time:

The Conference of the Parties,

Welcoming the continued progress towards the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11,

1. *Acknowledges* with appreciation the support of partner organizations, donors, host Governments and the Executive Secretary for organizing regional capacity-building workshops and related activities on achieving Aichi Biodiversity Targets 11 and 12,

2. *Recognizes* that the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 will contribute to the implementation of other Aichi Biodiversity Targets, relevant targets of the Sustainable Development Goals and Article 5 of the Paris Climate Agreement,¹ as well as means for mitigation and adaptation to climate change,

3. *Notes* the considerable gap in the conservation status assessment of most taxonomic groups, and the general lack of information on species conservation plans,

4. *Invites* Parties, as appropriate and taking into account national circumstances:

(a) To undertake concerted efforts to implement national actions identified in national biodiversity strategies and action plans and, as appropriate, through the regional workshops for the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Targets 11 and 12;

(b) To pursue efforts in identifying areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, taking into account the Standards for the Identification of Key Biodiversity Areas adopted by the Council of the International Union for Conservation of Nature, as appropriate;

(c) In establishing new or expanding protected areas, or other area-based conservation measures, to give due consideration to areas that: (i) would expand the coverage of areas important for biodiversity and ecosystem services; (ii) improve ecological representation; (iii) increase connectivity; (iv) promote the integration of protected areas into the wider landscape and seascape; and (v) protect the habitats of species, in particular threatened, endemic and migratory species;

¹ United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Conference of the Parties, twenty-first session, decision 1/CP.21 (see FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1).

(d) Endeavour to undertake more systematic assessment of protected area management effectiveness, including, where possible, other area-based conservation measures, to improve the management effectiveness by addressing the gaps, and to provide information on the results to the Global Database on Protected Areas Management Effectiveness, maintained by the United Nations Environment Programme's World Conservation Monitoring Centre, as appropriate;

(e) Undertake national protected area governance assessments with a view to promoting, recognizing and improving governance types and equity in protected area systems;

(f) Undertake assessments to understand the conservation status of taxonomic groups that have not yet been assessed and develop and implement species conservation plans, in particular for critically endangered and endemic species;

5. *Invites* the International Union for Conservation of Nature and the World Conservation Monitoring Centre to work with Parties in order to update the World Database on Protected Areas, as a means to assess progress in the implementation of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11;

6. *Invites* relevant partners, regional agencies, bilateral and multilateral funding agencies, in conjunction with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, taking into account information provided by Parties, and subject to the availability of resources:

(a) To undertake a review of experiences on:

(i) Effective area-based conservation measures;

(ii) Additional measures to enhance integration of protected areas into the wider land- and seascapes, taking into account mainstreaming of protected areas across sectors;

(iii) Effective governance models for management of protected areas, including equity, taking into account work being undertaken under Article 8(j);

(b) To explore the possibility of developing global or regional projects which could support national assessments of management effectiveness in protected areas;

(c) To facilitate the completion of assessments of the conservation status of species and enable their conservation;

(d) To facilitate support networks at the subregional level, as appropriate, to support the implementation of national actions identified in national biodiversity strategies and action plans and, as appropriate, through the regional workshops for the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Targets 11 and 12, and to promote the preparation, use and sharing of technical guidance, best practices, tools, lessons learned, and monitoring efforts;

7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to report on progress on the above to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting held prior to the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

8. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility and its implementing agencies to facilitate the alignment of the development and implementation of protected area projects in its sixth and seventh replenishment cycles with the national actions identified in national biodiversity strategies and action plans and, as appropriate, through the regional workshops for the achievement of Targets 11 and 12, with a view to facilitating the systematic monitoring and reporting of the results of those projects as they contribute to the implementation of the National Action Plans for the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Targets 11 and 12 and other related targets.
