



## Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr.  
GENERAL

UNEP/CBD/SP/WS/MENA/1/1/Add.1  
30 November 2009

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

REGIONAL WORKSHOP FOR THE MIDDLE EAST  
AND NORTH AFRICA ON THE UPDATING AND  
REVISION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN OF THE  
CONVENTION FOR THE POST-2010 PERIOD  
Cairo, 10-11 January 2010

### ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

#### INTRODUCTION

1. The tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties is due to adopt a revised and updated Strategic Plan of the Convention. In decision IX/9, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to solicit views from Parties and observers concerning the revision of the Strategic Plan. The Executive Secretary has prepared, in document UNEP/CBD/SP/PREP/1, an analysis/synthesis of views received which is available to this workshop. To solicit inputs to the revising of the Strategic Plan more widely, the Secretariat, together with partners and Parties, is organizing a series of regional or subregional meetings.
2. A workshop for the Arab States of the Middle East and North Africa will take place in Cairo, from 10 to 11 January 2010. This workshop is organized with the support of the Regional Office for West Asia of the United Nations Environment Programme and the Council of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment (CAMRE) of the League of Arab States.
3. The purpose of the workshop is to provide an opportunity for participating countries to contribute to the elaboration of the new Strategic Plan for the period beyond 2010, including its vision, goals, targets and mechanisms to support implementation. The workshop also aims to stimulate thinking about national biodiversity strategic planning beyond 2010 in response to the possible outcomes of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in 2010.
4. Participants in the workshop will comprise government officials or experts from countries in the region who have been directly involved in the implementation of the Convention, particularly national biodiversity strategies and action plans. As indicated in the notification for this workshop as sent by the Executive Secretary,<sup>1</sup> the nominee should have experience in the implementation of the Convention at the national level, and be in a position to provide insights and suggestions for the future implementation of the Convention. The nominee should also be in a position to help translate the goals and objectives in the revised Strategic Plan into specific national targets and measures while revising national biodiversity strategies and action plans, or other similar strategies and plans, in response to the revised Strategic Plan and revised biodiversity target(s). In addition, as indicated in the letter of invitation from the Council of Arab Ministers responsible for the Environment (CAMRE) of the League of Arab States, conveying the CBD notification, the nominee has been requested to prepare a country biodiversity summary and suggested vision and send it to the organizers to facilitate the preparation of the workshop. Relevant organizations that have been actively following up on the League of Arab States/CAMRE meetings pertaining to biodiversity are invited to attend as observers to enrich the discussions.

<sup>1</sup> SCBD/ITS/DC/LC/69611 of 15 November 2009

/...

5. The Secretariat has issued an information note for participants containing details of logistical arrangements including information on travel, visa requirements, accommodation and other matters for the workshop.<sup>2</sup> The languages of the workshop will be English and Arabic.

6. Registration of participants will be done upon arrival at the hotel or at the venue of the workshop.

### **ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING AND OVERVIEW OF THE OBJECTIVES AND PROGRAMME**

7. Representatives of CAMRE, UNEP and the Secretariat will open the meeting at 9.30 a.m. on Sunday, 10 January 2010.

8. The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity will give an overview of the objectives, programme and expected outcomes of the workshop, and provide a summary of the process for the revision of the Strategic Plan.

9. The provisional agenda of the workshop prepared by the Executive Secretary is available as document UNEP/CBD/SP/WS/MENA/1/1. The proposed organization of work is provided in annex I below.

10. The emphasis of the workshop will be on exchange and active discussions. With this in mind, the workshop format features a mix of presentations with question-and-answer sessions, discussions in small working groups, and interactive sessions to provide inputs to the updated Strategic Plan. A list of documents for the workshop can be found in annex II below.

### **ITEM 2. BACKGROUND TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN**

#### **The current strategic plan, its implementation and progress towards the 2010 target**

11. The Secretariat and UNEP will provide background information on the current strategic plan of the Convention, an overview of the implementation of the Convention and progress toward the 2010 target, drawing upon information in fourth national reports and the analysis being undertaken for the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook. Scenarios and their implications for the future of the Convention will also be outlined.

