



## Convention on Biological Diversity

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### AD HOC OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP ON REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

Fifth meeting

Montreal, 16-20 June 2014

Item 8 of the provisional agenda\*

### **REPORT ON PROGRESS MADE TO ADDRESS BIODIVERSITY IN POVERTY ERADICATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

*Note by the Executive Secretary\*\**

#### **I. INTRODUCTION**

1. This note provides a summary of the progress made to address biodiversity in poverty eradication and sustainable development in accordance with decision XI/22 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention.

2. Section II reports on the efforts of the Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development, the mandate of which was extended by decision XI/22. The background to the second meeting of the Expert Group, the main topics discussed and the outcomes of the meeting are presented. The latter comprise the Dehradun/Chennai Recommendations (annex I below) and the Guidance for Implementation of the Integration of Biodiversity and Poverty Eradication (annex II) referred to in the suggested recommendations (section IV below). Further details can be found in the Progress Report on the work of the Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development that is available to the Working Group as an information document (UNEP/CBD/WGRI/5/INF/11).

3. Section III of the present note reports on the Secretariat's work related to the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to ensure that biodiversity and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its twenty Aichi Biodiversity Targets are appropriately addressed in these processes in line with paragraphs 7 and 11 (c) of decision XI/22. Further details are provided in an information document, Integration of Biodiversity and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets in Processes to Develop Sustainable Development Goals and the Post-2015 Development Agenda (UNEP/CBD/WGRI/5/INF/12).

#### **II. EXPERT GROUP ON BIODIVERSITY FOR POVERTY ERADICATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

4. The Convention has addressed the issue of biodiversity and poverty eradication and development since 2008. The Secretariat has been undertaking work on this through the generous funding of the

\* UNEP/CBD/WGRI/5/1.

\*\* This document was reviewed by the COP Bureau in April 2014. It was further revised following the guidance provided by the COP Bureau and posted for consideration of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation at its fifth meeting.

Governments of Germany, Japan and France, and the support of the Government of India and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). At its tenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties recognized the urgent need to improve capacity for mainstreaming the three objectives of the Convention into poverty eradication strategies, plans and development processes as a means to enhance the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and their contribution to sustainable development and well-being (decision X/6, paragraph 1).

5. The linkages between biodiversity and poverty eradication are at the heart of the vision of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (annex to decision X/2), “Living in harmony with nature”, where “By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people.” The Strategic Plan notes that “Biological diversity underpins ecosystem functioning and the provision of ecosystem services essential for human well-being. It provides for food security, human health, the provision of clean air and water; it contributes to local livelihoods, and economic development, and is essential for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, including poverty reduction”. The mission of the Strategic Plan is to “take effective and urgent action to halt the loss of biodiversity in order to ensure that by 2020 ecosystems are resilient and continue to provide essential services, thereby securing the planet’s variety of life, and contributing to human well-being, and poverty eradication (...).”<sup>1</sup> Further, Aichi Biodiversity Target 14 specifically focuses on the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, the poor and vulnerable: “By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities and the poor and vulnerable”.

6. In decision X/6, the Conference of the Parties decided to establish an Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development mandated to further elucidate the linkages between the three objectives of the Convention and poverty eradication, and to identify the most effective approach toward a framework on capacity development for mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services for sustainable development and poverty eradication.

7. In paragraph 4 of decision XI/22, the Conference of the Parties decided that the Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development should continue its work, in accordance with the terms of reference annexed to the decision, and subject to the availability of funding, and submit a report, in collaboration with the Secretariat of the Convention, to the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation at its fifth meeting for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting.

