



Convention on Biological Diversity

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SUBMISSIONS ON CONCRETE ACTIVITIES AND INITIATIVES INCLUDING MEASURABLE TARGETS AND/OR INDICATORS TO ACHIEVE THE STRATEGIC GOALS CONTAINED IN THE STRATEGY FOR RESOURCE MOBILIZATION AND ON INDICATORS TO MONITOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY

Note by the Executive Secretary

This information note reproduces the submissions made by Parties in accordance with decision IX/11 B, paragraph 6, which invited Parties to submit views on concrete activities and initiatives including measurable targets and/or indicators to achieve the strategic goals contained in the strategy for resource mobilization and on indicators to monitor the implementation of the strategy. It contains the submissions from Brazil, the Czech Republic, Egypt, European Commission, European Union, France, Germany, Peru, and Qatar.

* UNEP/CBD/WGRI/3/1

BRAZIL

Brazilian submission on concrete activities and initiatives including measurable targets and/or indicators to achieve the strategic goals contained in the strategy for resource mobilization and on indicators to monitor the implementation of the strategy

I. Introduction

1. The values of biological diversity flow not only to the national population but also to the global community at large, while most of the resources that generate them exist as domestic resources within the boundaries of an individual state. The need for international cooperation in the form of new and additional financial resource transfers is therefore evident, for the costs of biodiversity conservation lie primarily with the developing Parties of the Convention where such resources are eminently scarce. As a consequence, funding must be adequate and predictable to foster sustainable development and its inherent costs of implementation.
2. In light of decision IX/11 B, paragraphs 5 and 6, Brazil emphasizes the importance of the Convention's Strategy for Resource Mobilization (CBD/SRM) as a foundation of the process for promoting the enhanced and balanced implementation of the Convention's threefold objective.
3. In reference to Article 20.4, and taking note of the two critical issues identified by Executive Secretary (note UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/2/2) on the implementation of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan, which relate to the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and limited availability of financial resources: i) "Ninety per cent or more of all reporting countries identify lack of financial, human and technical resources as a high or medium challenge for implementing these articles and provisions"; and ii) "Technology transfer and cooperation under the Convention has been very limited". The CBD/SRM Strategy should give priority to address the main obstacles which hinder the process of implementation of the Convention as a tool for strengthening the three pillars of sustainable development at the local, regional and global levels.
4. In this context, Brazil would also like to address two critical topics: i) the urgent necessity to overcome the implementation deficit of the Convention, a direct consequence of the scarcity of financial, technical and technological resources in developing countries; and ii) the urgent need to revert the loss of biological diversity and the consequent decline in ecosystem services and the critical challenge to ensure the necessary internal financial base and the development of capacities to enable the implementation of national action programmes and priorities.
5. Developed Parties to the Convention should assume measurable target obligations of providing through the CBD/SRM financial, technical and technological resources to developing Parties of the Convention, including official development assistance (ODA) in order to enable such countries to meet the agreed full incremental costs of implementing the Convention's threefold objective.
6. The COP should also start a process for the development of flexible frameworks that could guide the development of targets for international funding in biodiversity, including a pilot project for a benefit sharing fund.
7. Developing Parties should have a clear understanding of domestic funding status and provide an enabling domestic environment for mobilizing international and domestic resources, increasing budgetary allocations, encouraging the private sector, and attracting and making effective and efficient use of international investment, assistance and cooperation towards the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention.

8. All in all, despite the progress made and the merit of such an effort, the effective implementation of the CBD/SRM will require an unremitting effort of all relevant stake holders of the Convention at all levels, for the CBD/SRM is not self implemented. Targets and means to achieve them should be developed with a view to focus on implementation of the Convention's three objectives. The Conference of the Parties (COP) will review the implementation of the CBD/SRM at its regular meetings and the Executive Secretary should prepare Global Monitoring Reports on the implementation by the COP.

II. Strategic goals and objectives of the CDB/SRM (UNEP/CBD/COP/9/16/Add.1):

Goal 1: Improve information base on funding needs, gaps and priorities

- 1.1 To improve a financial information base including funding needs and shortfalls for the Convention's three objectives, in particular sustainable use and fair and equitable sharing of benefits
- 1.2 To assess economic costs of biodiversity loss and benefits of early action to reduce loss of biological diversity
- 1.3 To improve priority-setting for guiding resource allocation to biological diversity

Goal 2: Mobilize domestic financial resources for the Convention's objectives

- 2.1 To prepare national financial plans that can be implemented by local, national, regional and international stakeholders
- 2.2 To promote budgetary allocations for biological diversity, including for development assistance in national budgets and all relevant sectoral and regional budgets
- 2.3 To consider economic incentives that are supportive of the Convention's objectives at local and national levels, such as non-trade distortionary tax systems
- 2.4 To establish enabling conditions for private sector involvement in supporting the Convention's objectives, including the financial sector

Goal 3: Strengthen existing financial institutions and establish new and additional funding programmes to support the Convention's objectives

- 3.1 To mobilize co-financing, associated financing and other modes of project financing for biological diversity
- 3.2 To establish new and additional funding programmes to support the Convention's objectives
- 3.3 To mobilize international private and public sector investments in biological diversity

Goal 4: Mainstream biological diversity in development cooperation plans and priorities including the linkage between Convention's work programmes and Millennium Development Goals

- 4.1 To integrate biological diversity into sectoral development cooperation and assistance programmes
- 4.2 To promote effective integration of the Convention's objectives into the United Nations development system, as well as international financial institutions and development banks
- 4.3 To strengthen cooperation and coordination among funding partners at the regional and subregional levels

4.4 To enhance financial and technical cooperation with international organizations, in particular non-governmental organizations, for biological diversity

Goal 5: Promote replication of successful financial mechanisms and instruments and explore innovative financial mechanisms

5.1 To support environmental funds at all levels as essential complements to national biodiversity resource base

5.2 To promote valuation of ecosystem services to adequately reward environmental initiatives at all levels, while ensuring that these are not trade-distortionary

5.3 To promote biological diversity in debt relief and cancellation initiatives, including debt-for nature swaps

5.4 To enhance revenue generation measures, in particular benefit-sharing arrangements and other thematic funding measures, as a contribution to sustainable resource mobilization

5.5 To explore ways and means to integrate biological diversity in the development of new and innovative sources of international development finance

Goal 6: Build capacity for resource mobilization and utilization and promote South-South cooperation as a complement to necessary North-South cooperation

6.1 To build local capacity on resource mobilization skills and financial planning and support awareness raising activities

6.2 To identify and intensify South-South Cooperation as a means of enhancing technical and financial cooperation

6.3 To improve effectiveness of resource utilization for informing further resource mobilization taking into account gender perspectives

Goal 7: To raise public awareness and enhance the global engagement for resource mobilization in support of the achievement of the Convention's three objectives

7.1 To raise public awareness of the importance of biodiversity, and to the goods and services that it provides at all levels

7.2. To promote exchange of experience and good practice in financing for biological diversity

7.3 To monitor and review implementation of the strategy for resource mobilization

III. Concrete activities and initiatives:

A. Measurable target obligations for mobilizing adequate and predictable financial resources to support the achievement of the Convention's threefold objective in developing countries:

- i. Increase in Official Development Assistance (ODA) to national biodiversity programs in developing Parties.

- ii. Provide effective and efficient bilateral and regional financial assistance to countries and regions which need financial resources for their ecosystem conservation, sustainable use of biodiversity.
 - iii. Examine and develop financial mechanisms for various stakeholders, especially funding agencies, to cooperate and contribute to maintaining ecosystem services.
 - iv. Provide assistance for potential providers of genetic resources and ensure fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from such resources.
 - v. Foster voluntary Business and Biodiversity Offset Programs and activities, as well as to encourage their use as a systematic framework to market, exchange and monitor biodiversity values.
- B. Mobilizing domestic financial resources for biological diversity to ensure an enabling domestic environment for mobilizing adequate and predictable international and domestic financial resources:
- i. Establish a national biodiversity account of revenues and expenditures as essential information base for supporting resource mobilization and biodiversity planning, implementation and review.
 - ii. Develop of a clear and coherent financial programme for national biodiversity management that coincides with the funding cycles of major donors, in particular the replenishment cycles of the financial mechanism of the Convention.
 - iii. Introduce biodiversity financing in national budgetary systems.
 - iv. Integrate and mainstream biodiversity considerations in policy development, budgeting, planning processes, sectoral plans and development strategies.
 - v. Foster development of contracts for payment for ecosystem services and its application at the national, regional levels.
 - vi. Foster the dissemination of environmental funds as viable institutions and essential complements to national biodiversity capacities, from fund raising and distribution to biodiversity management and policy development.
- C. Increasing new and additional financial resources for biological biodiversity
- i. Contribute new and additional financial resources in additional to regular negotiated replenishments for the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund.
 - ii. Mobilize international private sector investment in biodiversity management through innovative partnerships in order to create the necessary domestic and international conditions to facilitate direct investment flows conducive to achieving national biodiversity priorities.
 - iii. Develop capital markets on ODA promises in order to generate a substantial immediate increase in development ad biodiversity spending, timed to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015.
 - iv. Establish national and global conservation funds to focus the attention of large private donors, encourage payroll, corporate and internet giving.

- v. Encourage the creation of public-private agreements and international cooperation pacts for funding biodiversity conservation.
- vi. Promote private investment in resource management and technology development for achieving sustainability of productive activities.

IV. Numerical and performance indicators:

Numerical and performance indicators should cover implementation, progress and review of the CBD/SRM.

1. Compilation of Indicators to Monitor the Implementation (IMI) of the CBD/SRM. Executive Secretary Global Implementation Report.
2. Compilation of Indicators to Monitor Progress (IMP) towards the strategic goals and objectives of the CBD/SRM. Executive Secretary Global Monitoring Report.
3. Compilation of Indicators to Review the Implementation (IRI) of the CBD/SRM. Conference of the Parties Global Review.

V. Targets

9. As for targets, options should include traditional indices of funding needs and fixed commitments, availability of domestic and international financial resources to the implementation of CBD's three objectives, clearing house mechanisms, and so on. The main target of the CBD/SRM should be to substantially increase and at least double by 2020 annual international financial flows to developing countries to contribute to achieve the three objectives of the Convention.

VI. Means to achieve targets

10. As for means to achieve targets, variables must include human and physical capital, natural and cultural resources, technical cooperation, transfer of technology, overcoming the "taxonomic impediment" through building national institutional and scientific capacities, education and training anchored on solid cooperation schemes and an in depth study on the economic value of biodiversity.

VII. Recommendations

11. Developed Parties to the Convention should assume measurable target obligations of providing through the CBD/SRM financial, technical and technological resources to developing Parties of the Convention, including official development assistance (ODA) in order to enable such countries to meet the agreed full incremental costs of implementing the Convention's threefold objective.

12. The COP should also start a process for the development of flexible frameworks that could guide the development of targets for international funding in biodiversity, including a pilot project for a benefit sharing fund.

13. Developing Parties should have a clear understanding of domestic funding status and provide an enabling domestic environment for mobilizing international and domestic resources, increasing budgetary allocations, encouraging the private sector, and attracting and making effective and efficient use of international investment, assistance and cooperation towards the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention.

14. Despite the progress made and the merit of such an effort, the effective implementation of the CDB/SRM will require an unremitting effort of all relevant stake holders of the Convention at all levels,

for the CBD/SRM is not self implemented. Targets and means to achieve them should be developed with a view to focus on implementation of the Convention's three objectives.