12. Following questions and answers, there will be a plenary discussion to identify the main challenges and opportunities facing the Convention for the post-2010 period.

#### **Inputs and proposals for the updating and revision of the strategic plan beyond 2010**

13. The Secretariat will introduce document UNEP/CBD/SP/PREP/1 presenting an analysis/synthesis of the views submitted by Parties and observers to date, including the outcome of a number of consultations

14. Following questions and answers, there will be a plenary discussion of the proposals made.

### **ITEM 3. ELABORATION OF A POSSIBLE OUTLINE AND ELEMENTS FOR THE NEW STRATEGIC PLAN**

15. The Secretariat will introduce document UNEP/CBD/SP/PREP/2 setting out a possible outline and elements for the updated Strategic Plan, developed based on the views and inputs received so far, taking into account also comments from the Bureaux of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (ABSTTA) and the Conference of the Parties (COP).

16. Following questions and answers, there will be a plenary discussion focussing on options for the overall logic of the new Strategic Plan. There will also be a first discussion on a possible long-term vision for the new Strategic Plan.

---

<sup>2</sup>

See <http://www.cbd.int/meetings/>

17. Subsequently, there will be sessions devoted to various components of the new Strategic Plan as detailed in annex I. There will be brief introductions by the Secretariat, Parties and observers, followed by discussions in plenary and small groups. Under this item also, countries will be invited to share their national biodiversity targets adopted for 2010 and beyond, and the Secretariat will introduce ideas for the revision and updating and implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the review of implementation by the Conference of the parties. Participants will also be invited to provide their reflections on these matters.

18. Following consideration of each of the components of the new Strategic Plan, there will be an opportunity to review the work carried out, focussing in particular on balance among the three objectives of the Convention and between aspirations for outcomes and the means for achieving them.

19. Through plenary and group discussions, participants will consider how the post-2010 period can be designed to facilitate implementation of the new Strategic Plan.

#### **ITEM 4. NEXT STEPS IN PREPARATION FOR THE TENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES**

20. The Secretariat will brief participants about preparations for the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, including key events leading to the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and an overview of other events during the International Year of Biodiversity. The Secretariat will also describe the further steps in the process of updating and revising the Strategic Plan.

21. Following questions and answers, there will be a plenary discussion on how the opportunity of International Year of Biodiversity can be maximized for the benefit of the Parties and the Convention.

#### **ITEM 5. CONCLUSIONS OF THE WORKSHOP**

22. Participants will identify and adopt the main conclusions of the workshop on the basis of earlier discussions. The full report of the workshop will be developed later by the Secretariat and circulated to participants for their review before finalization.

#### **ITEM 6. CLOSURE OF THE WORKSHOP**

27. The workshop is expected to close at approximately 5 p.m. on Monday, 11 January 2010.

*Annex I***PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK****SUNDAY, 10 JANUARY 2010**

9.30 a.m. – 10.15 a.m.	<b>1.</b>	<b>Opening of the workshop and overview of the objectives and programme</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opening statements (Host; Partners SCBD)</li> <li>• Self-introduction of participants</li> <li>• Overview of the objectives and programme of the workshop (SCBD)</li> <li>• Plenary and small group discussions</li> </ul>
10.15 a.m. – 10.45 a.m.		<i>Coffee/Tea break and Group Photo</i>
10.45 a.m. - 11.15 p.m.	<b>2.</b>	<b>Background to the Strategic Plan:</b> <b>The current Strategic Plan, its implementation and progress towards the 2010 target</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementation of the Convention and its Strategic Plan and presentation of global status and scenarios of biodiversity (key findings from draft third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook) (SCBD)</li> <li>• Regional perspective (UNEP)</li> <li>• Plenary and small group discussions to identify challenges and opportunities for the post-2010 period</li> </ul>
11.15 a.m. - 12.30 p.m..	<b>2.</b>	<b>Background to the Strategic Plan (continued):</b> <b>Inputs and proposals for the updating and revision of the Strategic Plan beyond 2010</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analysis and Synthesis of views submitted by Parties and observers and from consultations to date (SCBD)</li> <li>• Plenary and small group discussions on options for the new Strategic Plan</li> </ul>
12.30 p.m. – 2 p.m.		<i>Lunch break</i>
2 p.m. - 3.30 p.m.	<b>3.</b>	<b>Elaboration of a possible outline and elements for the new Strategic Plan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction of document UNEP/CBD/SP/PREP/2 (SCBD)</li> <li>• Questions and answers</li> </ul> <b>(a) The Issues and Vision for the new Strategic Plan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plenary and small group discussions focussing on main issues and Vision</li> </ul>
3.30 p.m. – 4 p.m.		<i>Coffee/Tea break</i>
4 p.m. - 5.30 p.m.	<b>3.</b>	<b>Elaboration of a possible outline and elements for the new Strategic Plan (continued)</b> <b>(b) The 2020 Mission and Targets for the new Strategic Plan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction (SCBD)</li> <li>• Brief presentations by Parties on national targets</li> <li>• Plenary and Group discussions to identify the topics and possible wording for the Mission, Objectives and “SMART” Targets</li> </ul>