8. The annex to decision XI/22 further specified the elements for the terms of reference (ToR) for the Expert Group. Pursuant to paragraph 4 (a), this included preparation of:

- (i) *A thematically restructured and streamlined draft of the Dehradun Recommendations; and*
- (ii) *Guidance for implementation drawn from a review on experiences with implementation of the integration of biodiversity and poverty eradication, reflection on root causes and drivers of biodiversity loss and poverty eradication as well as linkages to other relevant policies.*

9. Pursuant to decision XI/22, a notification<sup>2</sup> for the second meeting of the Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development was sent to Parties and relevant organizations. The Expert Group was reconstituted comprising experts renominated or newly nominated by Parties and a group of observers nominated or renominated by and representing different organizations and groups in line with paragraph 1 of the annex to decision XI/22. The list of experts nominated by Parties and

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/2011-2020/Aichi-Targets-EN.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> Notification 2013-075 (Ref. no. SCBD/MPO/NP/DB/ES/82369), dated 5 September 2013.

observers was then approved by the COP Bureau, after which another notification<sup>3</sup> was issued with the information about the composition of experts and observers of the Expert Group.

10. The second meeting of the Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication, generously funded by the Governments of Japan and France, took place in Chennai, India, from 4 to 6 December 2013, with the kind support of the Ministry of Environment and Forests and the National Biodiversity Authority of the Government of India.

11. The meeting was held in conjunction with a meeting of the High-Level Panel on Global Assessment of Resources for Implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 as well as the Subregional Capacity-building Workshop on the Nagoya Protocol for East, South and South-East Asia which were held from 2 to 4 December 2013 and 3 to 6 December 2013 respectively, also in Chennai. A joint session of the three meetings was held on 4 December 2013. The main topic of the session was mainstreaming biodiversity and Aichi Biodiversity Target 2 including case studies of national accounting systems. At this joint session, the Honourable Smt. Jayanthi Natarajan, Minister of Environment and Forests of the Government of India, welcomed and addressed the participants of the three meetings and the guests.

12. The work of the second meeting of the Expert Group was organized in accordance with its terms of reference provided in the annex to decision XI/22. Discussions focused on four main themes:

(a) Mainstreaming Biodiversity and Aichi Biodiversity Target 2 (covered during the joint session referred to above). The principal objective of this session was to reinforce collaboration and facilitate coherence so as to ensure the integration of biodiversity and ecosystem services concerns into different ongoing processes and activities. The discussion included:

- (i) Emerging results from the High-Level Panel on Resources Needed for Implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, including the multiple benefits that could result from investing in the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;
- (ii) Outcomes from the GEF-STAP workshop on mainstreaming biodiversity; and
- (iii) Green accounting, ecosystems and national accounting systems (NAS), with case studies from India and Mauritius;

(b) Best practices at regional, country and institutional/organizational levels (paragraph 4 (h) of the annex to decision XI/22);

(c) Revised, thematically restructured, streamlined Dehradun Recommendations – i.e., the Dehradun/Chennai Recommendations (paragraph 4 (a) (i) and 4 (b)) of the annex to decision XI/22; and

(d) A set of guidance and recommendations to facilitate the implementation of integration of biodiversity, poverty eradication and development, in line with the annex to decision XI/22 (paragraph 4, subparagraphs (a) (ii), (c) to (j)).

13. The Expert Group discussed, among others, issues related to mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystems, national accounting systems, the funding situation and the benefits of investing in the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, best practices of integration of biodiversity and ecosystems, poverty eradication and sustainable development at regional and organizational/institutional levels including initiatives such as the UNEP/UNDP-led Poverty-Environment Initiative and country case studies in order to compile the elements proposed in the Dehradun/Chennai Recommendations and the related Guidance for Implementation of the Integration of Biodiversity and Poverty Eradication.

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<sup>3</sup> Notification 2013-093 (Ref. no. SCBD/MPO/NP/DB/ES/82819), dated 18 October 2013.