15. The Conference of the Parties (COP) should review the implementation of the CBD/SRM at its regular meetings as well as at meetings of WGRI and the Executive Secretary should prepare regular Global Monitoring Reports on the implementation for consideration by the COP.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Decision/Action/submission required by the ninth Conference of the Parties	The Czech Republic response
<p>IX/11 A, 1. Encourages the Parties and relevant organizations to improve the existing financial information through enhancing accuracy, consistency and delivery of existing data on biodiversity financing and improved reporting on funding needs and shortfalls for the Convention's three objectives, and, in this context, requests the Executive Secretary to regularly update and further develop the Convention's online network on finance;</p>	<p>The Czech Republic periodically provides the existing financial information and data on biodiversity and nature including specificity for different realms (e.g.: protected areas, restoration of the Landscape structures). The data are provided by the component regions of the Czech republic. The Ministry of the Environment expenditures and expenditures from the State Environmental Fund of the Czech Republic (the fundamental economic tool of the MoE) for the specific actions and programmes on the biodiversity are regularly, mostly par year, published as well.</p>
<p>IX/11 A, 2. Encourages the Parties and relevant organizations to intensify efforts to assess, as appropriate, the economic costs of the loss of biodiversity and its associated ecosystem services and of the failure to take measures to fulfil the three objectives of the Convention, as well as the benefits of early action to reduce loss of biological diversity and its associated ecosystem services, in order to inform decision-making and awareness-raising, inter alia through contributing to the "Global Study on the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity;"</p>	<p>The Czech Republic is fully aware of the economic costs of the biological diversity and especially of economic impact and consequences of biodiversity loss. Therefore the Czech Republic supports the global study 'The Economics of Ecosystems & Biodiversity (TEEB) focuses on valuation, cost of action and cost of inaction for declining ecosystem services and loss of biodiversity.</p> <p>The biodiversity protection is generally stipulated by the Act on Nature and Landscape protection no. 114/1992 Coll., as amended. The impact and its limitations are partially covered by various operational regulations (including standard and extraordinary conditions) – Integrated Prevention and Pollution Control (IPPC). Czech parliament has adopted in 2008 the Act on Claim Prevention and Its Compensation no. 167/2008 Coll. The act is transposition of the Directive of European Parliament and Council 2004/35/EEC about Environmental Liability. In 2002, Ministry of the Environment has adopted Methodology for Environmental Management Accounting –Environmental Management Accounting identifies, gather, assess, analyse and transfer information on environmental fluxes and costs that are important for decision-making process in a company. Companies operate with environmental credits and debits in the methodology. Environmental debits are formed by costs invested to environment protection, i.e. costs related to the compensation</p>

	<p>of negative activity of a company. This Act gives large opportunity for public discussion to set up limits of environmental liability but without responsibility for potential economic loss.</p> <p>Companies operate with environmental credits and debits in Methodology of Accounting and measure and monitor identified pollutant emissions following the operation permits of Integrated Prevention and Pollution Control (IPPC). Some companies operate installations utilizing the best available technologies, having contingency plans and training for extraordinary/emergency situations that may occur.</p>
<p>IX/11 A, 4. Urges Parties and Governments, where appropriate, to create the enabling environment to mobilize private and public-sector investments in biological diversity and its associated ecosystem services;</p>	<p>There are national initiatives aimed at promoting partnership for biodiversity in the Czech Republic. The Ministry of the Environment signed two voluntary agreements directly concerning biodiversity. The first one is the agreement on cooperation on the protection of nature which was signed between the Ministry and the Czech Union for Nature Conservation – the biggest NGO with activities aimed at nature conservation issues. The second one is the agreement on cooperation on mutual data exchange with the Ministry of Agriculture with the aim to delimitate generically abundant vegetation “LPIS” for purpose of agri-environmental programs. The other agreement exists between Forests of the Czech Republic and Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection of the Czech Republic regarding the preservation of non-intervention areas in Protected Landscape Area advancing environmental benefits "Agreement on cooperation in the formulation of forest kept spontaneous development and implementation of forest resources without the intervention of specially protected areas and ensure their monitoring."</p> <p>http://www.lesy.cz/cs/odborna-verejnost/ochrana-prirody/vymezovani-bezzasahovych-uzemi.ep/</p> <p>In October 2008 the Institute of Botany of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic published the Review on industry, business and biodiversity assessment in the Czech Republic. This national review was elaborated within the international project BioStrat (http://www.biostrat.org, www.ibot.cas.cz/biop). The authors focused on these priority topics:</p> <p>1./ Does it exist national regulations concerning</p> <p>1.1. Biodiversity impact assessments? If yes, for which type of activities?</p> <p>1.2. mitigation/compensation for biodiversity impact? Are these regulations implemented?</p>

	<p>1.3. Does any agency exist, public or private, to manage impact evaluations and/or compensations-mitigations (such as mitigation banking...)?</p> <p>2./ Do the companies</p> <p>2.1. Have any accounting of their impacts on biodiversity?</p> <p>2.2. Which main measures have they taken to minimize their impacts?</p> <p>2.3. Do they contribute to the conservation of biodiversity? Through which types of actions?</p> <p>3./ Research</p> <p>3.1. Assess the existing or past research activities in partnership with the private sector and the public companies in the field of biodiversity either for conservation in general or focused on the impacts of the companies' activities and mitigation or restoration</p> <p>4./ Ecological engineering</p> <p>4.1. State of the art of Ecological engineering applied to industrial impact assessment and restoration / mitigation.</p> <p>The results summarize main findings for the environmental (biodiversity) impact assessment and its implementation to the companies' strategies, legal framework and scientific tools are particularly represented. The conclusion is aimed at gaps in research in this area.</p>
<p>IX/11 A, 5. Recommends that Parties and relevant organizations identify, engage and increase South-South cooperation as a complement to North-South cooperation to enhance technical, financial, scientific and technological cooperation and innovations, for biological diversity;</p>	<p>To be completed.</p>
<p>IX/11 A, 6. Urges the Parties and Governments to continue to enhance national administrative and managerial capacities, thus enabling more efficient resource utilization and enhancing positive impacts;</p>	
<p>IX/11 A, 7. Urges Parties, the Global Environment Facility, and relevant organizations to include gender, indigenous peoples and local</p>	<p>Under the Government of the Czech Republic there was by its Resolution No. 1033 of October 10, 2001 established the Governmental Council for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men (hereafter referred to as the Council). The Council is</p>

<p>communities perspectives in the financing of biodiversity and its associated ecosystem services;</p>	<p>a permanent Governmental advisory body in the area of creating equal opportunities for women and men. The Council draws up proposals for the promotion and achievement of equal opportunities for women and men.</p> <p>The Government submits periodic annual summary report on the performance of tasks contained in the programming document "Priorities and procedures of government in promoting equal opportunities for women and men" (hereinafter referred to as "Priority"). The National Action Plan was approved by Government Resolution No. 236 April 1998 and is updated annually.</p> <p>The Ministry of the Environment annually processes priority to promote equal opportunities between men and women within its jurisdiction.</p> <p>The Ministry of Education Youth and Sports (MEYS) within its purview implements the national action plan 'Priorities and Procedures in the Advocacy of Equal Opportunities for Women and Men', which is proposed and approved for the calendar year at the ministry. Since the problem of equal opportunities for women and men transverses sections, affecting the activities of all the specialised sections of the MEYS and directly-managed organisations, the Minister appointed the Working Group for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men at the beginning of 2008, comprising employees of not only the MEYS but also of not-for-profit organisations and specialised academic workplaces. The main objective of the Working Group is to prepare a long-term vision for the activities of the MEYS in this area on the basis of the policies of gender equality as a relatively new political theme in order to achieve gender-equal education and support in the area of gender research and the position of women in science as a result.</p>
<p>IX/11 A, 9. Requests the Executive Secretary to compile existing guidelines and best practices for mainstreaming financing of biodiversity and its associated ecosystem services into overall and sectoral planning as well as on financial needs assessment and make this information publicly available;</p>	
<p>IX/11 A, 10. Encourages Parties and other Governments to build on existing knowledge of biodiversity and poverty alleviation mainstreaming to integrate biodiversity into national development policies and plans.</p>	<p>In March 2004, the Czech Government adopted the Principles of International Development Cooperation upon the Czech Republic's Accession to the EU, and decided to narrow down the territorial focus of development cooperation. The Czech Republic is aware of the strong links between the development, poverty eradication and biodiversity. Overall goal of the Official Development Assistance (ODA) of the</p>

	<p>Czech Republic is to contribute to poverty alleviation in the less developed countries through the promotion of sustainable development. Poverty alleviation is a prerequisite of reaching globally sustainable development. Environmental sustainability will not be achieved with current patterns of resources consumption and use. Land is becoming degraded at an alarming rate. Plants and animal species are being lost in record numbers. The climate is changing, bringing with it threats of rising sea levels and worsening droughts and floods. The Czech Republic endorses multidimensional approach towards poverty alleviation that cannot be understood only in economical terms but also in its social and environmental aspects. The Czech Republic has committed itself to the principles of sustainable development and to incorporating them into national policies and strategies (e.g. National Biodiversity Strategy of the Czech Republic). One of the strategic goals of the Czech official development assistance is to support sustainable development with emphasis on its environmental pillar. The environmental protection, conservation and protection biodiversity so make up the bulk of the development assistance.</p>
<p>IX/11 B, 2. Also invites the Parties and relevant organizations, including United Nations development system, the World Bank, regional development banks and all other relevant international and regional bodies, as well as non-governmental organizations and business sector entities to take prompt actions to implement the strategy for resource mobilization in support of the achievement of the Convention's three objectives;</p>	<p>The Strategy for resource mobilization in support of the achievement of the three objectives of the Convention was discussed and acknowledged by the leadership conference of the Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic, especially has been handed over to the National Focal Point for GEF and the Department of the Official Development Assistance to take it into account and special consideration. Further negotiations are needed.</p>
<p>IX/11 B, 3. Invites Parties to come forward with early commitments of additional funding in support of the strategy for resource mobilization in accordance with Article 20 of the Convention;</p>	<p>CZ contributions to the Trust Fund CBD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ABS issues: 15 000, - EUR - Protected Areas issues: 10 000,- EUR <p>National sources:</p> <p>State budget includes obligation of the State to provide resources for some specified activities. Funds are further provided from the so called “budgetary chapters” of the individual ministries in the framework of co-financing of the support programs (National programs).</p> <p>Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic (MoE) provides financial means from its budgetary chapter in the following Programmes focused on supporting the biodiversity</p>

	<p>conservation: Landscape conservation program (191 mil. CZK in 2008), Urban areas management program (2.7 mil. CZK), resources for the Natura 2000 sites - for monitoring of the European important phenomena (20 mil. CZK), Contribution for management of forests in National parks (2.1 mil. CZK), for Life+ (6 mil. CZK on currently running projects), Restoration of natural landscape functions (110 mil. CZK), Improvement of landscape and nature status, formerly of the River System Restoration Programme (14.6 mil. CZK). Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic has a special budgetary subsidy for the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements at national level in total amount of CZK approximately 8 mil per year for all conventions the Czech Republic is a Party to and are in the competency of the Ministry of the Environment. The budgetary allocation for CBD is aprox. 200 000 CZK per year.</p> <p>Apart from the protection of protected areas according to approved management plans, Agency for Nature Conservation and Landscape Protection (ANCLP CR) uses a range of other economic tools to conserve nature and to protect landscape.</p> <p>They include the Ministry of the Environment's landscape management programmes. Their aim is to support measures preserving the landscape's cultural status, contributing to species diversity maintenance, improving natural processes in the landscape, strengthening the functions of significant landscape elements and components of the territorial system of ecological stability, etc. There exist these MoE programmes in the Czech Republic:</p> <p>Landscape management programme</p> <p>Programme for the stabilization of the forests in the Jizerské hory Mts. – already finished (at the beginning 2009)</p> <p>River System Restoration Programme</p> <p>State property in PAs programme</p> <p>The State Environmental Fund of the Czech Republic (SEF) is among the most important extra-budgetary sources of environmental investments and provides support to both municipalities and private sector in the form of loans and non-returnable subsidies. It securers the Operational Programme Environment – the main aim is to halt the biodiversity loss and enhancing the landscape ecological stability. Further information: http://www.opzp.cz/sekce/451/priority-axis-6/</p> <p>The expenditures of SEF are divided into co-financing of EU projects (such as Operational Programs) and National programs. These programs of support are announced every year in Annexes I and II of the Directive of MoE. Regarding</p>
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	<p>the biodiversity field, in 2007 was announced the Natural environmental management Program. The total amount of subsidies in 2007 was 62 mil. CZK.</p> <p>State Environmental Fund of the CR operates the Landscape Enhancement Programme, for which ANCLP CR is the advisory.</p> <p>ANCLP CR actively participates in the preparation of other national/regional programmes and programmes financed through European Community funds (Operational Programme “Environment”, Flood Prevention Programme II, Rural Development Programme, etc.).</p> <p>ANCLP CR also carries out the payment of financial compensations for the burden on agricultural, forestry and fish-pond management due to nature conservation.</p> <p>ANCLP CR is a contact point and an expert body for providing compensation of damages caused by selected specially protected animals (Act No. 115/2000Coll., as amended) which provides the state.</p> <p>Ministry of Agriculture manages the Rural Development Operational Program (www.mze.cz).</p> <p>Prague, the Capitol manages the Operational Program Prague-Competitiveness. Its priority axis 1 includes biodiversity protection and the whole allocation is 224,2 mil. EUR for the years 2007-2013.</p>
<p>IX/11 B, 4. Invites Parties to come forward with new and innovative financing mechanisms in support of the strategy for resource mobilization in accordance with Article 20 of the Convention, requests the Executive Secretary to support diffusion of such initiatives and requests the Global Environment Facility to support diffusion, and facilitate replication and scaling-up, of such initiatives that have proved to be successful;</p>	<p>At the national level we currently focus on uses of money from sale of carbon credits. The total amount of 10 mil.CZK will be used for thermal insulation of houses and environment-friendly heating methods.</p>
<p>IX/11 B, 6. Invites Parties to submit views on concrete activities and initiatives including measurable targets and/or indicators to achieve the strategic goals contained in the strategy for resource mobilization and on indicators to monitor the implementation of the strategy;</p>	

