



Convention on Biological Diversity

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AD HOC OPEN-ENDED INTER-SESSIONAL WORKING GROUP ON ARTICLE 8(j) AND RELATED PROVISIONS OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Seventh meeting

Montreal, 31 October – 4 November 2011

Item 6 (e) of the provisional agenda*

DEVELOPMENT OF INDICATORS RELEVANT FOR TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND CUSTOMARY SUSTAINABLE USE

Note by the Executive Secretary

Introduction

1. In paragraph 19 of its decision X/43, the Conference of the Parties requested Parties, international organizations, indigenous and local community organizations and relevant stakeholders to provide views on the development of indicators on secure land tenure and further requested the Executive Secretary to prepare an information note for the Working Group at its seventh meeting. To that end, the Executive Secretary is circulating an information document (UNEP/CBD/WG8J/7/INF/6) containing submissions from Australia, the European Union, Norway, Sweden, the Forest Peoples Programme, including the Forest Peoples Biodiversity Project, and the Indigenous Women's Biodiversity Network. The document was also made available for the indicators discussion held under the auspices of the International Meeting on Article 10 (Sustainable use), with a Focus on Article 10(c) (Customary use of biological diversity),¹ and as such will provide useful input into the ongoing indicators process concerning the status and trends in land-use change and land tenure in the traditional territories of indigenous and local communities.

2. Furthermore, in paragraphs 17 and 18 of decision X/43, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to pursue the ongoing refinement of proposed indicators for traditional knowledge and to explore, through further technical workshops and subject to the availability of funding, the development of appropriate indicators for customary sustainable use, and to report on this matter to the Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions at its seventh meeting.

3. With this in mind and in order to make full use of scarce resources, the Secretariat facilitated a one-day discussion on indicators with relevant experts and agencies, on 2 June 2011, within the framework of the international meeting on Article 10 with a focus on Article 10(c).

* UNEP/CBD/WG8J/7/1

¹ The report of meeting, which also includes the report of the discussion on indicators, is being circulated as document UNEP/CBD/WG8J/7/INF/5.

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4. An overview of the discussions concerning indicators is made available in section I of this document. Section II provides advice from the meeting in the form of draft recommendations for the consideration of the Working Group.

I. AN OVERVIEW OF THE DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING OPERATIONALIZING INDICATORS FOR ARTICLE 8(j) AND POSSIBLE INDICATORS FOR ARTICLE 10(c)

5. During the first session of the indicators meeting, participants discussed the ongoing refinement and use of the proposed indicators for traditional knowledge, also bearing in mind the implementation of Article 10, and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and in doing so considered availability of data, methodologies and coordinating organizations. It is recalled that the three adopted indicators for traditional knowledge are: (i) status and trends of linguistic diversity and numbers of speakers of indigenous languages; (ii) status and trends in land-use change and land tenure in the traditional territories of indigenous and local communities; (iii) status and trends in the practice of traditional occupations (decision X/43, para. 14).

6. Subsequently, participants considered the development of appropriate indicators for customary sustainable use and to what extent adopted indicators for traditional knowledge may be complementary. It was noted that preliminary work on customary sustainable use indicators was carried out by the Forest Peoples Programme's (FPP) 10c Network and Working Group on Indicators of the the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB) and data contained in two meeting reports (Braziers 2006 and Banaue 2008²) could be used as the basis for further technical work on this matter.

7. To assist in advancing the discussion on indicators, presentations were made by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), on status and trends of linguistic diversity and numbers of speakers of indigenous languages, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), on changing land-use patterns. Ms. Joji Carino, coordinator of the IIFB Working Group on Indicators reported on traditional occupations and recent collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO), and about related initiatives to monitor indigenous peoples' human rights, traditional knowledge and well-being, focusing on community-level monitoring through such tools as community mapping, VITEK (Vitality Index of Traditional Ecological Knowledge) and case--studies on customary sustainable use. The Convention Secretariat gave an update on indicators for monitoring the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

8. After an in-depth discussion, the following possible steps forward were proposed by the experts: consider local-global linkages for indicators work on traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use; identify institutional support and resources to implement continuing technical process on indicators; hold a technical workshop on mapping land cover, land use and land tenure security indicators by considering overlays of data (global, regional, national and local); carry out further technical work on customary sustainable use indicators, with the aim to identify a limited number of indicators to be proposed for development and adoption; strengthen gender dimension of indicators work; carry out workshops to consider availability of data, methodologies, and coordinating organizations to further refine the proposed indicators; indigenous peoples to strengthen their indicators work and link to community-based monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) tool for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD) and the ongoing work on inclusion of governance and social impacts and benefits into the management effectiveness evaluation process of protected areas.

². See <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=8JCSU-01> (UNEP/CBD/8J/CSU/1/INF/1) and <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=WG8J-05> (UNEP/CBD/WG8J/5/INF/2).

II. POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THE WORKING GROUP

9. The Ad Hoc Open-Ended Intersessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions may wish to recommend that the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting adopt a decision along the following lines:

“The Conference of the Parties,

“Welcoming the work carried out under the auspices of the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions, and including the regional and international technical workshops organized by the Working Group on Indicators of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity, to identify a limited number of meaningful and practical indicators on the status of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices and in other focal areas, to assess progress towards achieving the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets,

“Acknowledging previous work on indicators and the outcomes regarding both traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use from the Banaue workshop and the thematic workshop on possible indicators for customary sustainable use,

“Noting the possible dual application and complementarity of indicators adopted for traditional knowledge as also being relevant for customary sustainable use,

“1. Recommends that the Executive Secretary, in partnership with Parties and Governments, the Indigenous Working Group on Indicators of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity and relevant non-governmental organizations and international agencies, and subject to the availability of resources,

“(a) Continue to organize and facilitate international technical workshops and regional workshops, according to the seven geo-cultural regions recognized by the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues be carried out on indicators for customary sustainable use, including consideration of the availability of data, culturally and linguistically appropriate methodologies, and coordinating organizations, with the aim of identifying a limited number of indicators to be proposed for development and adoption for consideration of the eighth meeting of the Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions;

“(b) Organize and facilitate a technical workshop on mapping land cover, land use and land-tenure security indicator by considering overlays of data (global, regional, national and local);

“2. Requests Parties to consider the pilot testing of indicators in collaboration with indigenous and local communities and to report the results to the Working Group on Article 8(j);

“3. Invites the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to further the compilation and analysis of data on linguistic diversity and the status and trends of speakers of indigenous languages and to provide information on this indicator for the regular consideration of the Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions on a biennial basis;

“4. Invites the International Labour Organization to develop, in association with indigenous and local communities and relevant organizations, pilot projects and monitor data concerning the practice of traditional occupations and to provide information on this indicator

for the regular consideration of the Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions on a biennial basis;

“5. *Further invites* the relevant agencies, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and its Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS), the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the International Land Coalition, in association with indigenous and local communities and relevant organizations to develop pilot projects and to collect information to effectively monitor the indicator “Status and trends in land-use change and land tenure in the traditional territories of indigenous peoples and local communities” for the consideration of the Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions at its eighth meeting;

“6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with Parties, Governments, international agencies, the Working Group on Indicators of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity and interested parties, including the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership, to pursue the ongoing refinement and use of the adopted indicators, also bearing in mind the implementation of Article 10(c) and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, including through further technical workshops subject to the availability of funding, and to report thereon to the Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions at its eighth meeting.”