14. The Expert Group work resulted in the following outcomes:

(a) The “Dehradun/Chennai Recommendations” contained in annex I below, i.e., the revised, thematically restructured, and streamlined version of the Dehradun Recommendations proposed by the first meeting of the Expert Group;

(b) Guidance for Implementation of the Integration of Biodiversity and Poverty Eradication presented in annex II below to facilitate the implementation of the Dehradun/Chennai Recommendations; and

(c) A Progress Report on the work of the Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development (UNEP/CBD/WGRI/5/INF/11) consisting of the proceedings of the second meeting of the Expert Group. In addition to the items listed in paragraph 12 above, the report also includes the Capacity Development Framework from the first meeting of the Expert Group that the CBD Secretariat revised and presented as a synthesis that can serve as a training/instructional document. The Secretariat has also summarized the presentations of the experts on mainstreaming and Aichi Biodiversity Target 2 and best practices and presented them in the report with a link to the actual presentations.<sup>4</sup>

### **III. OVERVIEW OF THE EFFORTS OF THE SECRETARIAT FOR MAINSTREAMING BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEMS IN POST-2015 UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT AGENDA AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs) PROCESSES**

15. At its eleventh meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (encouraged “Parties and all partners, institutions, organizations and processes concerned to consider the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets in developing the post-2015 development agenda and in the process of establishing Sustainable Development Goals under the United Nations General Assembly” (decision XI/22, paragraph 7). In paragraph 1 of decision XI/22, the Conference of the Parties also invited Parties, all partners and stakeholders to integrate the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity into sustainable development and poverty eradication programmes, plans, policies and priority actions (...).

16. The Conference of the Parties also requested the Executive Secretary to “collaborate, taking into account the outcomes of the Rio+20 Conference, in the process of developing sustainable development goals, as appropriate, with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), the secretariats of the two other Rio conventions and multilateral environmental agreements, and international organizations, and specialized agencies involved in poverty eradication, human health, food security and gender issues”<sup>5</sup> (decision XI/22, paragraph 11 (c)).

17. Pursuant to this request the Secretariat has been involved in various activities to mainstream biodiversity in these ongoing processes.

18. The Executive Secretary has taken the following measures within the CBD Secretariat to enhance its contribution to mainstream biodiversity in the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and SDGs processes:

(a) Placing the lead for this issue under the new division for Mainstreaming, Partnerships and Outreach in April 2013;

(b) Effective utilization of the CBD-UNCCD Joint Liaison Office at United Nations Headquarters, New York; and

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<sup>4</sup> The only item which is not covered in the report is the assessment of barriers; the Expert Group has continued the work on this subject after the meeting, and a document is expected to be available for the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties as an information document.

<sup>5</sup> Such as the United Nations Development Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women).

(c) Development of an internal strategy in February 2013 and establishment of a CBD Secretariat-wide post-2015 task force in March 2013;

19. The CBD Secretariat was actively involved in various activities related to communications and outreach, contributions to reports and event, and strategic participations in meetings. More details are found in the information document (UNEP/CBD/WGRI/5/INF/12). Activities included the following:

(a) Participation in the United Nations System Task Team (UNTT) and Technical Support Team (UNTST) in support of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals:

- (i) Active participation in the activities of the UNTT by preparing inputs, feedback, and comments to various Issues Briefs that were being prepared by United Nations entities for the themes taken up by the Open Working Group (OWG) on SDGs;
- (ii) Provided input on the funds needed<sup>6</sup> for the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and related information to the *Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing* which is responsible for proposing ways to help mobilize the financial resources needed for achieving sustainable development objectives;
- (iii) Co-led the preparation of the Biodiversity Issues Brief, also known as *TST Issues Brief: Biodiversity*, for the eighth session of the Open Working Group, with FAO, UNEP, UNDP, and the World Bank, and contributions from ESCAP, UNFF, UNESCO, UN Women and WMO, and other biodiversity-related conventions (CITES, CMS, ITPGR and Ramsar);
- (iv) The CBD Executive Secretary spoke as a panellist at the eighth session of the OWG which was held from 3 to 7 February 2014. This session included the specific topics of biodiversity, forests and oceans and thus was particularly important for the integration of biodiversity and ecosystems in the post-2015 SDGs;
- (v) Organized a side event co-hosted by the Governments of Japan and Republic of Korea and IUCN in the margins of the eighth session of the Open Working Group;
- (vi) Preparation with UNEP of a list of existing intergovernmentally agreed goals and targets and a list of potential goals and targets for the UNTST in response to the request by the ninth session of the Open Working Group; and
- (vii) Ranking exercise on action areas identified by the Open Working Group Co-Chairs for the focus areas, and preparation of options for a potential goal and five targets for UNTST;

