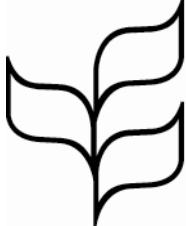




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Item 3.2 of the provisional agenda*

REVIEW OF PROGRESS IN PROVIDING SUPPORT TO PARTIES IN THE CONTEXT OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020 AND THE AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS

*Note by the Executive Secretary***

INTRODUCTION

1. The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 is an ambitious plan developed with the purpose of inspiring broad-based action in support of biodiversity over the next decade by all countries and stakeholders. As indicated in the Strategic Plan (decision X/2, annex), the Plan will be implemented primarily through activities at the national or subnational level, with supporting action at the regional and global levels. Supporting mechanisms include capacity-building, the clearing-house mechanism and technology transfer, financial resources, partnerships and initiatives to enhance cooperation, and support mechanisms for research monitoring and assessment. Moreover, the Conference of the Parties (decision X/2, paragraph 6) emphasized the need for capacity-building activities and the effective sharing of knowledge, consistent with decisions VIII/8, IX/8 and other relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties, in order to support all countries, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States, and the most environmentally vulnerable countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, and indigenous and local communities, in the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

2. According to its multi-year programme (decision X/9), the Conference of the Parties, at its eleventh meeting will address, *inter alia*, the following issues in reviewing the progress in providing support to assist Parties: resource mobilization; capacity-building; stakeholder engagement; communication, education and public awareness; and strengthening of the clearing-house mechanism.

* UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/4/1.

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3. Further, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to develop, for consideration by the Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention, options for the further enhancement of implementation of the Convention, including through the further development of capacity-building programmes, partnerships and the strengthening of synergies among Conventions and other international processes (decision X/3 paragraph 17(c)).

4. In this context, this document provides a review of progress in providing support to Parties (section II) through capacity-building support and technical and scientific cooperation and provides options for the further development of such support (section III). Draft recommendations for the consideration of the Working Group are provided in section IV. Financial resources and the financial mechanism are considered under agenda items 6 and 7, while cooperation is considered under agenda item 9. Two further related initiatives are considered under other agenda items: biodiversity for development and poverty reduction (item 5), and South-South Cooperation (item 9).

5. This document is supplemented by two addenda: A proposed work programme for the clearing-house mechanism in support of the Strategic Plan (UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/4/3/Add.1) and the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity (UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/4/3/Add.2). Further information is provided in a number of information documents UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/4/INF/2, UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/4/INF/3, UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/4/INF/4, UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/4/INF/7 and UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/4/INF/12. Reference is also made to a number of documents prepared for earlier meetings of the Convention where these are still relevant.

6. The United Nations General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session declared the period 2011-2020 to be “the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity, with a view to contributing to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity for the period 2011-2020” (Resolution 65/161). Thus, the Strategic Plan has become the overarching framework for action to reduce the rate of loss of biodiversity by 2020. Successful implementation of the Strategic Plan thus requires that awareness of the Plan and the measures necessary to implement it must stretch far beyond the mainstream biodiversity community associated with the Convention. With the support of the Japan Biodiversity Fund, the Secretariat of the Convention has organized global and regional launching events of the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity as detailed in document UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/4/3/Add.2.

II. PROGRESS IN PROMOTING AND FACILITATING ACTIVITIES TO STRENGTHEN CAPACITY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020

7. The Secretariat, in cooperation with partners, has facilitated a range of activities to strengthen the capacity of Parties to implement the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 with the aim of achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

8. Most of these activities have been supported by the Japan Biodiversity Fund that was established by the Government of Japan, the Presidency of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to build capacity of developing countries in implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets at a level of 1 billion Yen a year for up to five years. The objective of the Japan Biodiversity Fund is to build capacity to support developing countries in implementing the Nagoya Compact, providing support to the Secretariat to assist Parties to: (a) implement the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 – 2020 and the associated Aichi Biodiversity Targets; (b) revise their national biodiversity strategy and action plans (NBSAPs) to include national targets, in accordance with the Strategic Plan; and (c) strengthen their overall capacity to implement the Convention. The summary report of the capacity-building workshops on national biodiversity strategies and action plans and related matters (UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/4/INF/3) provides more information on the Japan Biodiversity Fund. Other donors, including the European Union, Germany, Norway, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom have also been supporting the activities.

9. The activities facilitated by the Secretariat include: (a) capacity-building workshops; (b) the preparation of toolkits and other capacity-building materials; (c) broader capacity-building activities; (d) promoting technical and scientific cooperation and exchange of information among Parties including through the clearing-house mechanism and South-South cooperation; and (e) activities to facilitate cooperation and synergy.

10. In addition to the activities being carried out by the Secretariat, several national, regional and international organizations are promoting the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

A. *Capacity-building workshops*

11. During the period 2011–2012, the Secretariat, together with partner organizations and host countries, and with the support of Japan and other donors, has organized several series of capacity-building workshops as described in the following paragraphs.