<p>7. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare a compilation of the information provided in accordance with paragraph 6 of the present decision, including options on monitoring progress towards the goals and objectives of the resource mobilization strategy, and make it available three months prior to the third meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention</p>	
<p>IX/11 B, annex, 12. The strategy for resource mobilization is intended to assist Parties in establishing national targets, goals and objectives as well as actions and timeframes, and in considering the establishment of financial mechanisms and other options, to implement the financial provisions of the Convention at all levels, based on success stories and good practices. Each Party should consider appointing a “resource mobilization focal point” to facilitate national implementation of the strategy for resource mobilization. National implementation should include, as appropriate, the design and dissemination of a country-specific resource mobilization strategy, with the involvement of key stakeholders such as non-governmental organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, environmental funds, businesses and donors, in the frame of updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans.</p>	<p>The Czech Republic has not yet appointed any Nation Focal Point.</p>
<p>IX/31 A, 5. Requests the Executive Secretary, for consideration by the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties:</p> <p>(a) To invite Parties to submit assessments of their future funding needs based on their updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans;</p> <p>(b) To compile these national submissions;</p>	<p>Precise financial needs for the biodiversity protection are at the moment not known. Because of permanent insufficiency of financial means the only evaluation can be provided on the base of sources available and expenditures already spent. From statistics can be seen that the ratio of expenditures for biodiversity and landscape protection varies (from the year 2001) about the value of 12-14 % of all environmental protection expenditures. This is expected in future as well.</p>

<p>(c) To prepare, in consultation with the Parties, draft terms of reference for a full assessment of the amount of funds needed for the implementation of the Convention for the sixth replenishment period of the Trust Fund of the Global Environment Facility</p>	
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EGYPT

I. Introduction:

1- Strategically situated at the intersection of three continents, Egypt's terrestrial and marine habitats support biodiversity of substantial global significance. Even though country terrestrial species diversity is relatively low due to Egypt's general aridity, many species are very narrowly distributed, making habitat conservation crucial to their survival. Marine biodiversity is also significant, with Egypt's Red Sea coral reefs showing considerable endemism. There is also important genetic diversity, including locally adapted plant varieties in the Western Desert oases and locally adapted plant varieties found in isolated oases, on high altitude mountains and across various biogeographical barriers (such as the Red Sea and Nile River). Globally endangered species abound: Egypt hosts at least 143 species of threatened animals, including the highly endangered Slender Horned Gazelle (*Gazella leptoceros*) and the Egyptian Tortoise (*Testudo kleinmanni*). The flora includes 82 threatened species. Egypt represents a vital artery for bird migration, including 39 threatened species, serving as a major flyway for migrating soaring birds and an important wintering ground for waterbirds.

2- Egypt has established a network of protected areas where most of the biodiversity hotspots are well covered. The Nature Conservation Sector (NCS) is legally tasked with governing and administering protected areas (PAs) and is also responsible for issues related to biodiversity conservation within the broader landscape. NCS drafts policies, creates programs, undertakes studies, and conducts other activities meant to ensure compliance with habitat and species protection legislation and commitments to international conventions for the conservation of nature.

3- Currently, Egypt's 27 PAs cover 150,000 km², of about 15% of the nation's total land area and new areas continue to be added, with three new PAs covering over 53,000 km² created in 2006-2007, including the largest PA in the system, Gilf El Kebir. A system plan was adopted in 1998 calls for a total of 40 PAs covering about 20% of the country's area by 2017. Two of the country's PAs, St. Katherine and Wadi El Rayan, encompass UNESCO World Heritage Sites, while two others, El Omayed and Allaqi, are Biosphere Reserves

II. Financial Needs Assessment:

A. Financial Analysis of the Egyptian Protected Areas System:

1. Protected Areas (PAs) in developing countries receive only a small and non-stable fraction of needed funds. In many cases funding is underestimated due to the lack of appropriate mechanisms and planning tools to address the real costs of managing and maintaining natural resources. Therefore protected areas are sending the wrong message to decision makers while managing to survive with the minimum resources available. As a consequence, operating costs as well as urgent investments are often neglected, while many PAs receive no funding at all constituting what is recognized as "paper parks". The

achievement by 2010 of a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity will require the provision of new and additional financial and technical resources to developing countries.

2. Table 1 presents expenditures and revenues for Egypt's PA System over the past five years. Even considering a 100% reinvestment of self generated revenues the financial gap to reach a reasonable level of PA management would still be around 75% according to the regional assessment prepared for Mediterranean countries. Donors have helped to cover some of the financial shortfalls, however their contribution should not be supplementary to governmental allocations but complementary. Both international cooperation and governmental funding do not seem to meet the core characteristic of PA financial sustainability, which should be stable and long term funding.

Table 1: Expenditures of protected areas over last 5 years (\$ 1000)

Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Total
Source of Funding						
Government	1903	1672	2992	1278	3002	10847
Donors	2412	4341	4844	4380	4194	17800
After deduct 25% TA	1809	3256	3633	3285	3147	15129
Total fund (T)	3712	4928	6625	4563	6149	25977
Revenues (R)	2937	3795	2812	3623	4698	17865
(R/T)	0.79	0.77	0.42	0.79	0.76	
Protectorates Area (1000 km ²)	100	100	100	150	150	--
Expenditures per km ² /year (\$)	37	49	66	30	41	Average 45

3. Table 2 reflects the financial projection for the future five years plan for the national programme of nature conservation including actions in-situ and ex-situ funded by the government and encouraged cofinancing.

Table 2: The financial needs of 5 year national program for nature conservation (PAs and Biodiversity)

Components and key activities	Total budget
1- Information , Monitoring , Assessment of Biodiversity	
• Survey, Monitoring, and evaluation of resources.	6
• Survey and Assessment of endangered species.	4
• Geographic information maps system of Biodiversity.	3

• Actions against bird flue, invasive species and Biosafety.	10
Total	23
2- Development of PA network	
• Declaration and managing of new PAs.	15
• Improving the infrastructure of PAs.	25
• Providing PAs with technical and administrative facilities.	10
• Increasing PAs capacity to support economic and social development.	6
• Initiate The Egyptian National Museum.	10
• Enhance the program of captive breeding.	10
• Implementing the strategy of medicinal planets.	8
Total	84
3- Support enabling environment for PAs and Biodiversity	
• Institutional reform and capacity building of nature conservation.	10
• Partnership with stakeholders, local community, NGOs.	5
• Ensure sustainability of donor projects.	10
• Communication, media, marketing and awareness for ecotourism in PAs.	3
• Undertake necessary measures to satisfy international conservations commitments.	10
Total	38
Grand Total	145

B. Conclusions:

1. The current total investment in the Egyptian protected areas system is almost \$5 million annually (40% governmental and 60% as donor funds) which indicates that the average invested money per km²/annum is \$45. According to IUCN report to CBD, the average investment per km² in developed countries reaches \$ 1300 while in developing countries is around \$160. The real financial needs of PAs in Egypt would be around \$ 30 million a year.

2. The gab in financial resources has led to irregular expenditure and concentration on some PAs that are supported by donor projects and neglecting other PAs which are turned as paper parks. The second side of the problem is that the protected areas visited by millions of tourists require large expenditures on the expense of others.

3. The generated revenues should reflect the value of protected area and have positive relation to its needs. The revenues system needs to be developed and PAs should be managed by the business approach

based in the real economic benefits to individuals and society in large in order to meet their costs of sustainability.

4. Giving the great dependence of tourist-related revenues, it is important to mention that entrance fees for foreigners in Egypt might be among the lowest in the world for the kind of resources and uniqueness of natural values they provide.

5. Financial shortfalls have severe impacts on the level of PA management effectiveness, resulting in biodiversity losses and moreover a structural incapacity to take full advantage of PA resources to generate economic development, employment and poverty alleviation.

6. However financial shortfalls are just one part of the problem. It seems clear that even existing resources are not being deployed and managed effectively. In fact, capacity limitations and barriers in the areas of financial management and financial systems, and PA management effectiveness are closely related.

7. At the same time, the lack of an enabling environment and capacity constraints are limiting PA system and site manager's abilities to design and implement new approaches to improve its financial situation. Together, the issues of mobilizing and managing financial resources frame the challenge of sustainable protected area finance and, ultimately, are key determinants of PA conservation effectiveness.

III. Best Practices for Mainstreaming of Biodiversity:

1- Strategic objective of the environmental policy in Egypt is to introduce and integrate environmental concerns relevant to protecting human health and mainstreaming managing natural resources into all national plans. In addition, it will provide support to the multilateral environment agreements to which the country is a signatory. The Prime Minister has established a national committee on Sustainable Development, formed of MSEA as a lead Ministry, with members of line Ministries, private sector and NGOs. This Committee is to coordinate Sustainable Development Plan. Therefore, it is crucial to mainstream all environmental issues into one single plan. This is being achieved through the National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP) and National Capacities Assessment (NCSA) project. The following is a brief account on what is being achieved and proposed future activities:

- Egypt had prepared its biodiversity strategy and action plan in 1998. They were approved, based on a consultative process, and sent to the Ministries of the Planning and Financing to be included in the national plan for funding from the government and donor countries and organizations. In 2002, EEAA approved a National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP), which was also approved by the Prime Minister. NEAP dealt with many environmental issues including water, air, soil, waste, biodiversity conservation and biosafety, protection of the marine environment, desertification, global environmental problems such as climate change, economic issues such as environmental accounting, natural resources accounting and economic incentive tools, and finally social issues including minorities, youth, women and old people.

- The NEAP has identified corrective measures to meet the challenges of biodiversity. These include issues related to compliance, strengthening institutional framework, building capacity on biodiversity (e.g. research and monitoring), and preparation of legislation on biodiversity and biotechnology.

- To mainstream Biodiversity Conservation into the National Environmental Action Plan (NEAP), it was agreed that NEAP need to be revised according to three main issues: current status and assessment of biodiversity; corrective measures to be taken, and supportive measures for action. NCS has provided NEAP the current status of biodiversity to be integrated in NEAP. There were: biodiversity information system (database available, networks, websites, data management, assessment), surveys conducted, habitat and ecosystem assessment, endangered and threatened species, economic value of biodiversity, genetic resources, bioprospecting, reference collections, monitoring and research programmes.

- Corrective measures proposed include the following; improve the existing protected area network, use of modern technology in natural resources management, enhance economic studies on biodiversity to generate revenues, and hence self financing of PAs, establish a natural history museum, establish a captive breeding centre, promote a national programme on biodiversity monitoring and research, support pilot projects on sustainable use of biodiversity, NCS institutional reform, and review the existing legislation.

- Supportive measures requested included the following: upgrade (amend) the existing legislation and issue new ones on wildlife and biosafety, implement NCS reform into an authority, partnerships with private sector, enhance implementation of regional and international agreements, provide more funding for nature conservation, and continue political support to nature conservation.

2- Moreover, Egypt has the legal framework required to fulfil its commitments of achieving sustainable development, where Law 4\1994 states that EEAA is a coordinating body responsible for mainstreaming the environmental dimensions into other sectors plan. According to article 5 of this law, EEAA is the responsible entity in the country to follow up and monitor the Multilateral Environmental Agreement (MEAs) to which Egypt is a signatory. The current administrative arrangement system does not allow monitoring nor regular fulfilment of the commitments under the conventions. Beside coordination overload, weak monitoring and reporting system are two main constraints for fulfilment of MEAs the lack of technical and administrative capacity to monitor and report effectively on the achievements of the convention and linking national policy issues to the objectives of global conventions.

3- The early start up of the national capacity self assessment (NCSA) project in Egypt has shown the importance of MEAs as a tool to mainstream the environmental dimension into other sectoral plants. Through the orientation meetings held with different stakeholders. It was clear the need to have one unified method of tackling the MEAs as an international commitment as well as a national benefit and an opportunity that should be grasped and well utilized. One of the main challenges identified is the capacity of the state institution to manage funds with the aim to improve their utilization for the fulfillment of the national and international obligations (conventions), the capacity to coordinate with other national stakeholders for commitment of the obligation, developing a long term vision that linking these commitments with national priorities and projects, the need to have a monitoring and reporting system that would assist decision makers in assessing their situation in the convention and upon which to take appropriate action.

4- After signing\ratifying around 66 separate MEAs, the country is in the process of developing a national strategy for sustainable development and national indicator program that will take into consideration these global environmental commitments. This will require the set-up of an effective coordination mechanism and follow up system on implementation of these obligations. In support of progress towards a sustainable development strategy and mainstreaming environmental dimensions into sectoral plans it is proposed that establishment of a long term vision for each MEAs should be a prerequisite not only to relate implications of the MEAs full implementation on the formulation of national policies, but also to ensure that associated financial resources have maximum leverage.