(b) Communication with Parties:

- (i) Notification 2013-017 (Ref. no. SCBD/ITS/NP/DB/LZ/81424) of 22 February 2013 to CBD national focal points to encourage the participation of Parties in the processes;
- (ii) Notification 2013-112 (Ref. no. SCBD/MPO/AF/NP/82985) of 11 December 2013, on *Engagement in the processes to develop the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals*, was sent to all CBD national focal points and relevant organizations to encourage their engagement in the processes; and

<sup>6</sup> Based on the results from the 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: An Assessment by the CBD Expert Team Members (UNEP/CBD/COP/11/INF/35) and the Report of the High-Level Panel on Global Assessment of Resources for Implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (UNEP/CBD/COP/11/INF/20).

- (iii) Notification 2014-015 (Ref. no. SCBD/MPO/AF/Jhed/83126) on the participation of the Secretariat in the eighth session of the Open Working Group from 3 to 7 February 2014, in New York was sent to national focal points and relevant organizations on 30 January 2014;
- (c) Outreach / foundational materials:
  - (i) Information materials such as, *inter alia*, *CBD Get Ready for 2015*, monthly “fast facts” published and widely distributed to raise awareness from March to August 2013;
  - (ii) Special issue of a 2-page document about the substantial contributions of biodiversity to the different dimensions of sustainable development, including poverty reduction/eradication, and other outreach materials for the eighth session of the Open Working Group; and
  - (iii) Preparation of reports, articles, synthesis documents and presentation materials to mainstream biodiversity and ecosystems;
- (d) Contributions to reports prepared for the ongoing processes:
  - (i) Input, feedback and comments to numerous reports by, *inter alia*, UNEP and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (UNSDSN);
  - (ii) *Report of the Secretary-General: Accelerating progress towards the Millennium Development Goals and advancing the United Nations development agenda beyond 2015*; and
  - (iii) *Global Sustainable Development Report 2013*: Among the United Nations entities that contributed to the report were the three Rio conventions: CBD, UNCCD, and UNFCCC.
- (e) Strategic participation in meetings:
  - (i) The Executive Secretary visited the United Nations Headquarters in New York on numerous occasions since January 2013 and had meetings with United Nations officials, permanent representatives and other high level officials. He gave briefings on the major outcomes of the tenth and eleventh meetings of the Conference of the Parties and solicited support for the mainstreaming of biodiversity in the SDGs through system-wide implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets;
  - (ii) The Executive Secretary and/or his representatives have also participated in and contributed to numerous meetings, including the Seventh Trondheim Conference on Biodiversity<sup>7</sup> – Ecology and Economy for a Sustainable Society, held in Norway from 27 to 31 May 2013; the UNDP-UNEP Leadership Meeting on Post-2015 Thematic Consultation on Environmental Sustainability, held in San Jose, Costa Rica, in March 2013; the 18<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Poverty-Environment Partnership (PEP), held in Berlin, Germany from 14 to 16 May 2013; and the IUCN Consultative Meeting on Integrating Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services into the Sustainable Development Goals, held from 16-17 January 2014, among many others;

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<sup>7</sup> The document “*Biodiversity and Sustainable Development – the relevance of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets for the post-2015 development agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals*”, prepared for the Trondheim meeting by the CBD Secretariat, also served as the basis for the preparation of the Biodiversity Issues Brief referred to above.

- (iii) Contributions to the preparation of and participation in the Global Multi-stakeholder Dialogue on Integrating Social-Ecological Resilience into the New Development Agenda that took place in Medellin, Colombia, from 2 to 4 December 2013.