12. Workshops for updating national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) in line with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. Sixteen regional and subregional capacity-building workshops on NBSAPs have been to date, supported by Japan and other donors including host countries, cities and partners.¹ (UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/4/INF/3). Over 700 individuals and 160 Parties participated in these workshops. The specific objectives of the workshops are to: (i) assist Parties to integrate national targets and commitments into a ‘new generation’ of NBSAPs that can be effective tools for mainstreaming biodiversity into broader national policies; (ii) facilitate national implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, including by helping Parties integrate the Biodiversity Strategic Plan, and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, into national targets, commitments, and actions; (iii) raise awareness to stimulate early actions for other Aichi-Nagoya Outcomes, in particular the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and The Fair And Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising From Their Utilization and the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress for Biosafety; (iv) facilitate and support the implementation of other decisions adopted at the tenth meeting

¹ To date, the following NBSAP workshops have been completed: Southern Africa (Kasane, Botswana, 14–20 March); Europe (Vilm, Germany, 15–19 April); North Africa and the Middle East (Beirut, Lebanon, 2–7 May); East, South & Southeast Asia (Xi'an, China, 9–16 May); West Africa (Dakar, Senegal, 22–26 May); Central Africa (Brazzaville, Congo, 19–23 June); East Africa (Kigali, Rwanda, 27–30 June 2011); Europe (PEBLDS) (Geneva, Switzerland, 30 June–1 July); South America (Quito, Ecuador, 13–16 July); Pacific (Nadi, Fiji, 3–7 October); Central Asia (Istanbul, Turkey 17–20 October); Caribbean (St George's, Grenada, 17–21 October); Meso-America (San Jose, Costa Rica, 28 Nov–2 Dec); Central and Eastern Europe (Minsk, Belarus, 5–8 Dec); Mediterranean (Montpellier, France 16–18 Jan 2012); Southern Africa (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 27 February– 1 March 2012).

of the Conference of the Parties, for example, promoting the findings of the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) study; and (v) facilitate active learning opportunities and peer-to-peer exchanges for National Focal Points and persons in charge of implementing and revising NBSAPs. Workshop presentations, materials and outputs, as well as summary reports, including summaries of participant evaluations are available at: <http://www.cbd.int/nbsap/workshops2.shtml>. A complementary global workshop was organized by the United Kingdom and Brazil in collaboration with the Secretariat (UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/4/INF/14). To facilitate follow-up to the workshops, the secretariat has established regional email list-servers and a help desk to enable participants to continue discussions after the workshops and to address information requests to the Secretariat. Information derived from these workshops and follow-up communications providing a preliminary assessment of progress towards target 17 and the Strategic Plan as a whole is provided in UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/4/INF/2.

13. *Workshops to support implementation of the programme of work on protected areas.* Five regional and subregional capacity-building have been organized, in collaboration with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and the PoWPA Friends Consortium, supported by the European Union and the Governments of Belgium, the Netherlands and Spain.² The workshops aimed to strengthen the skills and knowledge of protected area functionaries and others who implement PoWPA, through an exchange of experiences, sharing of tools, available resources and capacity-building in: (i) protected areas and climate change adaptation and mitigation, including integration of protected areas into wider land- and seascapes and sectors; (ii) developing or revising national action plans for implementing PoWPA; (iii) marine protected areas; (iv) governance; (v) valuing protected area costs and benefits, including their ecosystem services; and (vi) funding opportunities under the fifth replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility (GEF). Over 150 individuals and 100 Parties participated in these workshops. Further information on these workshops and an assessment of progress towards target 11 is provided in UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/4/INF/15.

14. *Workshops on the economics of ecosystems and biodiversity.* A number of workshops have been held in follow up to the TEEB report, relating in particular to Aichi Biodiversity Targets 2 and 3, in cooperation with IUCN and with the support of the European Union, Japan, Norway, Sweden and IUCN. In some cases separate workshops have been organized, in other cases, dedicated sessions have been integrated into some of the NBSAP workshops.³

15. *Workshops on the Global Taxonomy Initiative and Invasive species.* Regional workshops have been held for Latin America and Africa and additional workshops are planned with the support of Japan. Further information on these workshops is provided in UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/31;

² To date, the following POWPA workshops have been completed: West Africa (Dakar, Senegal, 22-26 May 2011); Pacific (Nadi, Fiji, 3-7 October 2011); South and South East Asia (Dehradun, India , 6-9 December 2011); Central , South and South East Africa (Cape Town, South Africa 30 January-3 February 2012; and Latin America (Bogota, Colombia 12-16March 2012)

³ A number of workshops were held back-to-back or integrated into a number of NBSAP workshops; namely, those held for: (i) Southern Africa (Kasane, Botswana, 14 to 20 March 2011); (ii) South, East, and South-East Asia (Xi'an, China, 9 to 16 May 2011); (iii) Pacific (Nadi, Fiji, 3 to 7 October 2011), Caribbean (St-George's, Grenada, 17 to 21 October 2011); Meso-America (San José, Costa Rica, 28 November to 2 December 2011); and Southern Africa (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 28 February - 2 March 2012). A post-TEEB capacity-building workshop was held for North Africa and the Middle East in Beirut, Lebanon, from 21-23 February 2012. Similar workshops are planned for South America, and for Eastern Europe and Central Asia (Tbilissi, Georgia, tentatively from 29 May to 1 June 2012),

16. As noted above, where possible, workshops have been held concurrently, consecutively, or otherwise clustered as part of an effort to promote an integrated approach so that revised NBSAPs can include all areas of the Convention's work and are effectively mainstreamed into other sectors. For example, the workshops for southern Africa and Pacific incorporated economics and valuation (Aichi Biodiversity Targets 2 and 3), whilst the workshops for West Africa and Pacific were organized in parallel and jointly with workshops on the programme of work for protected areas (PoWPA), thus addressing Aichi Biodiversity Target 11.