IV. New Financing Mechanisms for Mobilization of Resources:

A. NCS Reformed as Institution Process:

1. Institutional Reform of NCS

The NCS Capacity Building Project (NCSCB) worked effectively in 2005 and 2006 in close cooperation with Legal Project to develop NCS towards an autonomous economic institution as a Nature Conservation Authority with defined policy, clear mandate, detailed organizational structure and supporting comprehensive studies. The institution reform study was prepared by national and

international consultants with wide range discussions with environmental, managerial and economical experts as well as NCS and PA staff. The study had been concluded that the existing NCS structure is not suitable for the scope of authorized works, international commitments, and expanded geographical areas of protectorates and national responsibilities of biodiversity convention. Besides, NCS suffers from shortage of staff, lack of needed equipment and insufficient financial resources to tackle its mandate, while the primary feasibility study of possibilities of PA generated resources showed it can cover the needs for effective management within five years.

A round table was held in partnership with high level advisors, scientists and managers; to discuss the study and solutions, in addition to different presentations to H E the Minister of State for Environmental Affairs, CEO of EEAA and leaders of EEAA. The participants had reached a consensus that the most suitable institution for nature conservation is the establishment of an autonomous General Authority affiliated to MSEA according to the Egyptian law of public sector reform. This authority will realize decentralization of management, flexibility of works, reaching self financing and achieving sustainable development of PA network and biodiversity. This proposed institution was guided by Presidential Election Manifesto about national reform, the government five years plan and the worldwide trends of PA management that depends on effective business actions and supportive partnership of the stakeholders and communities.

In addition, NCSCB in cooperation with Legal Project had produced another alternative option of establishing a Holding Company which became a new economical institution for many national services and self dependent. The framework and legal background for the company was produced which could secure sufficient financial and technical resources to improve the management system of PAs and biodiversity conservation.

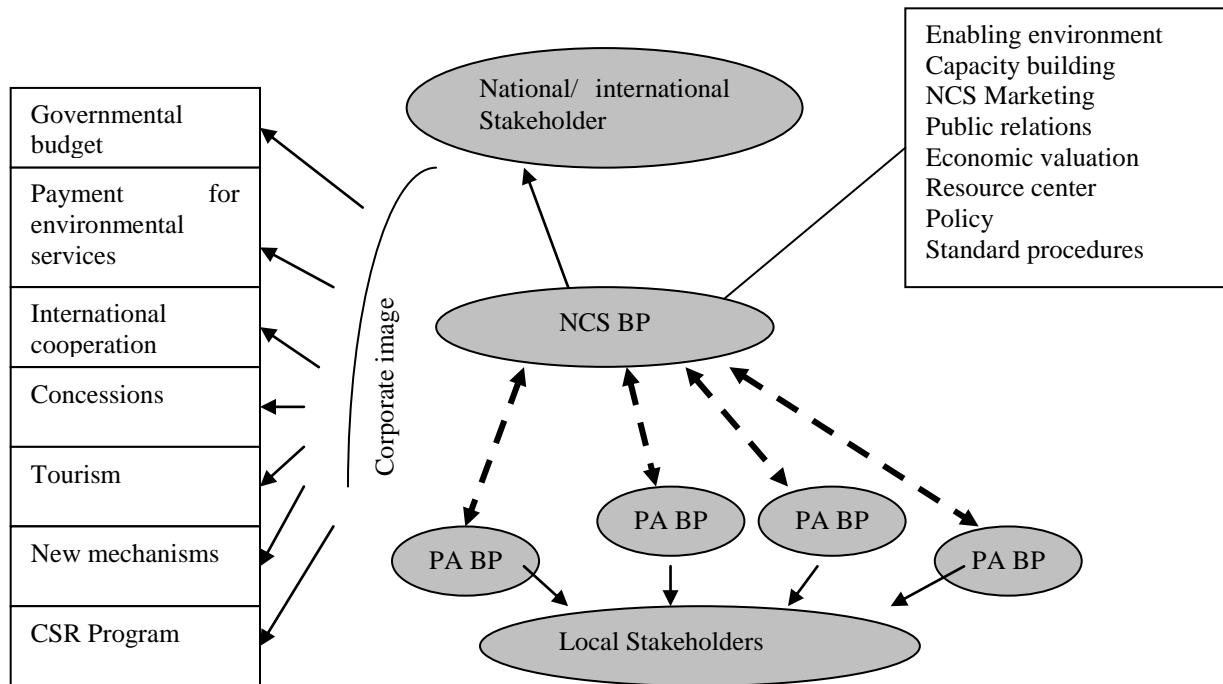
The MSEA undertook the legal measures and official documents in the direction of Nature Conservation Authority establishment by a Presidential Decree, however the process was bended. This ambitious institution is likely to be achieved through the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) Project which is scheduled to start by mid 2009 where NCS institution will be directed toward a self financed decentralized entity is imperative to ensure sustainability of the Protected Areas.

2. Mandate of the Nature Conservation General Authority

- Create and maintain an ecological representation system of wetland, terrestrial and marine PAs to protect the nation' natural values.
- Ensure that PAs are properly governed, effectively managed and sustainably used in support of the local and national economy.
- Make PAs as financially self supporting as possible by optimizing revenue generation, without threatening natural values, which enhance PA protection and management.
- Promote better long term conservation of wild resources outside PAs through supportive regularity mechanisms and pricing structures that offer local people incentives to conserve and manage these resources more sustainably.
- Monitor the status and trends of biodiversity throughout the country with a view to initiate appropriate actions to prevent the dissipation or genetic contamination of valuable species, ecological processes or despoiling of aesthetically attractive scenery.
- Increase awareness among decision makers and public at large of the value of wild resources, the importance of managing them effectively and realize their potential to support the national prosperity.

- Ensure the presence of efficient organization, qualified staff, adequate equipment and sustainable financing to fulfill this mandate and achieve international standards.
- Fulfill Egypt's obligations in terms of international conventions and bilateral or regional agreements relating to nature conservation.

Graph 1: NCS Business Plan Framework



B. NCS Business Planning

1- Business plan and recourse mobilization

The business planning is a new mechanism in Egypt while it became a wide trend in many countries to achieve financial sustainability of PA system. Financing is one of the key pillars of all conservation efforts and is necessary to ensure effective management and proper protection of the valuable natural resources. The business approach is based on the idea that PAs provide real economic benefits to individuals and society as a whole. These contributions are often neither fully recognized nor compensated. By identifying what are the environmental goods and services provided by a PA and who are the beneficiaries, it is possible to evaluate the value of these benefits and generate payment from them.

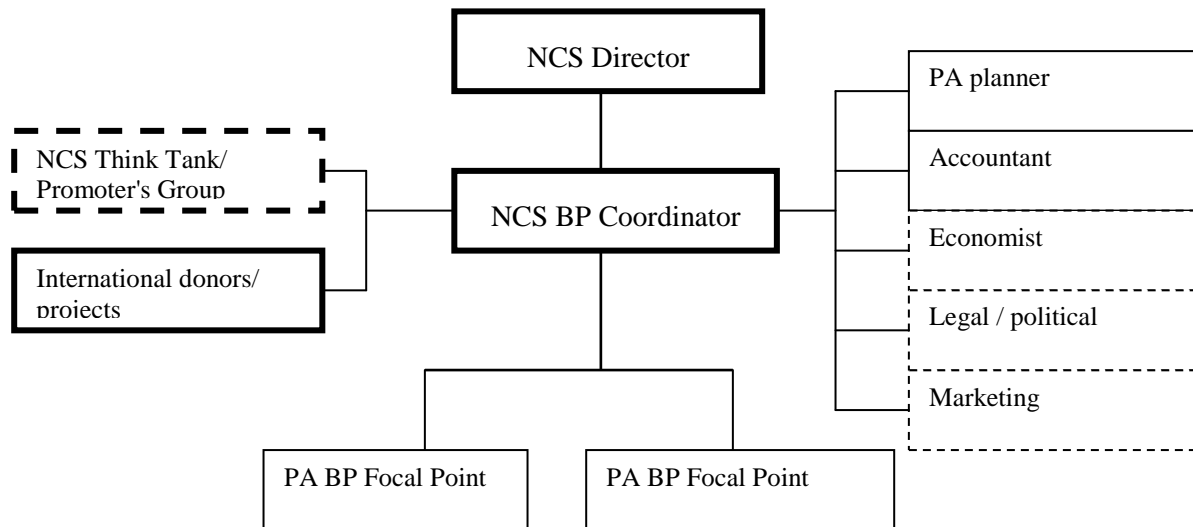
Through years 2006 and 2007 the NCSCB project started by financial analysis of NCS budgets and revenues generated by PAs through the last 5 years, compared that with the needs and the general norms of expenditures in PAs of Developing Countries which showed the gap between financial resources and proper management of PAs system in Egypt. Two PA business plans have been developed as models to be tested and evaluated. Along with that a comprehensive study is going on about the process of BP at the central level of NCS which will be a base for the GEF project.

NCS business plan pursues to guide an integrated process to ensure long term and stable funding for the Egyptian Protected Areas System. It should be conceived as a master plan for NCS sustainability considering the different social, economic and political issues affecting PA conservation in the country.

2- The Expected Results from Implementation of NSC Business plan

- An appropriate set of policies and laws that enable PA Business Plans to generate, retain, manage and invest funds.
- To build a formal long term group to provide assist NCS with technical, political and financial support (Promoter's Group/ NCS Think Tank)
- Awareness of protected area values and knowledge about sustainable financing mechanisms influences policy and practice in Egypt.
- Institutional and legal framework to allow opportunities for local communities and private actors
- Build a stable funding portfolio, going beyond conventional mechanisms and including multiple funding sources, as a key element of PA financial stability and sustainability.
- Introduce business planning, as a means of encouraging NCS at both system and site levels to think broadly about their long-term expenditure needs and revenue prospects, and thereby obliging them to align the two in a realistic way.
- Manage and administer funds in a way that promotes cost efficiency and management effectiveness, allows for long-term planning and security, and provides incentives and opportunities for PA managers.
- Ensure that there is sufficient human capacity to use financial tools, as a key strategy for improving PA financial sustainability.
- An important step has been taken trough the NCS Capacity Building Project in terms of raising awareness and generating the preliminary capacities for a national business planning process. As a result of this, a National Business Planning Team has been established incorporating protected areas focal points to move the process at two parallel levels. A specific person has been appointed as a BP National Coordinator with the commitment to full time dedication, and the mission to start developing a resource center for business planning.
- These results lead to a preliminary structure that ensures the necessary support and human capacities to prepare the NCS BP

Graph 2: Structure for NCS Business Planning Process



V. Initiatives To Achieve Resource Mobilization Goals

A. GEF Project: Strengthening the National System of Protected Areas

The project indicative financing is \$ 13 million (4 million \$ from GEF and 9 million \$ from co-financing). It is planned to be started by the mid of 2009.

1. Project Objective:

Establishment of a sustainable protected area financing system, with associated management structures, systems and capacities needed to ensure the effective use of generated revenues for priority biodiversity conservation needs

2. Major barriers affecting financial mobilization

- The existing system and level of PA financing is wholly inadequate to the task of supporting required NCS activities: Egypt's baseline system of PA financing operates as follows. Revenues generated by the PA system, which consist mainly of funds collected from visitors to 5 of the 27 PAs, are retained within an Environmental Protection Fund (EPF). Income generated in this manner, while clearly below its potential, is nevertheless fairly substantial. However, EPF funds are not easily available to PA managers in NCS. The EPF supports a wide range of EEAA activities, not just those related to protected areas, and only a nominal fraction of revenues generated by the PAs returns to NCS.

- NCS as an institution has limited capacities and systems needed to effectively implement its mandate: While NCS currently lacks funds to undertake its critical management and protection tasks, it would likely fail in meeting its conservation goals, even if adequate funding were available, due to its limited capacities, and lack of systems to effectively prioritize, plan, manage and monitor.

- NCS has insufficient authority and administrative independence: A lack of administrative independence prevents the NCS from establishing priorities based on sound technical reasoning. This also makes personnel, financial and administrative management complex and subject infringements from external sources.

3. The project main components

- Tools and practices for financial resource mobilization: Egypt's PA system must be able to attract and take advantage of all existing and potential revenue mechanisms within the context of its overall management priorities. Current levels of revenue generation, e.g., from user fees, appear to be well below their potential. In addition, diversified revenue sources such as tourism services concession arrangements or even carefully controlled levels of resource extraction, could offer additional sources of revenues and reduce reliance on a single revenue source (user fees). The project will therefore work with NCS to develop and implement tools and practices for enhancing and diversifying revenue sources.

- Business planning and cost-effective management: As revenues increase, and are increasingly available for conservation, NCS will need to build its capacities and develop PA system. Cost effectiveness will be enhanced through factors such as the efficient deployment of human and other resources and avoiding duplication of tasks between individuals, departments and institutions. Implementation of business planning will mobilize more resources for sustainable management and enhancement capabilities of PAs. Monitoring of management effectiveness will become an important tool in measuring and improving cost-effectiveness.

- Legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks that support sustainable PA financing: Legal, regulatory and institutional frameworks governing Egypt's PA financing systems will need to be reviewed and redefined to support efficient and appropriate financial planning and local revenue generation, retention and disbursement by PAs in the interest of improved conservation management a comprehensive package of systemic enhancements designed to institutionalize this new approach to PA financing. For example, governance structures, including devolved and comanagement/partnership arrangements will enable and require the use of effective, transparent mechanisms for allocation, management and accounting of revenues and expenditures.

B. Draft of Law on Access and Benefit Sharing:

1. Introduction

- The value of medicinal plants and the associated traditional knowledge have raised concerns about the protection of the intellectual property rights of the local community. The aim is to achieve equal benefit sharing for the outcomes and revenues resulting from the utilization of this knowledge commercially.

- Until now, the local communities have not been able to claim the right to prevent others from using their natural resources and traditional knowledge related to medicinal plants. The communities could use the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) to protect their medicinal plants and associated knowledge by the application of claiming their "prior art".

2. Objective

- In the logical framework of the Medicinal Plants Conservation Project, the fourth outcome entitled "MAP conservation and management enabling environment strengthened" aims to define and regulate the local community's rights to access their natural resources and to share the benefits of the management thereof. This will be achieved through drafting a national legislation of "Access and Benefit-Sharing (ABS)"

3. Progress

- In order to achieve this objective, the Ministerial Decree No. (5) of 2007 dated 01/13/2007 has been issued for formation of a scientific legal committee representing various organization related to access of

genetic resources and traditional knowledge and the equitable sharing of the benefits of the management thereof, since then twenty seven committee meetings have been held, where were the following:

A. Reviewing of all national and international legislation on regulating access to genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge and the equitable sharing of benefits arising from utilization, and how to achieve access for the sharing of benefits arising from the sustainable use

B. Four different international related legislations were discussed (Ethiopia, India, Namibia & South Africa) to identify themes and key elements against these laws formulated. A comparative study of these legislations was prepared and reviewed.

C. A national conference was held with knowledge owners, Ashabin, healers, Hakims and relevant experts to monitor their opinions in the patterns of law available in the national or international studies. 50 members participated in the conference, ten members of the Committee of Intellectual Property Rights and fifteen of the relevant expert and fifteen of the owners of knowledge heritage, Ashabin, wise and the Attarin from different throughout Egypt and ten of the local Leadership of St. Katherine and representatives of the media. The conference came out with a number of recommendations and outputs which have been considered in the drafting of the national legislation for Access and Benefit Sharing.

D. The first draft of the national ABS law was prepared and has been discussed in a national conference with the different stakeholders and ministries involved where participants reviewed draft articles and put their proposals and comments which have been taken into account when drafting the Second draft.

E. The second draft of the national ABS law was prepared and sent to the Minister of Environment to circulate it to all the stakeholders and ministries involved to get their opinion in this draft, in order to put the final draft of the national ABS law and present it to the Ministry of Justice for review.

VI. Resource Mobilization Focal Point:

Nature Conservation Sector – Egyptian Environmental Affairs Agency

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Decision/Action/submission required by the ninth Conference of the Parties	The European Commission Responds
IX/11 A, 1. Encourages the Parties and relevant organizations to improve the existing financial information through enhancing accuracy, consistency and delivery of existing data on biodiversity financing and improved reporting on funding needs and shortfalls for the Convention's three objectives, and, in this context, requests the Executive Secretary to regularly update and further develop the Convention's online network on finance;	In the mid-term assessment of implementing the EC Biodiversity Action Plan the European Commission came to the conclusion that a systematic problem encountered in many policy areas is the difficulty in obtaining reliable figures for the amount of money actually spent on biodiversity. In many cases, this is simply due to the recording and reporting procedures. Thus there is a need to further develop approaches to determine how much Community funding has been used by the Member States for nature, and whether this is sufficient to support the management and restoration of Natura 2000 and wider biodiversity needs. The European Commission is in a process to refine and strengthen its reporting system on Official Development Assistance (ODA) in general, including improved reporting on financing for biodiversity. This may take the form of

	<p>introducing sub-codes for different elements of biodiversity in its marker system, and contributing to work in OECD/DAC context on improving the Rio Markers.</p> <p>In June 2009 Directorate General AIDCO has circulated an information note for operational staff of the EC Delegations which presents briefly the main environmental issues and the three Rio Conventions. Both the English and French versions present a practical and simple methodology to determine whether a programme or project should be "Rio-Marked". The aim is to improve the usefulness of the OECD "Rio Markers".</p>
<p>IX/11 A, 2. Encourages the Parties and relevant organizations to intensify efforts to assess, as appropriate, the economic costs of the loss of biodiversity and its associated ecosystem services and of the failure to take measures to fulfil the three objectives of the Convention, as well as the benefits of early action to reduce loss of biological diversity and its associated ecosystem services, in order to inform decision-making and awareness-raising, inter alia through contributing to the "Global Study on the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity;"</p>	<p>The European Commission provides support to the global study on 'The Economics of Ecosystems & Biodiversity (TEEB)' of which a next interim report is foreseen to be published in September 2009. Under the 2009 Annual Action Programme implementing the "Thematic Strategy Paper for the Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources, including Energy (ENRTP) for the period 2007-2010" for the Development Cooperation Instrument a contribution of EUR 1 000 000 is foreseen to support dissemination of findings of the study.</p> <p>The European Commission also tries to assess the benefits provided by the Natura 2000 network of protected areas. A toolkit applicable to specific Natura 2000 sites has been developed for this purpose. This might allow in the future attributing a monetary value to the Natura 2000 network.</p>
<p>IX/11 A, 4. Urges Parties and Governments, where appropriate, to create the enabling environment to mobilize private and public-sector investments in biological diversity and its associated ecosystem services;</p>	<p>As a conclusion of the 'Lisbon Conference' on Business and Biodiversity (2007), the Commission committed itself to provide technical support for further developing the EU Business and Biodiversity (B@B) Initiative. The Commission has published a call for tender to establish a technical facility/platform. The project aims to set up and operate the B@B Platform web-site including the collection and preparation of up-to-date information on knowhow and best practices; to facilitate discussion and co-operation between stakeholders and enhancing business and financial sector engagement; the preparation of sectoral guidance documents on business involvement; the development of clear tools (indicators) to measure biodiversity impacts (benefits); and an EU B@B award scheme to acknowledge outstanding performance.</p> <p>Furthermore Directorate General Environment of the European Commission supports the Biodiversity Technical Assistance Units (BTAU) project. The BTAU project is a Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, European Centre for Nature Conservation, and BirdLife International consortium project which seeks to create 'Pro-Biodiversity' Businesses (PBBs) through dedicated Biodiversity Technical Assistance Units, one in each of the following countries: Bulgaria, Hungary and</p>

	<p>Poland. The Units will create and apply a public-private partnership approach to exploring business opportunities for safeguarding biodiversity by linking commercial loan funding with public subsidies to produce long-term, site and region-specific economic and nature benefits. The project began in January 2007 and runs for three years. More information on the project can be found here http://www.smeforbiodiversity.eu/.</p>
<p>IX/11, A, 5. Recommends that Parties and relevant organizations identify, engage and increase South-South cooperation as a complement to North-South cooperation to enhance technical, financial, scientific and technological cooperation and innovations, for biological diversity;</p>	<p>2009 call for proposals under “Thematic Strategy for the Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources, including Energy (ENRTP) for the period 2007-2010” for the Development Cooperation Instrument invites proposers to submit project proposals to inter alia address this topic in a broad sense.</p>
<p>IX/11, A, 6. Urges the Parties and Governments to continue to enhance national administrative and managerial capacities, thus enabling more efficient resource utilization and enhancing positive impacts;</p>	
<p>IX/11, A, 7. Urges Parties, the Global Environment Facility, and relevant organizations to include gender, indigenous peoples and local communities perspectives in the financing of biodiversity and its associated ecosystem services;</p>	<p>The EC Biodiversity Action Plan aims to ensure full participation of civil society in development of National Strategic Reference Frameworks (NRSF) and national Operational Programmes of the cohesion and structural funds and in Strategic Environmental Assessments/Environmental Impact Assessments (SEA/EIA) to ensure biodiversity interests are fully respected.</p> <p>The SEA process allows the participation of civil society (in conformity with the provisions of Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment). When the public had expressed comments on the programmes or the SEA, the authority responsible for the programmes had the obligation to explain how the opinions expressed during the consultation had been taken in consideration. The EC Biodiversity Action Plan also aims to ensure public participation, related access to justice requirements of the Aarhus Convention applied to projects, plans and programmes relating to or having an impact on biodiversity conservation. The European Commission monitors proper implementation of Directive 2003/35 on 'Public Participation when drawing up certain plans and programmes relating to the environment' (to be implemented as from June 2005).</p> <p>On 20 December 2005 the Presidents of the Commission, Parliament and the Council signed the new statement on EU development policy, the "European consensus", which, for the</p>

	<p>first time in fifty years of cooperation, defines the framework of common principles within which the EU and its Member States will each implement their development policies in a spirit of complementarity. The consensus contains provisions on how to address gender issues and the interests of indigenous peoples.</p> <p>Gender, indigenous peoples and local communities are taken into consideration in the 2009 call for proposals under “Thematic Strategy for the Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources, including Energy (ENRTP) for the period 2007-2010” for the Development Cooperation Instrument.</p>
<p>IX/11 A, 9. Requests the Executive Secretary to compile existing guidelines and best practices for mainstreaming financing of biodiversity and its associated ecosystem services into overall and sectoral planning as well as on financial needs assessment and make this information publicly available;</p>	<p>The European Commission has in 2004 approved a Communication to the Council and the Parliament on the Funding of the Natura 2000 network that identified financial needs for the network and suggested approaches for integrating funding needs into other policy areas and planning.</p> <p>In 2007 the European Commission published a guidance handbook that presents the EU funding options for Natura 2000 sites in the period 2007-2013 that are, in principle, available at the national and regional level. It focuses on</p> <p>the main EU funding instruments that will apply during these years, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Structural Funds (European Social Fund (ESF) and European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)); • The Cohesion Fund; • The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD); • The European Fisheries Fund (EFF); • The Financial Instrument for the Environment (LIFE+); and • The 7th Research Framework Programme (FP7). <p>Related documents and more information can be found here http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/financing/index_en.htm</p> <p>The European Commission currently tries to assess the costs of Natura 2000 as the last figure is more than five years old and</p>

	<p>does not reflect the latest enlargements. The result is expected to be provided by September 2009.</p> <p>The Commission, together with the EU Member States, will in September 2009 start preparing a joint strategy for integrating environment and natural resources in development cooperation. This includes mainstreaming biodiversity, as well as strengthening capacity for mainstreaming environment and natural resources management.</p>
<p>IX/11 A, 10. Encourages Parties and other Governments to build on existing knowledge of biodiversity and poverty alleviation mainstreaming to integrate biodiversity into national development policies and plans.</p>	<p>Integration of biodiversity into the European Community's agricultural and rural development, fisheries, regional and territorial, sustainable development, trade and external policies is an essential part of the EC Biodiversity Action Plan. The 2008 mid-term assessment of the plan identifies integration of biodiversity considerations into other sectoral policies as a key challenge.</p> <p>The European Commission and Member States made efforts to strengthen capacities in recipient countries and in Commission and MS cooperation programming, including integrating implementation of the CBD into national development strategies including Poverty Reduction Strategies. Capacities within the EC and partner countries have been strengthened as a result of an ambitious seminar programme on environmental integration in development cooperation put in place since 2005 including seminars in EC Delegations overseas and at EC Headquarters. Seminars have been open to participation from staff of Member States agencies. Methodological support has been made on request to operational staff.</p> <p>The Environmental Integration Handbook is increasingly used by EC desk officers http://www.environment-integration.eu/content/section/4/146/lang,en/</p>
<p>IX/11 B, 2. Also invites the Parties and relevant organizations, including United Nations development system, the World Bank, regional development banks and all other relevant international and regional bodies, as well as non-governmental organizations and business sector entities to take prompt actions to implement the strategy for resource mobilization in support of the achievement of the Convention's three objectives;</p>	<p>The strategy for resource mobilisation was only adopted at COP 9 while the current EC Biodiversity Action Plan was adopted in May 2006. As the EC is currently reconsidering its biodiversity policy it will take the strategy into consideration during this process.</p>