#### IV. SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATIONS

20. The fifth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation is invited to review the Dehradun/Chennai Recommendations (annex I below) and the related Guidance for Implementation of the Integration of Biodiversity and Poverty Eradication (annex II below). The Working Group may wish to provide advice for their further revision and/or to forward them for consideration by the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

21. Based on its considerations the fifth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation may wish to adopt a recommendation along the following lines:

##### *The Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention*

1. *Takes note of* the progress report on the work of the Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development (UNEP/CBD/WGRI/5/INF/11);

2. *Welcomes* the Dehradun/Chennai Recommendations and the related Guidance for Implementation of the Integration of Biodiversity and Poverty Eradication intended to support the implementation of the recommendations, in response to paragraphs 4 (a) and (b) of decision XI/22 and presented in annexes I and II respectively, to the note by the Executive Secretary UNEP/CBD/WGRI/5/6;

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to review and, where required, revise the Dehradun/Chennai Recommendations, following the discussions and advice of the Working Group at its fifth meeting, and to submit a revised version for consideration by the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

4. *Welcomes* the information contained in the information document, Integration of Biodiversity and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets in Processes to Develop Sustainable Development Goals and the Post-2015 Development Agenda (UNEP/CBD/WGRI/5/INF/12);

5. *Invites* Parties to report on their engagement and participation, as well as their views on the processes to develop sustainable development goals and the post-2015 development agenda, particularly in the context of integration of biodiversity for poverty eradication and sustainable development, and requests the Executive Secretary to submit a synthesis of this information in time for consideration by the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

6. *Recommends* that the Conference of the Parties consider adopting a decision along the following lines:

##### *The Conference of the Parties*

1. *Endorses* the Dehradun/Chennai Recommendations, revised by the Executive Secretary, where required, following the recommendations by the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group at its fifth meeting;

2. *Welcomes* the Guidance for Implementation of the Integration of Biodiversity and Poverty Eradication intended to support the implementation of the Dehradun/Chennai Recommendations, as reviewed by the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation at its fifth meeting;

3. *Calls upon* Parties, international agencies, other organizations and relevant stakeholders to facilitate the implementation of the Dehradun/Chennai Recommendations;

4. *Encourages* international and other organizations, and all partners and stakeholders involved in biodiversity and development processes and programmes to take into account the Dehradun/Chennai Recommendations and the Guidance for Implementation of the Integration of Biodiversity and Poverty Eradication in their related plans, policies and actions, and in the implementation of related programmes;

5. *Also encourages* Parties and all relevant stakeholders to promote incorporation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 with its 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets and associated vision for 2050 in the post-2015 development agenda, highlighting the crucial importance of ecosystems and biodiversity for the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals<sup>8</sup> by participating in the ongoing processes of post-2015 United Nations development agenda and Sustainable Development Goals;

6. *Invites* Parties and the United Nations Development Programme and other relevant organizations to make available and share through appropriate mechanisms, best practices, case studies and lessons learned on integrating biodiversity into poverty eradication and sustainable development, livelihoods and human well-being; and

7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of funding and human resources to:

(a) Continue the work requested by Conference of the Parties in decision X/6 and decision XI/22, in the context of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets, taking into account the Rio+20 outcomes and the ongoing processes on the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and Sustainable Development Goals, and to report on his efforts for consideration at the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

(b) Assist countries in implementing the Dehradun/Chennai Recommendations and the Guidance for Implementation of the Integration of Biodiversity and Poverty Eradication; and

(c) Support Parties by continuing his engagement in the ongoing processes to ensure the appropriate integration of biodiversity and ecosystems in the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and Sustainable Development Goals, and by continuing to assist Parties in their efforts to integrate biodiversity into poverty eradication and sustainable development.

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<sup>8</sup> Including the focus areas that were identified by the Co-Chairs of the Open Working Group (OWG) on Sustainable Development Goals at its eighth session and consist, at present, of poverty eradication, sustainable agriculture, food security and nutrition, health and population dynamics, education, gender equality and women's empowerment, water and sanitation, energy, economic growth, industrialization, infrastructure, employment and decent work, equality, sustainable cities and human settlements, sustainable consumption and production, climate, conservation and sustainable use of marine resources, oceans and seas, means of implementation/global partnership for sustainable development, and peaceful and non-violent societies, rule of law and capable institutions.