B. Preparation of toolkits and other capacity-building materials

17. The Secretariat has developed a number of toolkits, practical guidance and other capacity-building tools to provide relevant information, in line with guidance from the Conference of the Parties and drawing upon expertise and experience of implementation by Parties and partners. This information includes:

(a) *Capacity-building modules for developing, updating and implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans.* These modules are drawn upon in the capacity-building workshops. They are based upon the guidance adopted in decision IX/8, build on the existing set of training modules developed in 2007 and incorporate lessons taken from the fourth national reports and examples of good practice, tools and guidance identified during the first round of workshops in 2008 and 2009. Each module comprises a PowerPoint presentation, based on the presentations being made at the workshops, as well as a written module, of around 20 pages, that provides more information and links to further resources.⁴ Short guides on each of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets are also being prepared.

(b) *E-learning modules for the programme of work on protected areas.* These learning modules explain in a detailed manner but in a simple way step by step approach the key themes of PoWPA (conducting ecological gap analysis or assessing management effectiveness or developing a sustainable finance plan or integrating protected areas into wider landscapes and seascapes among other things) with, *inter alia*, concrete examples, case-studies and tools, in an interactive way, with “course rooms” dedicated mentors who explain and respond to the queries of the participants. These modules are available on the PoWPA webpage in five languages.⁵ So far more than 2100 people have registered for the available modules.

(c) Other capacity-building materials are provided or under development for the various programmes of work and cross-cutting programmes of the Convention including, *inter alia*, a training manual for the description of ecologically and biologically significant areas (EBSAs) in open-ocean waters and deep-sea habitats (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/9), guidance for Parties on the development and implementation of national invasive species strategies and action plans, considerations for implementing international standards and codes of conduct in national invasive species strategies and plans and an E-learning module of biodiversity valuation and incentive measures with the support of Japan and other donors.

⁴ More information can be found at <http://www.cbd.int/nbsap/workshops2/content/>.

⁵ <http://www.cbd.int/protected/e-learning>

C. Broader capacity-building activities

18. The Japan Biodiversity Fund has also enabled the Secretariat to carry out additional activities in support of the implementation of the Nagoya Compact. The Japan Biodiversity Fund is being used as a catalyst to build the capacity of developing countries to implement several decisions adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in conjunction with funding from other Parties and donors. The annex contains a summary table of the 29 activities that have been supported in 2011. From the summary table it can be seen that Japan Biodiversity Fund activities have, in collaboration with other partners, facilitated the ability of the Secretariat to support Parties to contribute to 16 of the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets, providing useful “proof of principle” first steps in implementation that other donors and Parties will be able to more easily follow.

D. Technical and scientific cooperation and the clearing-house mechanism

19. A progress report on and recommendations for the further development of the Clearing-House Mechanism (CHM) was provided to the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting as document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/15 and the draft Plan of action provided in document UNEP/CBD/WGRI/4/3/Add.1 has been developed in light of decision X/15 which resulted from discussions at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the basis of that document. As of March 2012, there were 161 national focal points for the clearing-house mechanism and 92 national websites. However, qualitatively, one third of the existing national CHM websites would need further improvements. As noted in document UNEP/CBD/COP/10/15, establishing strong and sustainable national clearing-house mechanisms, in line with paragraph 2 of decision IX/30, is a challenging and lengthy undertaking, particularly to reach and sustain the level of capacity required to be effective in the long run. Cooperation and partnerships can make a difference in building capacity, particularly in developing countries. Efforts are being made to strengthen the central clearing-house mechanism in line with decision X/15.

20. In addition to the general clearing-house mechanism, the Biosafety Clearing-House provides a structured mechanism for parties to share information relevant to the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. Further, a dedicated Access and benefit-sharing Clearing-house and a repository for information on ecologically and biologically significant areas (EBSAs) are under development.

21. A Biodiversity Technology Initiative (BTI), loosely modelled on the UNFCCC’s Climate Technology Initiative is currently under consideration (decisions VIII/12, IX/14 and X/16), but no clear decision to establish it has yet been made. Many technologies of relevance to the Convention are “soft technologies”; such as tools and methodologies and therefore there is some common purpose between the BTI and technical and scientific cooperation as envisaged under Article 18.

22. The LifeWeb Initiative established by Germany at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and now supported also by Japan with the goal to strengthen financing for protected areas to conserve biodiversity, secure livelihoods and address climate change, through implementation of the programme of work on protected areas under the Convention. It is a clearing house operated by the Secretariat of the Convention to match expressions of interest by countries that require financing for protected areas and protected-area systems with financing available from donor countries. A web-based mechanism is complemented by the organization of round-table meetings to bring donors together to consider contributions to finance protected areas and national protected area systems. LifeWeb partner countries have provided almost US\$ 200 million in funding for protected areas.