## MONDAY, 11 JANUARY 2010

9 a.m. – 10.30 a.m.	3.	<p><b>Elaboration of a possible outline and elements for the new Strategic Plan (<i>continued</i>)</b></p> <p><b>(b) The 2020 Mission and Targets for the new Strategic Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brief recap of day two and overview of plans for day three</li> <li>• Continuation of Plenary and Group discussions to identify the topics and possible wording for the Mission, Objectives and “SMART” Targets.</li> </ul>
10.30 a.m. – 11 a.m.		<i>Coffee/Tea break</i>
11 am – 12.30 p.m.	3.	<p><b>Elaboration of a possible outline and elements for the new Strategic Plan (<i>continued</i>)</b></p> <p><b>(c) Support mechanisms for the implementation, monitoring and review of the new Strategic Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction (SCBD)</li> <li>• Brief presentations by Parties (<i>to be identified</i>)</li> <li>• Plenary and Group discussions to identify possible support mechanisms</li> </ul>
12.30 a.m. – 13.30 p.m.		<i>Lunch break</i>
1.30 p.m.- 2 p.m.	3.	<p><b>Elaboration of a possible outline and elements for the new Strategic Plan (<i>continued</i>)</b></p> <p><b>(e) Outstanding issues for the new Strategic Plan</b></p> <p>Plenary and Group discussions to review of balance among three objectives of the Convention and between aspirations for outcomes and the means for implementation.</p>
2 p.m. – 2.30 p.m.	4.	<p><b>Next steps in preparation for COP-10</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plans for COP-10 and its preparation including the International Year of Biodiversity and further steps in the process of updating and revising the Strategic Plan (SCBD)</li> <li>• Questions and answers, plenary discussion</li> </ul>
3 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	5.	<p><b>Conclusions of the Workshop (cont'd)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plenary and Group discussions to identify main conclusions of the workshop.</li> </ul>
3.30 p.m.- 4 p.m.		<i>Coffee/Tea break</i>
4 p.m. – 5. p.m.	6.	<p>Adoption of the Conclusions</p> <p><b>Closure of the workshop</b></p>

*Annex II***LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

<b>Document symbol</b>	<b>Document title</b>
UNEP/CBD/SP/WS/MENA/1/1	Provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/SP/WS/MENA/1/1/Add.1	Annotations to the provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/SP/PREP/1	Revision and updating of the Strategic Plan: Synthesis/Analysis of views
UNEP/CBD/SP/PREP/2	Revision and updating of the Strategic Plan: Possible outline and elements of the new Strategic Plan
UNEP/CBD/SP/WS/MENA/INF/1	National Biodiversity Targets for 2010 and Beyond- Compilation from Fourth National Reports
<b>Relevant COP decisions, supporting tools and background documents</b>	
Decision IX/9	Revision and updating of the Strategic Plan
Decision IX/8	Review of implementation of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan
Decision IX/33	International Year of Biodiversity
	Mainstreaming biodiversity workshops on national biodiversity strategies and action plans <a href="https://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-brochure-nbsap-&lt;br/&gt;ws-en.pdf">https://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-brochure-nbsap- ws-en.pdf</a>
	Draft third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook

-----