<p>IX/11 B, 3. Invites Parties to come forward with early commitments of additional funding in support of the strategy for resource mobilization in accordance with Article 20 of the Convention;</p>	<p>The European Commission has adopted its 2009 Annual Action Programme implementing the “Thematic Strategy Paper for the Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources, including Energy (ENRTP) for the period 2007-2010” for the Development Cooperation Instrument in May 2009. Considerable funding will be provided for actions that contribute to the achievement of the three objectives of the Convention. The Commission is exploring options for funding biodiversity related activities in its Country and Regional Support Strategies, as well as under the Environment Thematic Programme, in 2010.</p> <p>A total of €30.6 million has been allocated to biodiversity for the four year period from 2007- 2010 under the EC Thematic Programme for Environment and Natural Resources (ENRTP). Furthermore, some other headings of ENRTP are strongly linked to biodiversity. A total of €72 million is earmarked for the promotion of Sustainable Forest Management. €34 million is available for implementation of the initiative on Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT). €6.4 million is earmarked for fisheries & marine/coastal resources. €12,3 million is earmarked for climate change and biodiversity projects for countries covered by the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI). In total, approximately €155 millions will be available for biodiversity related matters under. 2007-2010 ENRTP.</p> <p>As relates to Country and Regional Strategy Programmes for the 2007-2010 period, the provisions show that more than EUR 220 millions would be allocated to programmes with a focus on biodiversity.</p> <p>European Community's official development assistance is focused in certain areas of intervention, responding to the needs of partner countries, in line with the Paris Declaration on aid effectiveness and the Accra agenda for action which seek to strengthen country ownership by aligning to priorities set by recipient countries.</p>
<p>IX/11 B, 4. Invites Parties to come forward with new and innovative financing mechanisms in support of the strategy for resource mobilization in accordance with Article 20 of the Convention, requests the Executive Secretary to support diffusion of such initiatives and requests the Global Environment Facility to support diffusion, and facilitate replication and scaling-up, of such initiatives that have proved to be successful;</p>	<p>Under the biodiversity lot under priority two of the 2009 Annual Action Programme implementing the “Thematic Strategy Paper for the Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources, including Energy (ENRTP) for the period 2007-2010” actions to substantially strengthen support for biodiversity conservation in protected areas and buffer zones for maintenance and improvement of ecosystem services to the benefit of local populations are eligible if innovative financing schemes (such as payment for ecosystem services) are part of the proposal. Under the forest lot of priority 2 actions are eligible that address deforestation and forest degradation through targeting improvements in forest law enforcement and governance and the development of</p>

	<p>finance/incentive mechanisms that can deliver at local level and provide benefits to forest-dependent local and indigenous people.</p>
<p>IX/11 B, 6. Invites Parties to submit views on concrete activities and initiatives including measurable targets and/or indicators to achieve the strategic goals contained in the strategy for resource mobilization and on indicators to monitor the implementation of the strategy;</p> <p>7. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare a compilation of the information provided in accordance with paragraph 6 of the present decision, including options on monitoring progress towards the goals and objectives of the resource mobilization strategy, and make it available three months prior to the third meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention</p>	<p>Within the "Streamlining European 2010 Biodiversity Indicators" (SEBI 2010) initiative a set of European biodiversity indicators has been developed. Under the headline indicator "funding to biodiversity" an indicator on financing biodiversity management has been developed to respond to the question of how much public funding is committed to conservation of biodiversity. It contains information on the use of the LIFE financial instrument for the environment. But the LIFE Nature project represents only a small proportion of the total EU budget and European funding benefiting biodiversity also comes from budget lines within other policy areas, such as agriculture, rural development and research. Therefore there is a need to further develop approaches to determine how much funding from the European Community from various sources has been used by the Member States for nature, and whether this is sufficient to support the management and restoration of Natura 2000 and wider biodiversity needs.</p>
<p>IX/11 B, annex, 12. The strategy for resource mobilization is intended to assist Parties in establishing national targets, goals and objectives as well as actions and timeframes, and in considering the establishment of financial mechanisms and other options, to implement the financial provisions of the Convention at all levels, based on success stories and good practices. Each Party should consider appointing a "resource mobilization focal point" to facilitate national implementation of the strategy for resource mobilization. National implementation should include, as appropriate, the design and dissemination of a country-specific resource mobilization strategy, with the involvement of key stakeholders such as non-governmental organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, environmental funds, businesses and donors, in the frame of updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans.</p>	<p>The EC has already nominated a resource mobilization focal point.</p>

<p>IX/31 A, 5. Requests the Executive Secretary, for consideration by the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties:</p>	<p>The European Commission currently tries to assess the costs of Natura 2000 as the last figure is more than five years old and does not reflect the latest enlargements of the European Union. The result is expected to be provided by September 2009.</p>
<p>(a) To invite Parties to submit assessments of their future funding needs based on their updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans;</p>	<p>We have furthermore identified the need to develop approaches to determine how much Community funding has been used by the Member States for nature, and whether this is sufficient to support the management and restoration of Natura 2000 and wider biodiversity needs.</p>
<p>(b) To compile these national submissions;</p>	<p>The Council Conclusions from 25 June 2009 invited the European Commission, in collaboration with Member States, to assess the adequateness of the integrated approach for the financing of Natura 2000 emphasised the importance of adequately considering biodiversity funding needs in the forthcoming EU budget review.</p>
<p>(c) To prepare, in consultation with the Parties, draft terms of reference for a full assessment of the amount of funds needed for the implementation of the Convention for the sixth replenishment period of the Trust Fund of the Global Environment Facility</p>	

EUROPEAN UNION

The EU welcomes the CBD COP Decision IX/11 to develop a strategy for resource mobilization in support of the achievement of the three objectives of the Convention. The EU considers sustainable financing as a key challenge for the implementation of the CBD and recognizes that unprecedented efforts are needed to achieve it. The EU will support all actions aiming at providing adequate, predictable and sustainable resources and financial support as well as positive incentives to promote biodiversity and nature protection. A demonstration of the EU's commitment is the EU Biodiversity Action plan which explicitly addresses funding and financing for biodiversity both domestically and globally through a number of activities. In particular it contains a number of actions aiming at significantly strengthening the support of biodiversity and ecosystem services in EU external assistance, including increasing financing of projects benefiting biodiversity and mainstreaming assistance. The Action Plan's supporting measure No. 1 talks about ensuring adequate financing for the Natura 2000 network and for biodiversity in the wider environment under the various EU financial programmes. The EU Council Conclusions on "A mid-term assessment of implementing the EU Biodiversity Action Plan and Towards an EU Strategy on Invasive Alien Species" of 25 June 2009 (hereinafter: "EU Council Conclusions") considered the need to better determine how much Community assistance benefits biodiversity, and therefore emphasises the importance of adequately considering biodiversity funding needs in the forthcoming EU budget review as well as to increase significantly, as appropriate, the funding for biodiversity monitoring at the Member States and the Community level.

The first comprehensive assessment of progress at both European Community and Member State levels regarding this issue is provided within the EU mid-term report on implementation of the EU Biodiversity Action Plan (adopted in December 2008). The information provided shows the progress made since June 2006 and outlines the most important activities, which have been undertaken by the EC and its Member States to implement relevant actions within the Biodiversity Action Plan and therefore to implement the decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the CBD. One of the findings was that the average

annual EU external assistance for biodiversity amounted to about EUR 740 million in 2003 -2006, representing 48% of the aid related to global biodiversity. Member States also donate significant sums to the Global Environment Facility. http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/biodiversity/comm2006/bap_2008.htm.

In view of a steadily growing recognition of the economic value of biodiversity and the costs associated with, the EU Council Conclusions recognized the need to develop tools and policies to properly value ecosystem goods and services and to make better use of economic incentives for the sustainable use of ecosystem services such as through market-based instruments. In this context, the EU fully supports the initiative of the German Government and the European Commission to undertake a global study on the economics benefits of biodiversity and the costs of biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation “The economics of ecosystems and biodiversity” (TEEB). The aim of this study is to compare the economic impact of the loss of biodiversity and the associated decline in ecosystem services worldwide, and compare them with the costs of effective conservation and sustainable use. That comparison should enhance awareness of the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services and facilitate the development and adoption of cost-effective policy responses, notably by preparing a ‘valuation toolkit’. Preliminary findings from the first phase of TEEB were presented at the High-Level Segment of CBD COP-9 in Bonn, Germany, in May 2008. The second, more substantial, phase of the study will run from 2009 to 2010. The project is structured around one background report and several reports targeted towards specific groups of potential users of evaluation tools for biodiversity and ecosystem services. The final results will be presented at CBD COP-10 in 2010. http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/biodiversity/economics/index_en.htm

A EU initiative on Business and Biodiversity, including the financing sector, is being developed in a partnership between the European Commission and the Portuguese Government, which held the EU Presidency in the second half of 2007. This initiative seeks to introduce biodiversity considerations into corporate governance through voluntary initiatives, with a view to contributing towards reaching the 2010 Biodiversity Target. A milestone event in these consultations was a major stakeholder conference in Lisbon in November 2007, where the EU Business and Biodiversity Initiative was launched. The Message from Lisbon stresses the importance of engaging business in meeting the 2010 target, underlines the need for concerted action at the EU level. The conference highlighted the understanding between public and private sectors on the critical importance of biodiversity and what needs to be done now to stem a steadily worsening global biodiversity crisis. In line with the latest development, the EU Council Conclusions stressed the need for establishment of the EU Business and Biodiversity technical support platform and encouraged EU Member States to develop national business and biodiversity initiatives and partnerships to engage business in integrating biodiversity considerations into their activities.

Sectoral discussions aim at preparing guidance documents for Natura 2000 in particular for the non-energy extractive industries, and for port operators in estuaries and coastal zones. A Commission funded pilot study establishes biodiversity technical assistance units in three selected new Member States (BU, HU & PL), which aim to facilitate the creation of a new pro-biodiversity investment market for businesses, especially SMEs and the banking sector, and to help prepare bankable projects for future investment loans.

The business case for biodiversity needs to be further promoted. Private sector awareness of the importance of biodiversity conservation is growing and it is important to work with them to promote their greater understanding of, and support for, the Convention. We must get small companies on board, since they make up the majority of businesses worldwide, Most of the business and biodiversity ‘toolkit’ is currently geared at larger companies. The key challenge now is to put biodiversity on the agenda of every single business, big or small, to integrate biodiversity conservation into their daily operations.

South-South cooperation is a key instrument for the implementation of the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity Building, which underscored the importance of South-South

cooperation and stressed the need to intensify efforts directed towards institutional capacity-building, including through the exchange of expertise, experiences, information and documentation between the institutions of the South in order to develop human resources and strengthen the institutions of the South.

In co-operation with partners the EU will step up the integration of biodiversity issues into development co-operation. In this context the EU aims for integrated planning and the implementation of win-win strategies and projects, and stresses the need to mainstream biodiversity in the development strategies of both donor and recipient countries. There is a need for increased capacity building and consideration regarding the link between ecosystem services and economic development. Using more of an ecosystem services approach could potentially lead to better joint planning and implementation NBSAPS and where applicable of PRSPs since it better connects biodiversity with human well-being and poverty alleviation. The EU therefore stresses the need for implementing the MA Follow-Up Strategy, and to take into account the conceptual framework of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment as a contribution to reaching the efforts towards reaching the UN Millennium Development Goals. The EU Council Conclusions stress the need to ensure that, in connection with EU external assistance, Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) are carried out and Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) are undertaken systematically and with due regard for biodiversity in relation to environmentally-sensitive aid operations funded by Member States and the Commission.

Across the EU, efforts will be made to proactively work with the financial sector to effectively integrate biodiversity into its decision making. The full application of the Equator Principles is an important initiative supporting such integration efforts. The EU should enhance financing from existing financing instruments and explore the need and options of innovative mechanisms to finance the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, together with the fight against poverty. The EU would also like to point out that enhanced aid modalities for aid delivery are being developed based on the results and the follow-up to the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness. Aid flows to an increasing extent are channelled as sector and/or budget support (with decreasing funds available as dedicated/earmarked funds). This needs an increased focus of donor agencies and recipient countries in ensuring integration of biodiversity concerns in their development/planning framework and budgeting.

The EU also welcomes the LifeWeb Initiative and continues to encourage its Member States and the Commission to participate in this initiative. The LifeWeb is of voluntary nature aimed at matching voluntary commitments by Parties for the designation and management of protected areas with voluntary commitments from donors for dedicated co-financing.

The development of targets and/or indicators to achieve the strategic goals regarding financial resources and mechanisms, and indicators to monitor the implementation of the strategy, requires careful and timely preparation. The strategy lists eight goals and a number of objectives under each goal. The development of specific activities or initiatives should allow for the necessary flexibility when referring to domestic resource mobilization, as key actors and structures may differ among Parties. However, activities and initiatives should be as precise as possible when identifying actors for resource mobilization in the international context.

The EU is of the opinion that the implementation of a new agreement within the UNFCCC should thoroughly explore the potential of creating biodiversity co-benefits, including strengthening ecosystem resilience and services.