23. A Consortium of Scientific Partners was established by the Executive Secretary at the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The current members of this partnership include national institutions that play a strong role at national, regional and international levels to provide knowledge and technical assistance for the implementation of the Convention. For example institutions, both governmental and non-governmental, such as CONABIO (Mexico) SANBI (South Africa), INBIO (Costa Rica) and The Humboldt Institute (Colombia) have played a major role in supporting biodiversity planning and implementation at national levels. Together with other member institutions such as The Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Missouri Botanical Gardens, The Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History and the National Museum of Natural History (France) have an enormous potential to support NBSAP development and implementation in countries.

24. A Multi-Year Plan of Action on South-South Cooperation was adopted by the G-77 and China at the South-South cooperation forum parallel to the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in Nagoya, on 17 October 2010, and decision X/23 requested the Working Group on Review of Implementation, at its fourth meeting, to examine and further develop the Multi-Year Plan of Action for consideration at the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, taking into account synergies with, among others, a Biodiversity Technology Initiative, the clearing-house mechanism and a framework for capacity-building for the "Integration of Biodiversity into Poverty Eradication and Development". A call for synergies between those initiatives has also been made in the output of the Expert Meeting on South-South Cooperation hosted by the Republic of South Korea in Incheon, on 17 and 18 May 2011.

25. BIOPLAN - an email list-serve provided by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, provides regular digests of information of relevance to biodiversity planners, mostly derived from the scientific literature. There is a potential to make this service more broadly available to Parties to facilitate access to open-source science literature.

26. The various series of capacity-building workshops reviewed in the previous sub-section fulfil a major role in facilitating technical and scientific cooperation by bringing together experts and practitioners from Parties and partners. Existing efforts to embed these workshops into a coherent programme of technical and scientific cooperation through preparatory and follow-up activities and the provision of training materials could be further enhanced.

E. Cooperation and synergies

27. The regional capacity-building workshops described above were organized in partnership with relevant regional bodies, such as the regional offices of UNEP, UNDP, United Nations Regional Economic Commissions and IUCN and its regional commissions. In some cases, the workshops have been organized in collaboration with the other global biodiversity-related conventions, UNFCCC and UNCCD, and where such opportunities arise, will be held in conjunction with planned workshops on UNFCCC National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPAs) and UNCCD National Action Programmes (NAPs).

28. Another early step towards identifying opportunities for further enhancement of implementation of the Convention, the Chairs of the Scientific Advisory Bodies of the Biodiversity-related Conventions (CSAB), the Biodiversity Liaison Group (BLG) and the Issues Management Group on Biodiversity (IMG) of the United Nations Environment Management Group have jointly undertaken a mapping exercise to cross-refer their current strategies (or equivalent) against the Aichi Biodiversity Targets as a way of identifying both commonalities and gaps.

29. Beyond cooperation in activities linked directly with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, many organizations contribute to capacity support for Parties in the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 and there is significant potential for further strengthening this cooperation. An earlier review was provided in documents UNEP/CBD/COP/8/15 (part V: options for technical support to parties for facilitating and promoting implementation of the Convention) and UNEP/CBD/COP/8/INF/8 (An overview of the experience of other conventions in providing technical support, and of potential modalities by which international organizations can support implementation).

30. Provision of financial resource is consider under agenda item 6 and is beyond the scope of this note. However, it is relevant to note here the contribution of the Global Environment Facility for support to the updating of NBSAPs (see also UNEP/CBD/WGRI/4/2).

III. OPTIONS FOR THE FURTHER ENHANCEMENT OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION, INCLUDING THROUGH THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF CAPACITY-BUILDING PROGRAMMES, PARTNERSHIPS AND THE STRENGTHENING OF SYNERGIES AMONG CONVENTIONS AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL PROCESSES

31. Substantial efforts have been made to support implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 as reviewed in the previous section. However, further efforts will be necessary to provide the support required to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. A more coordinated and efficient utilization of ongoing mechanisms will be needed to marshal all the experience and expertise necessary to achieve the targets, bearing in mind the limited time and capacity of the Secretariat and focal points alike.

32. Currently, most countries report that they lack sufficient human resources capacity for the implementation of the Convention or the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and also that responsible officials often have only limited access to the information they need and insufficient means to analyse it. At the same time, regional workshops under the Convention on Biological Diversity have revealed that there is, in fact, a wealth of information, expertise and experience among the Parties to the Convention and partner organizations. The challenge is to marshal this knowledge systematically to support implementation of the Convention. This requires enhanced technical and scientific cooperation among countries.

33. The clearing-house mechanism as envisaged in the text of the Convention to facilitate scientific and technical cooperation (Article 18, paragraph 3) has the mandate to catalyze the development and strengthening of national capabilities, by means of human resources development and institution building (Article 18, paragraph 2), as well as other provisions of Article 18.

34. At the same time, as reviewed in the previous section, there is a need to strengthen existing initiatives/instruments under the Convention on Biological Diversity and ensure a better coordination and complementarity between them. There are a large number of initiatives that are potentially very useful, but under-used and partially overlapping. These include: the biodiversity technology initiative; the Multi-Year Plan of Action on South-South Cooperation noted in decision X/23, the consortium of scientific partners; and the clearing-house mechanism itself. These mechanisms could be more closely linked to the various series of capacity-building workshops, and mechanisms used for their preparation and follow-up: course rooms, list-serves and help desks. Experience gained from the Biosafety Clearing House and the Life-Web initiative could be drawn upon.). Following the adoption of the new Strategic Plan, there is an opportunity to develop a consistent, coherent and comprehensive initiative so as to contribute to technical and scientific cooperation in a meaningful way taking into account guidance from the report of the Incheon Expert Meeting on South-South Cooperationⁱ. As noted in the introduction to this note, the Conference of the Parties is due to consider all these related capacity-building initiatives together at the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The establishment of IPBES will provide additional opportunities to strengthen technical and scientific cooperation among Parties.

35. The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 recognizes the clearing-house mechanism and technology transfer as a support mechanism for the Plan: “Collectively those involved in implementing the Convention have a wealth of experience and have developed many useful good practice cases, tools and guidance. There is additional useful information beyond this community. A biodiversity knowledge network will be developed, including a database and network of practitioners, to bring together this knowledge and experience and to make it available through the clearing-house mechanism to facilitate and support enhanced implementation of the Convention. National clearing-house mechanism nodes comprising networks of experts with effective websites should be developed and sustained so that in each Party, all have access to the information, expertise and experience required to implement the Convention. National clearing-house mechanism nodes should also be linked to the central clearing-house mechanism managed by the Convention Secretariat, and information exchange between these should be facilitated.”

36. Enhanced technical and scientific cooperation could be achieved through activities on a number of inter-related components, such as:

(a) Building more effective national CHM nodes. In line with decision IX/9, countries updating their NBSAPs with support from the GEF are encouraged to include an enhanced CHM as a component of their GEF-funded enabling activities;

(b) Modernizing the architecture of the central CHM hosted by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity. This would be an in-house exercise to enhance the information technology capabilities of the Secretariat to provide Parties with the best possible service, drawing upon best practices;

(c) Greater use of case-studies, tools and guidance from national reports, other submissions by parties and organizations, and from workshops would be organized in interoperable databases, and used to develop capacity-development (training) modules and other toolkits;

(d) Better use of evidence-based assessments of the effectiveness of various approaches to implement the Convention could be facilitated drawing upon the case-studies, tools and guidance referred to above, as well as the academic literature, project reports etc. The aim would be to link general conclusions emerging from scientific literature with a wider range of grassroots experience. The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice has an important role to play in this regard;

(e) Fostering communities of practice in relevant skill fields (eg: risk assessment; strategic environment assessment; economic valuation; systematic biodiversity planning; etc) will be identified, building upon existing networks and professional associations.

37. Important elements related to these activities are also included in the proposed work programme for the clearing-house mechanism in support of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (UNEP/CBD/WGRI/4/3/Add.1).

38. Overall, there is a need to further strengthen cooperation among relevant national, regional and global institutions and partners with a view to promoting exchange within and among regions and to identifying possible models for the further development of institutions at the national and regional levels as a follow-up of regional and subregional capacity-building workshops for NBSAPs.

39. In addition, thematic or regional and subregional pilot activities could be explored to strengthen technical and scientific cooperation in a limited number of subregions or themes in cooperation with partner organizations and interested donors. Such initiatives would build upon the experience, expertise and knowledge bases of existing national and regional institutions working on biodiversity within an appropriate enabling framework that would involve relevant regional cooperation organizations. The aim would be to facilitate technical and scientific cooperation at various levels, through activities such as (i) access to good practice cases, tools and methodologies; (ii) regional networking and help desks; (iii) training workshops; and (iv) direct exchange of experts. The regional initiatives would be linked to both national CHM nodes and the central clearing-house mechanism. For most regions, such initiatives would be a form of South-South cooperation, with possible support through triangular arrangements, as appropriate.

IV. SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATIONS

The Working Group may wish to recommend that the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Japan Biodiversity Fund and expresses its appreciation to the Government of Japan for its most generous contribution to support developing countries in implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;;

2. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Secretariat and its partners to enhance support to Parties for the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets through, *inter alia*, capacity-building workshops and further work to enhance the clearing-house mechanism and related initiatives, and *expresses its appreciation* to Japan and other donor countries and host countries of workshops for their support to capacity-building activities;

3. *Thanks* all the international organizations, convention secretariats, the Global Environment Facility for their substantive contribution in facilitating the implementation of the Strategic Plan and invites them to further support the implementation of the Strategic Plan;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Governments of Brazil and the United Kingdom for co-hosting the global workshop on NBSAPs;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue promoting and facilitating, in partnership with relevant organizations, activities to strengthen implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity

2011-2020 and progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and *encourages* other donors and Parties to complement the funds provided by the Government of Japan.