The strategy for mobilization of resources is to be dealt with at WGRI3, and, according the Decision IX/11 - B, paragraph 7, the compilation of views expressed by Parties should be circulated at the latest in early February 2010. In addition, Decision IX/11-B, Annex, V, paragraph 14, states that COP10 should focus on the implementation of Goals 1, 3 and 4 of the Strategy, with standing issues of Goals 6 and 8. The EU therefore suggests that a roadmap be prepared by the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with

the Bureau, highlighting the main steps forward. The roadmap should include specific preparations in connection with Goal 4 (Innovative financing mechanisms).

To provide a solid basis for the identification of objectives and suggested activities and initiatives under each goal, it is important to thoroughly develop needs assessments and gap analyses. In this regard it would be important that, with respect to global financial needs, the following issues be addressed:

- What are the overall and priority funding needs for biodiversity and ecosystem services globally?
- How much of these needs are currently being met by existing sources?
- What are the economic consequences of failing to mobilize the required resources?
- What are the main obstacles for mobilizing the required resources from those actors that benefit from ecosystem services?
- Which possibilities exist for co-benefits between climate change response activities and biodiversity, and how can these be integrated into the CBD strategy?
- What is the gap between the needs and the current flows and what would be realistic short-, mid-, and long-term fund raising targets?
- It is possible to assess the potential of innovative mechanisms and if yes what would it be?
- How would the strategy for resource mobilization be linked to the revised Strategic Plan of the convention after 2010?
- To what extent will the cost of inaction on biodiversity exceed the funding needs?

FRANCE

Decision/Action/submission required by the ninth Conference of the Parties	Response by FRANCE
IX/11 A, 1. Encourages the Parties and relevant organizations to improve the existing financial information through enhancing accuracy, consistency and delivery of existing data on biodiversity financing and improved reporting on funding needs and shortfalls for the Convention's three objectives, and, in this context, requests the Executive Secretary to regularly update and further develop the Convention's online network on finance;	The OECD has experience in collecting data on aid targeting the objectives of the Rio Conventions (Rio markers). France therefore suggests that the Sec CDB develop, with OECD and other relevant organizations, a methodology for a global data basis on financing; and develop, with relevant organizations, guidelines for the elaboration of national data sets.

<p>IX/11 A, 2. Encourages the Parties and relevant organizations to intensify efforts to assess, as appropriate, the economic costs of the loss of biodiversity and its associated ecosystem services and of the failure to take measures to fulfil the three objectives of the Convention, as well as the benefits of early action to reduce loss of biological diversity and its associated ecosystem services, in order to inform decision-making and awareness-raising, inter alia through contributing to the "Global Study on the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity;"</p>	<p>In March 2009, the report by a government advisory body (Conseil d'analyse stratégique) was published with a view to guide country-level reflexions on the economic approach to biodiversity and ecosystem services. The report provides a review of methods used for the economic valuation of biodiversity. A contribution by France to the The Economics of Ecosystems & Biodiversity –TEEB- initiative, the document (full report & executive summary, in French) is available at :</p> <p>http://www.strategie.gouv.fr/article.php?id_article=980.</p>
<p>IX/11 A, 4. Urges Parties and Governments, where appropriate, to create the enabling environment to mobilize private and public-sector investments in biological diversity and its associated ecosystem services;</p>	<p>The FR cooperation and development works closely with NGOs to develop initiatives in this area. The cooperation framework between the FR government and IUCN includes a specific work programme with the private sector. A study has been undertaken on "Secteur hôtelier et biodiversité" - the hotel industry and biodiversity. Technical studies are also carried out in preparation of experiences on "habitat banking". Under the French EU Presidency, a workshop was organized on Business and Biodiversity , in close collaboration with major industrial companies and EPBRS, on 18 Nov 2008.</p> <p>The opportunity of public-private cooperation in the financing of cooperation & development projects funded by the French environmental financing mechanism FFEM is also being explored</p>
<p>IX/11 A, 5. Recommends that Parties and relevant organizations identify, engage and increase South-South cooperation as a complement to North-South cooperation to enhance technical, financial, scientific and technological cooperation and innovations, for biological diversity;</p>	<p>The French cooperation is active in particular in the forestry sector, and supports projects aimed at sharing good practices in forest management and scientific cooperation. The Congo Basin Forest Partnership, facilitated by Germany, is a good example of North-South-South triangular cooperation. A number of projects under development, relating to the sustainable use of biodiversity by local communities, involve South-South cooperation, in particular between Africa and Latin America.</p>
<p>IX/11 A, 6. Urges the Parties and Governments to continue to enhance national administrative and managerial capacities, thus enabling more efficient resource utilization and enhancing positive impacts;</p>	<p>Most of the projects funded by the French environmental financing mechanism FFEM include components on capacity-building</p>

<p>IX/11 A, 7. Urges Parties, the Global Environment Facility, and relevant organizations to include gender, indigenous peoples and local communities perspectives in the financing of biodiversity and its associated ecosystem services;</p>	<p>ODA projects financed or co-financed by France are required to address local community development aspects.</p> <p>The French environmental financing mechanism FFEM is also involved in these aspects (e.g.: funding on the implementation of CREMAs –community resource management areas- in Ghana –Community Forest Biodiversity Project)). The reflexion on a community based ecotourism is also frequently addressed by FFEM</p>
<p>IX/11 A, 9. Requests the Executive Secretary to compile existing guidelines and best practices for mainstreaming financing of biodiversity and its associated ecosystem services into overall and sectoral planning as well as on financial needs assessment and make this information publicly available;</p>	<p>FFEM has funded a review on fiduciary funds experiences for biodiversity conservation (“Revue des expériences des fonds fiduciaires pour la conservation de la biodiversité”) in cooperation with CFA, AFD, KfW, CI and the WWF.</p>
<p>IX/11 A, 10. Encourages Parties and other Governments to build on existing knowledge of biodiversity and poverty alleviation mainstreaming to integrate biodiversity into national development policies and plans.</p>	<p>A Programme Officer has been outposted by France to the Secretariat of the CBD to enhance mainstreaming of biodiversity in poverty alleviation strategies and programmes. This position will be renewed in 2009.</p>
<p>IX/11 B, 2. Also invites the Parties and relevant organizations, including United Nations development system, the World Bank, regional development banks and all other relevant international and regional bodies, as well as non-governmental organizations and business sector entities to take prompt actions to implement the strategy for resource mobilization in support of the achievement of the Convention's three objectives;</p>	<p>The Strategy has been included in the Cooperation and Development chapter of the French NBSAP.</p>
<p>IX/11 B, 3. Invites Parties to come forward with early commitments of additional funding in support of the strategy for resource mobilization in accordance with Article 20 of the Convention;</p>	

<p>IX/11 B, 4. Invites Parties to come forward with new and innovative financing mechanisms in support of the strategy for resource mobilization in accordance with Article 20 of the Convention, requests the Executive Secretary to support diffusion of such initiatives and requests the Global Environment Facility to support diffusion, and facilitate replication and scaling-up, of such initiatives that have proved to be successful;</p>	<p>France has established an environmental financing mechanism FFEM – Fond français pour l’environnement mondial – which supports biodiversity conservation & sustainable use activities. Additional information on the FFEM is available at http://www.ffem.fr/jahia/Jahia/accueil</p> <p>France is considering the feasibility of offset programmes through mitigation banks and takes part in the international initiative Business and Biodiversity Offset Programme (BBOP).</p>
<p>IX/11 B, 6. Invites Parties to submit views on concrete activities and initiatives including measurable targets and/or indicators to achieve the strategic goals contained in the strategy for resource mobilization and on indicators to monitor the implementation of the strategy;</p> <p>7. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare a compilation of the information provided in accordance with paragraph 6 of the present decision, including options on monitoring progress towards the goals and objectives of the resource mobilization strategy, and make it available three months prior to the third meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention</p>	

<p>IX/11 B, annex, 12. The strategy for resource mobilization is intended to assist Parties in establishing national targets, goals and objectives as well as actions and timeframes, and in considering the establishment of financial mechanisms and other options, to implement the financial provisions of the Convention at all levels, based on success stories and good practices. Each Party should consider appointing a “resource mobilization focal point” to facilitate national implementation of the strategy for resource mobilization. National implementation should include, as appropriate, the design and dissemination of a country-specific resource mobilization strategy, with the involvement of key stakeholders such as non-governmental organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, environmental funds, businesses and donors, in the frame of updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans.</p>	<p>FR has not nominated a focal point yet.</p>
<p>IX/31 A, 5. Requests the Executive Secretary, for consideration by the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties:</p> <p>(a) To invite Parties to submit assessments of their future funding needs based on their updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans;</p> <p>(b) To compile these national submissions;</p> <p>(c) To prepare, in consultation with the Parties, draft terms of reference for a full assessment of the amount of funds needed for the implementation of the Convention for the sixth replenishment period of the Trust Fund of the Global Environment Facility</p>	<p>n.a.</p>

GERMANY

Action/submission required by the ninth Conference of the Parties	Germany submission
<p>X/11 A 1. <i>Encourages</i> the Parties and relevant organizations to improve the existing financial information through enhancing accuracy, consistency and delivery of existing data on biodiversity financing and improved reporting on funding needs and shortfalls for the Convention's three objectives, and, in this context, <i>requests</i> the Executive Secretary to regularly update and further develop the Convention's online network on finance;</p>	<p><u>International:</u></p> <p>Germany regularly updates the brochure “Biodiversity in German development Cooperation”, that gives a comprehensive overview about the partners and projects supported as well as the budget provided.</p> <p>Furthermore, the DAC is currently developing a marker system to identify biodiversity-related activities in order to enhance the reporting on biodiversity financing.</p> <p>The Life Web Initiative which was proposed by Germany and is now functional at the CBD Secretariat with German support has the aim to create a electronic platform which enables parties to showcase their needs for the implementation of the programme of work on protected areas.</p> <p><u>National:</u></p> <p>The Federal Environment Ministry presents on its homepage a general overview on public funding possibilities for nature conservation in Germany especially regarding the financing of Natura 2000. This includes a brochure with best practice examples for using EU funding options as well as links to the 16 Federal States in Germany and to an EU Guidance Handbook.</p>
<p>X/11 A 2. <i>Encourages</i> the Parties and relevant organizations to intensify efforts to assess, as appropriate, the economic costs of the loss of biodiversity and its associated ecosystem services and of the failure to take measures to fulfil the three objectives of the Convention, as well as the benefits of early action to reduce loss of biological diversity and its associated ecosystem services, in order to inform decision-making and awareness-raising, <i>inter alia</i> through contributing to the "Global Study on the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity;"</p>	<p>Germany as initiator and one of the core funders of TEEB is not only financially engaged in the process but also contributes to the content of the different deliverables, in particular the target report for decision makers.</p> <p>The German Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research UFZ is responsible for the scientific coordination of the TEEB process.</p> <p>In order to analyse the economic benefits of biological diversity as well as the costs of biodiversity loss in Germany, two comprehensive national projects have been launched in 2008. The results will help policy makers and local authorities in making decisions in the fields of rural development and climate change adaptation with respect to their responsibilities in safeguarding biodiversity.</p> <p>A further study is foreseen in order to analyse the results of the international TEEB study for Germany comprehensively.</p>

X/11 A 4. *Urges* Parties and Governments, where appropriate, to create the enabling environment to mobilize private and public-sector investments in biological diversity and its associated ecosystem services;

International:

Tackling improvement of the enabling environment to mobilize resources/investments in biological diversity is ‘state of the art’ in capacity development activities of German development cooperation.

Within the context of German development cooperation, alliances with the private sector are supported via public private partnerships.

National:

Nature conservation funding in Germany is based on three pillars:

— public expenditures including public investments in ecosystem restoration and ecosystem development and PES (payments for ecosystem services) for biodiversity friendly forms of land use; the most important resources for public expenditure are EU funds (e.g. rural development funds or regional development funds) and support programmes of the 16 federal states (*Länder*) that are in general responsible for financing due to the constitutional order. On the federal level a support programme exists for the conservation of large-scale and nationally important landscapes with high nature value.

— expenditures of private and public developers for measures to mitigate and compensate for negative effects on biodiversity and ecosystem services;

— expenditures from the private sector (nature conservation associations, foundations, business).

The level of funding increased considerably during the last decades but the actual amount still lies below expert assessments of the financial needs to conserve biodiversity.

There are initiatives underway to increase the engagement of business in biodiversity conservation and mobilize private resources (e.g. auctions organized by NGO’s) as well as to raise the supply of biodiversity friendly products and the awareness of the consumer that they can support biodiversity also by their buying decisions.

A very important potential source for more government funding actually in the political debate is the *shifting of agricultural subsidies* from income support to increasing payments for providing ecosystem services and biodiversity.