6. *Welcomes* the work programme for the clearing-house mechanism in support of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (UNEP/CBD/WGRI/4/3/Add.1);

7. *Recognizing* the need for enhanced technical and scientific cooperation among Parties, in line with Article 18 and related articles of the Convention, in order to implement the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, *further recognizing* the potential for enhanced cooperation at the regional and sub-regional level, among developing countries (South-South cooperation) and between developed and developing countries, consistent with the Convention, and, in this context, *noting* the potential role of national, regional and international organizations in facilitating technical and scientific cooperation;

8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to develop and implement, in cooperation with relevant partner organizations, a coherent, consistent and coordinated approach to technical and scientific cooperation, with a view to facilitating the full and effective implementation of Article 18 and related articles of the Convention in support of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, building upon the programme of capacity-building workshops, the clearing-house mechanism, the Biodiversity Technology Initiative, the Plan of Action for South-South Cooperation, the Consortium of Scientific Partners and other related initiatives;

9. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to explore, in cooperation with interested Parties and partner organizations, the development of thematic and regional or subregional pilot initiatives for enhanced technical and scientific cooperation in support of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;

10. *Requests* the GEF and *invites* donor organizations to support enhanced technical and scientific cooperation in support of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

11. *Takes note* of the activities of the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity in 2011 and express its appreciation to the Governments of Japan for their generous support; and

12. *Takes note* of the strategy for the celebration of the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity and invite Parties and all stakeholders to provide their feedback and comments to further strengthen the Strategy to the Executive Secretary by 30 June 2012 so that a revised Strategy can be presented to the Conference of Parties at its eleventh meeting.

13. *Invites* Parties and all stakeholders to use the following message in activities related to the Decade: “Living in harmony with nature”;

14. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to implement the strategy for the Decade based on the availability of resources and maintain a web portal to highlight all activities;

15. *Encourages* bilateral and multilateral agencies to support the implementation of the strategy in developing countriesⁱⁱ;

Annex

**THEMATIC CAPACITY BUILDING ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED BY THE JAPAN
BIODIVERSITY FUND IN 2011**

1. Project Title	Engaging Sub-national Governments, Cities and other Local Authorities in the 2011-2020 Strategic Plan of the CBD
Mandate	X/22 - Plan of Action on Subnational Governments, Cities and Other Local Authorities for Biodiversity
Partners	Stockholm Resilience Center, ICLEI, Global Partnership on Cities and Biodiversity
Output	Production of a GBO-3 like publication to be launched at the June 2012 World Cities' Summit in Singapore
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 2 - Socio-economic integration
2. Project Title	Enhancing South-South and triangular cooperation on Biodiversity for Development in the CBD
Mandate	X/23 - Multi-Year Plan of Action for South-South Cooperation on Biodiversity for Development X/16 - Technology transfer and cooperation X/6 - Integration of biodiversity into poverty eradication and development
Partners	
Output	Support to Multi-Year Plan of Action on SSC on biodiversity for development and to GEF Multilateral Voluntary Fund on SSC
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 2 - Socio-economic integration Target 19 Scientific and Technical Cooperation
3. Project Title	Strengthening the Clearing-House Mechanism
Mandate	X/15 - Scientific and technical cooperation and the clearing-house mechanism X/15, Annex, Goal 2
Partners	SACEP, Belgian CHM Partnership, Wildlife Institute of India
Output	Capacity-building and guidance on how to establish and sustain an effective national CHM, in line with decision X/15, and in support of the NBSAP process.
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 19 - Knowledge, science & technologies, Target 1 - Public awareness, Target 17 – NBSAP
4. Project Title	Mainstreaming Poverty Eradication and Development in Regional, National, and Local BSAP and Mainstreaming Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in policies, programmes and planning processes
Mandate	X/6 - Integration of biodiversity into poverty eradication and development
Partners	UN agencies, NGOs, FAO, WHO, GGIARC, GIZ, AFD, UNICEF, CIRAD, COHAB BBOP and IIED, regional organizations, Universities, ...
Output	Integration of poverty reduction and development issues in the different activities of the Secretariat. Long-term capacity-building to mainstream biodiversity in poverty eradication and development policies, programmes and planning processes.
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 2 - Socio-economic integration, Target 4 - Sustainable production and consumption, Target 14 - Ecosystem services, Target 17 - NBSAP, Target 20 – Resources
5. Project Title	Resource Mobilization
Mandate	X/26 - The financial mechanism: Assessment of the amount of funds needed for the implementation of the Convention for the sixth replenishment period of the GEF Trust Fund X/3 - Strategy for resource mobilization in support of the achievement of the

/...

	Convention's three objectives
Partners	GEF, OECD, County case-study partners
Output	1. Report on assessment of funding needs for GEF-6 2. 2011 Global Monitoring Report
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 20 - Resources
6. Project Title	Global Platform on Business and Biodiversity
Mandate	X/21 - Business engagement X/21 3(a), (b), (c)
Partners	Keidanren Committee on Nature Conservation (KCNC), Japan Business and Biodiversity Partnership
Output	1. Establishment of Business and Biodiversity Partnerships in Developing countries 2. Link the different nascent national business and biodiversity councils together in a global platform 3. Input on the development on the global Business and Biodiversity website 4. Increase the participation from businesses from developing countries of at COP11
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 2 - Socio-economic integration
7. Project Title	United Nations Decade on Biodiversity 2011-2020
Mandate	X/8 - United Nations Decade on Biodiversity 2011-2020 X/2 - The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and UNGA RESOLUTION 65/161
Partners	UNU, UNEP, UNDP, National Governments.
Output	1. Communications Collateral 2. Launches at Global, Regional and Subregional level 3. Regional launches 4. Subregional launches to take place at NBSAP workshops (scheduled for 2011)
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 1 - Public awareness
8. Project Title	Mainstreaming Gender
Mandate	X/19 - Gender mainstreaming, paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4
Partners	IUCN, WEDO
Output	Good practice tool guide on integrating gender equality into poverty eradication and development
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 2 - Socio-economic integration
9. Project Title	Article 8(j): Capacity-Building Workshops LAC region (Anglophone Communities)
Mandate	X/40 - Mechanisms to promote the effective participation of indigenous and local communities in the work of the Convention, paragraphs 1-6
Partners	Government of Japan, Government of Spain, Government of Guyana, NGO the Justice Institute
Output	Training of 40 ILC representatives and Government participants in participation in the Convention including at the national level with a view to enhancing implementation of the Strategic Plan
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 18 - Traditional knowledge
10. Project Title	Article 8(j): ILC and expert participation in International Conference on Article 10 (sustainable use of biological diversity) with a focus on 10(c) (Customary use of biological diversity)
Mandate	X/43 - Multi-year programme of work on the implementation of Article 8(j) and

	related provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity, paragraphs 8-11
Partners	Government of Japan, ITPGRFA
Output	Advice to 7th meeting of the WG 8(j) on possible content and implementation of the new major component of work on article 10 with a focus on 10(c)
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 18 - Traditional knowledge
11. Project Title	Article 8(j): Local Communities Experts meeting
Mandate	X/43 - Multi-year programme of work on the implementation of Article 8(j) and related provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity, paragraph 21
Partners	Government of Japan, UNDP Equator Initiative, ITPGRFA
Output	To identify common characteristics of local communities, and gather advice on how local communities can more effectively participate in Convention processes and how to develop targeted outreach, in order to assist in the implementation of the Convention and achievement of its goals for consideration of the 7 WG8j / COP11
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 18 - Traditional knowledge
12. Project Title	Gap Analysis on Technology Transfer
Mandate	X/16 - Technology transfer and cooperation, paragraph 2(b)
Partners	Internal: coordinate, as appropriate, information gathering and compilation with south-south cooperation team
Output	Gap analysis on technology transfer
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 19 - Knowledge, science & technologies
13. Project Title	Regional or subregional workshops to integrate the TEEB approach into NBSAPs
Mandate	X/44 - Incentive measures X/2, paragraph 17 f; X/44, paragraph 7
Partners	Internal: NBSAP team; External: IUCN; UNDP
Output	8 regional/sub-regional workshops
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 3 - Appropriate incentives
14. Project Title	Supporting Parties in the Implementation of Ecosystem Based Approaches for Adaptation and Mitigation
Mandate	X/33 - Biodiversity and climate change, paragraphs 9 (e), 12
Partners	GEF, World Bank, UNDP
Output	Capacity building workshop for pilot countries on joint activities under the three Rio Conventions; Development of a project proposal for each pilot countries on joint activities under the three Rio Conventions
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 15 - Ecosystem resilience
15. Project Title	Global Strategy for Plant Conservation - Supporting the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 by supporting national, sub-regional and regional implementation of the updated Global Strategy for Plant Conservation
Mandate	X/17- Consolidated update of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011-2020
Partners	Botanic Gardens Conservation International
Output	1. Inclusion of the GSPC targets in NBSAPs 2. Preparation of regional capacity building and technical workshops 3. Promotion of the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity 2011-2020 4. Development of technical rationale, milestones and indicators for the GSPC

	targets 5. Promoting further GSPC implementation 6. GSPC toolkit at the GPPC conference and other relevant events in 2011 7. Technical and logistic support for the GSPC Liaison Group meeting
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 1 - Public awareness, Target 4 - Sustainable production and consumption, Target 5 - Reduced rate of habitat loss, Target 6 - Sustainable fishing, Target 7 - Sustainable agriculture & forestry, Target 9 - Invasive alien species, Target 11 - Conserved areas, Target 12 – Threatened species
16. Project Title	In-depth review of the programme of work on island biodiversity
Mandate	IX/21 - Island biodiversity
Partners	Global Islands Partnership (GLISPA), IUCN Coordinating Unit in Washington
Output	Production of an assessment of trends and progress made in the implementation of the programme of work on island biodiversity, recommendations for in-depth review
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 19 Knowledge, science & technologies
17. Project Title	Development of an International Facilitating Mechanism and tools for building capacity to address invasive species
Mandate	X/38 - Invasive alien species IX/4 - In-depth review of ongoing work on alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species
Partners	NBSAP team, CAB International, TNC, IUCN, Inter-Agency Liaison Group on IAS
Output	Invasive alien species strategy is included in National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 9 - Invasive alien species
18. Project Title	Strategic Capacity Building in Taxonomy with partners for the Global Taxonomy Initiative
Mandate	X/39 - Global Taxonomy Initiative, paragraphs 7, 14 b, 16-18
Partners	NBSAP BioNET INTERNATIONAL, GTICM members, IUCN, Smithsonian Institutions, CSP, French Development Agency, Natural History Museum Paris
Output	Knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity are shared and transferred, and applied
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 19 - Knowledge, science & technologies
19. Project Title	Sustainable Ocean Initiative
Mandate	X/29 - Marine and coastal biodiversity, paragraphs 36, 37, 53, 76
Partners	UNU-IAS-Kanazawa, Japan MOE, Satoumi network in Japan, FAO, UNEP, UNDOALOS, WCPA, TNC, Korea MAFF
Output	- Official launching and programme development of Sustainable Ocean Initiative, as a long-term capacity building initiatives for PoW on marine and coastal biodiversity in collaboration with Japan Ministry of Environment and UNU-IAS-Kanazawa - CBD Expert Workshop on MPA - CBD Expert Workshop on Sustainable Fishery - SOI Pilot Training Workshops on marine protected areas and sustainable fishery
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 6 - Sustainable fishing
20. Project Title	Regional workshops for EBSA identification at regional scale
Mandate	X/29 - Marine and coastal biodiversity, paragraphs 35, 36, 47
Partners	GOBI including WCMC, CoML/OBIS, and UNU-IAS
Output	- One EBSA regional workshop in South Pacific region - Scientific preparatory work as input to the workshop