In detail:

In Germany *payments for ecosystem-services* and biodiversity (PES) and similar or related instruments are applied in the following cases:

— payment for farmers (and forest-owners) for land use practices that help to conserve living conditions for wild

<p>X/11 A 5. <i>Recommends</i> that Parties and relevant organizations identify, engage and increase South-South cooperation as a complement to North-South cooperation to enhance technical, financial, scientific and technological cooperation and innovations, for biological diversity;</p>	<p><u>International:</u></p> <p>German development cooperation actively supports south-south exchange and cooperation, for example within the ABS Initiative for Africa that promotes a regional exchange of experiences regarding ABS. The support for the COMIFAC is another example for south-south exchange; e.g. through initiating a meeting with OTCA and ASEAN on conservation and sustainable use of forest biodiversity.</p>
<p>X/11 A 6. <i>Urges</i> the Parties and Governments to continue to enhance national administrative and managerial capacities, thus enabling more efficient resource utilization and enhancing positive impacts;</p>	<p><u>International:</u></p> <p>Capacity building and capacity development is an integral part of the support provided by Germany (technical and financial development cooperation). The increased funding (see below, IX/11 B 2) will lead to more support in this area as well.</p> <p><u>National:</u></p> <p>In Germany the public nature conservation has a long tradition with established administrative structures on all levels. In addition the cooperation and dialogue with and between the private nature protection associations is important for an efficient resource use.</p>
<p>X/11 A 7. <i>Urges</i> Parties, the Global Environment Facility, and relevant organizations to include gender, indigenous peoples and local communities perspectives in the financing of biodiversity and its associated ecosystem services;</p>	<p><u>International:</u></p> <p>Gender equality is a basic principle in German development policy. The promotion of gender equality is a cross-cutting issue that touches all areas of German development cooperation and therefore also considered within all programs related to (financing of) biodiversity.</p> <p>Furthermore, through its programs, German development cooperation supports indigenous and local communities in practical ways in asserting their traditional rights. For instance in Cameroon, where indigenous communities are being helped to document the use of natural resources in accordance with traditional practices. On that basis, indigenous people can assert their traditional rights in local protected areas and actively help to manage the areas.</p> <p><u>National:</u></p> <p>Gender equality is assured through the German Constitution. Nature protection projects can only be realized and financed on the basis of a comprehensive dialogue and participation process of all relevant groups.</p>

<p>X/11 A 9. <i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary to compile existing guidelines and best practices for mainstreaming financing of biodiversity and its associated ecosystem services into overall and sectoral planning as well as on financial needs+ assessment and make this information publicly available;</p>	
<p>X/11 A 10. <i>Encourages</i> Parties and other Governments to build on existing knowledge of biodiversity and poverty alleviation mainstreaming to integrate biodiversity into national development policies and plans.</p>	<p>Poverty reduction is the overarching goal of German development cooperation; biodiversity conservation is recognized as cross cutting issue. Numerous bilateral cooperation programmes combine the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity with development measures designed to reduce poverty, from community-based resource conservation to national-level legislation.</p> <p>In order to underline the biodiversity and development interlinkages, Germany is a member of the Equator Initiative. This partnership of donors and non-governmental organisations under the umbrella of the UNDP supports local communities in the tropics to reduce poverty through sustainable biodiversity management. Germany also provides funds to the CBD Secretariat for the mainstreaming of biodiversity in development cooperation. The focus of the German support is to strengthen the Secretariat's capacities in building bridges between the Convention's objectives and the overarching goal of poverty alleviation.</p>
<p>IX/11 B 2. <i>Also invites</i> the Parties and relevant organizations, including United Nations development system, the World Bank, regional development banks and all other relevant international and regional bodies, as well as non-governmental organizations and business sector entities to take prompt actions to implement the strategy for resource mobilization in support of the achievement of the Convention's three objectives;</p>	<p><u>International:</u></p> <p>Germany is considerably strengthening its internal cooperation for the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention (see response to next question).</p> <p>Germany is financing the CBD workshop on innovative financing resulting from the resource mobilization strategy.</p> <p>Germany is the initiator and one of the main funders of the global study on the economics of biodiversity and ecosystem services – TEEB which strongly supports the aim of the resource mobilization strategy to better integrate the valuation of biodiversity in economic decisions.</p> <p><u>National:</u></p> <p>See answer to question 4 under IX/11 A</p>
<p>IX/11 B 3. <i>Invites</i> Parties to come forward with early commitments of additional funding in support of the strategy for resource mobilization in accordance with Article 20 of the Convention;</p>	<p>At CBD COP 9 German Chancellor, Angela Merkel, has committed additional 500 million Euros for the conservation of forests and other ecosystems worldwide until 2012 and half a billion Euros per year for biodiversity conservation from 2013 onwards. (Baseline: German development cooperation spending for biodiversity in 2008 – appr. 210 Mio. EUR).</p>

<p>IX/11, B 4. <i>Invites</i> Parties to come forward with new and innovative financing mechanisms in support of the strategy for resource mobilization in accordance with Article 20 of the Convention, <i>requests</i> the Executive Secretary to support diffusion of such initiatives and <i>requests</i> the Global Environment Facility to support diffusion, and facilitate replication and scaling-up, of such initiatives that have proved to be successful;</p>	<p><u>International:</u></p> <p>Within German development cooperation, several approaches exist to generate experiences with new and innovative financing mechanisms, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trust funds to solve the financial constraints of protected areas, for example in Madagascar, Brazil and the caucasus region, as well as in central africa (Tri national de la Sangha conservation area, TNS) - Payments for Environmental Services (PES), support for the design, implementation, monitoring and financing of starting initiatives (until 2008, 15 initiatives have been promoted i.a. in Ecuador, Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Colombia, the Dominican Republik, Paraguay), while new initiatives are starting, - Promoting concepts for REDD / Reducing emissions from deforestation forest degradation, e.g. in Indonesia, Ecuador, Bolivia, Laos <p>With the International Climate Initiative (ICI) Germany is implementing an innovative financing mechanism for the conservation and sustainable use of climate relevant biodiversity (generation of the funds through the auctioning of CO2 credits in the European emission trading system).</p> <p>Germany has proposed and actively supports the CBD LifeWeb Initiative, an innovative clearinghouse for global protected areas financing.</p> <p><u>National:</u></p> <p>See answer to question 4 under IX/11, A</p>
<p>IX/11 B 6. <i>Invites</i> Parties to submit views on concrete activities and initiatives including measurable targets and/or indicators to achieve the strategic goals contained in the strategy for resource mobilization and on indicators to monitor the implementation of the strategy;</p> <p>7. <i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary to prepare a compilation of the information provided in accordance with paragraph 6 of the present decision, including options on monitoring progress towards the goals and objectives of the resource mobilization strategy, and make it available three months prior to the third</p>	<p><u>International:</u></p> <p>outstanding</p> <p><u>National:</u></p> <p>outstanding</p>

<p>meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention</p>	
<p>IX/11 B, annex 12. The strategy for resource mobilization is intended to assist Parties in establishing national targets, goals and objectives as well as actions and timeframes, and in considering the establishment of financial mechanisms and other options, to implement the financial provisions of the Convention at all levels, based on success stories and good practices. Each Party should consider appointing a “resource mobilization focal point” to facilitate national implementation of the strategy for resource mobilization. National implementation should include, as appropriate, the design and dissemination of a country-specific resource mobilization strategy, with the involvement of key stakeholders such as non-governmental organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, environmental funds, businesses and donors, in the frame of updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans.</p>	
<p>IX/31 A 5. <i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary, for consideration by the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties:</p> <p>(a) To invite Parties to submit assessments of their future funding needs based on their updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans;</p> <p>(b) To compile these national submissions;</p> <p>(c) To prepare, in consultation with the Parties, draft terms of reference for a full assessment of the amount of funds needed for the implementation of the Convention for the sixth replenishment period of the Trust Fund of the Global Environment Facility</p>	<p>Germany proposed and actively supports the CBD LifeWeb Initiative. The aim of the initiative is to facilitate the assessment and expression of funding needs for the comprehensive implementation of the programme of work on protected areas.</p>

PERU

12/12/2008

IX/11.A

(1) El Ministerio del Ambiente del Perú desarrollará durante el 2009 un reporte sobre las necesidades de financiamiento para la implementación del CDB.

(2) El Ministerio del Ambiente del Perú considera importante el tema de la valoración económica de los ecosistemas y de la biodiversidad; en tal sentido, ha creado la Dirección General de Evaluación, Valoración y Financiamiento del Patrimonio Natural. Se tiene previsto, para el año 2009, desarrollar un estudio piloto sobre valoración económica del patrimonio natural.

Sin embargo, aunque existe la decisión de apoyar esta temática, el reto de desarrollar los estudios nacionales, insumos del Estudio Global sobre la Economía de los Ecosistemas y la Biodiversidad, es de tal magnitud que se hace necesario el suministro de financiamiento suficiente y oportuno por parte de Fondo Mundial para el Medio Ambiente, la Cooperación Internacional y otras fuentes de financiamiento para cumplir con este objetivo.

(4) En el Perú se han creado fondos ambientales que cumplen un papel importante en la movilización de fondos privados y públicos para la conservación de la biodiversidad y los servicios ecosistémicos.

En la actualidad se vienen haciendo esfuerzos para incrementar el apoyo del sector privado.

(5) A partir del establecimiento de áreas protegidas binacionales se han establecido mecanismos de cooperación para mejorar la gestión del financiamiento de áreas protegidas.

Asimismo, con la colaboración de organizaciones no gubernamentales se ha establecido redes de aprendizaje sobre el tema de financiamiento sostenible de áreas protegidas.

(6) El Perú ha venido trabajando con base a fondos públicos y privados el tema de fortalecimiento de capacidades para la conservación de ecosistema y la biodiversidad in situ, en especial en el sistema de áreas naturales protegidas. Aunque existe un plan de capacitación para los profesionales que gestionan las áreas naturales protegidas, los recursos para su implementación son aún limitados, lo que requiere también mayores aportes del Fondo Mundial para el Medio Ambiente y de otras fuentes de financiamiento.

(9) Se ha realizado un Análisis de Necesidades Financieras 2005-2014 para el Sistema Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas, en cumplimiento con el Programa de Trabajo de Áreas Protegidas.

(10) A nivel de políticas, en el Acuerdo Nacional, se ha establecido como parte de las políticas de Estado la conservación de la biodiversidad, y se busca que estas se integren en las políticas y planes sectoriales.

IX/11.B

(2) En el Perú se ha establecido un Memorándum de Entendimiento entre las organizaciones de la sociedad civil y el Gobierno para la implementación del Programa de Trabajo de Áreas Protegidas. Asimismo, se ha empezado el diseño del Plan Financiero para el Sistema de Áreas Naturales Protegidas.

(3) El gobierno Peruano ha incrementado en una 100% el presupuesto público ordinario asignado a las áreas naturales protegidas, como muestra del compromiso del Estado Peruano frente al conservación de la diversidad biológica.

(4) Se está promoviendo nuevas alianzas estratégicas entre diferentes instituciones del sector privado (nacionales e internacionales) con el gobierno, para el financiamiento sostenible para áreas individuales del sistema de áreas naturales protegidas. Por ejemplo, el Parque Nacional Cordillera Azul.

Otro mecanismo que se ha venido implementando en el sistema de áreas naturales protegidas son los contratos de administración a favor de terceros.

Esto a su vez a permitido en el caso de la Reserva Nacional Tambopata, que el administrador del contrato promueva el desarrollo de actividades de compensación por servicios ecosistémicos relacionados con almacenamiento de carbono.

Por otra parte, con base al financiamiento de los Gobierno Regionales, se está promoviendo la implementación de áreas protegidas subnacionales, que son áreas complementarias al Sistema Nacional de Áreas Naturales Protegidas.

(6) El Plan Director y el Plan Financiero del Sistema de Áreas Naturales Protegidas como documentos de gestión del sistema incluye indicadores que permitirán monitorear los objetivos estratégicos del sistema.

QATAR

28 December 2008

Qatar is committed to supporting developing countries in their pursuit for sustainable development by improving the social indices. In the year 2005, for example, Qatar provided up to 3.1 per cent of its GDP as development aid. And financial support provided for biodiversity management is steadily increasing. The country is also planning to establish a Global Environmental Fund, dedicated to support biodiversity management as a means to combat desertification.

Any new financing mechanism and the reform of existing financing mechanisms should draw the experience of IFAD. The funding support from IFAD is known to have better and longer lasting impact than other donors. Its governance mechanism, priority setting processes, terms of providing aid, etc. are to be studied in attempts to improve and expand funding mechanisms for biodiversity management.

The study on economics and biodiversity is very important. We would appreciate receiving its details to send our further comments on the subject. However, I would like to add that the study should also address recommendation of the Brundtland Commission Report (Our Common Future)- the single report that has catalyzed the UNCED and the CBD formation process- calling for the reform of the global economic architecture in order to make it compatible with the pursuit of sustainable development. It would also be interesting to see where we stand on this count more than two decades after the Report.