	- Synthesis report on socio-cultural criteria for EBSA
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 19 Knowledge, science & technologies
21. Project Title	Synthesis on experiences and use of marine spatial planning
Mandate	X/29 - Marine and coastal biodiversity, paragraph 75
Partners	GEF-STAP, UNESCO, UNEP, TNC
Output	Synthesis report on the experiences and use of marine spatial planning
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 6 - Sustainable fishing Target 19 Knowledge, science & technologies
22. Project Title	Lifeweb Financing Roundtables in support of NBSAP Process
Mandate	- Decision X/31(11-12) on protected areas - Decision X/32(3) on sustainable use of biodiversity - Decision X/33(4) on Biodiversity and Climate Change
Partners	Regional Programme for Conservation in West Africa (PRCM), Caribbean Challenge, South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), Government of Brazil, Government of Colombia
Output	1. Help strengthen financing for national implementation of the Strategic Plan and Aichi Biodiversity Targets in over 20 developing countries through round tables. 2. Contribute to the alignment of international development cooperation discussions 3. Provide visible incentive for developing country Parties, and Parties with economies in transition, to update their NBSAPs. 4. Leverage support provided by the Japan Fund to strengthen consideration of funding from at least 10 other partners. 5. Illustrate constructive synergy between Japan and Germany in helping finance implementation of the Strategic Plan and Aichi Biodiversity Targets.
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 19 Knowledge, science & technologies
23. Project Title	REDD-plus and Biodiversity
Mandate	IX/5 - Forest biodiversity
Partners	
Output	Regional workshop on REDD-plus and Biodiversity Safeguards for Latin America and Caribbean
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 7 - Sustainable agriculture & forestry Target 19 Knowledge, science & technologies
24. Project Title	Collaboration with the UNFF and CPF
Mandate	X/36 - Forest biodiversity
Partners	UNFF and CPF
Output	CPF meetings, Meeting of Global Forest Resources Assessment Advisory Group and Low forest Cover Countries workshop
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 7 - Sustainable agriculture & forestry
25. Project Title	Expert meeting on Marine Protected Areas
Mandate	X/29 - Marine and coastal biodiversity, paragraph 36
Partners	FAO, UNDOALOS, WCPA, TNC
Output	CBD Expert Workshop on MPA
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 6 - Sustainable fishing Target 19 Knowledge, science & technologies
26. Project Title	ABS 1st Intergovernmental Committee
Mandate	X/1 - Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits

	Arising from their Utilization
Partners	None
Output	<p>The ICNP will discuss the issues as listed in its draft work plan contained in Annex II of Decision X/1.</p> <p>The Intergovernmental Committee will make recommendations on these issues for the first Meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol.</p>
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 16 – Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization
27. Project Title	Capacity Building for early entry into force of the Nagoya Protocol
Mandate	X/1 - Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization, paragraphs 13, 14
Partners	UNEP, UNDP and the GEF
Output	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhanced understanding of the provisions in the Nagoya Protocol - Increased awareness of the Nagoya Protocol among decision-makers/stakeholders - Accelerated ratification of the Nagoya Protocol
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 16 – Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization
28. Project Title	ABS Meetings in 2010
Mandate	?
Partners	?
Output	?
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	Target 16 – Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization
29. Project Title	Promotion of Awareness and Ratification of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
Mandate	BS-V/11 - International rules and procedures in the field of liability and redress for damage resulting from transboundary movements of living modified organisms
Partners	Details of partners in execution of the activities will be elaborated/ provided later when and if their commitment is secured.
Output	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 136 NFPs from Africa, Asia & Pacific, CEE and GRULAC received adequate information about the Supplementary Protocol that enables or encourages them to initiate and facilitate signature and ratification by their respective countries - 1 publication on the basics of liability and redress
Contribution to Strategic Plan Implementation	

ⁱ www.wcbd.int/doc/?meeting=EMSSC-03

ⁱⁱ An indicative budget is provided in the annex II to the present note. (UNEP/CBD/WGRI/4/3/Add.2