*Annex I*

**DEHRADUN/CHENNAI RECOMMENDATIONS  
ON BIODIVERSITY FOR POVERTY ERADICATION AND DEVELOPMENT**

*Recalling* decision X/6 on “Integration of biodiversity into poverty eradication and development” from the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held from 18 to 29 October 2010,

*Recalling* decision XI/22 on “Biodiversity for poverty eradication and development” from the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, held from 8 to 19 October 2012,

*Recalling* the eight Millennium Development Goals adopted in 2000 at the Millennium Summit,<sup>9</sup> the objectives and Articles of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the twenty Aichi Biodiversity Targets of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020<sup>10</sup> adopted at the tenth conference of the Parties, and the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity,

*Recalling* the Rio+20 outcome document, “*The Future We Want*”, which, *inter alia*, reaffirms the intrinsic value of biodiversity as well as its critical role in maintaining ecosystem services and recognizes the severity of global biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation and the threat to development which these imply,

*Recognizing* the potential of all three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, as well as the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, in significantly contributing to addressing specific dimensions of poverty such as lack of income, lack of participation in decision-making, lack of access to education and lack of access to capacity-building initiatives,

*Recognizing* the clear linkages between gender equity, poverty alleviation and the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity,

*Recognizing* the need to promote the integration of biodiversity into basic, primary, secondary and tertiary education coverage and quality,

*Recognizing* the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) and the ongoing processes on post-2015 UN development agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),

*Recognizing* the urgent need to improve knowledge, through monitoring and indicator development, of the value<sup>11</sup> of biodiversity and ecosystem services, particularly in the context of poverty and development processes,

*Recognizing* the need for increased capacity for mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services into poverty eradication and development processes at all levels and for all sectors and actors (through North-South as well as South-South and triangular cooperation),

*Taking into account* that conservation includes preservation, sustainable use and restoration of nature and biodiversity,<sup>12</sup> and that many currently poor communities have been traditionally very effective conservers of nature and its biodiversity, such as through various forms of indigenous and community conserved areas and territories (ICCAs), and have therefore been users of biodiversity and ecosystem services,

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<sup>9</sup> <http://www.un.org/millennium/>.

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.cbd.int/sp/>.

<sup>11</sup> Values including, as stated by the Rio+20 Outcome Document in its Art. 197: “ecological, genetic, social, economic, scientific, educational, cultural recreational and aesthetic”.

<sup>12</sup> *World Conservation Strategy*. Gland, UNEP, IUCN, WWF. 1980.

*Taking also into account* the root causes of and the interlinkages between poverty and biodiversity loss, and the advantages of integrating biodiversity into poverty eradication and development and vice versa as identified by the Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development,

*Aware* of the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation from the Fourth High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, and

*Noting* that the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) defined “Nature’s benefits to people” to refer to “all the benefits that humanity obtains from nature. Ecosystem goods and services considered separately or in bundles, are included in this category. Within other knowledge systems, nature’s gifts and similar concepts refer to the benefits of nature from which people derive a good quality of life. Aspects of nature that can be negative to people, such as pests, pathogens or predators, are also included in this broad category. All nature’s benefits have anthropocentric value, including instrumental values – the direct and indirect contributions of ecosystem services to a good quality of life, which can be conceived in terms of preference satisfaction, and relational values, which contribute to desirable relationships, such as those among people and between people and nature, as in the notion of ‘living in harmony with nature’”,<sup>13</sup>

1. *Encourages* Parties, in accordance with their national circumstances and acknowledging different approaches and visions, and international organizations to integrate, through, *inter alia*, inclusive, gender-sensitive and equitable processes, biodiversity and nature’s benefits to people, including ecosystem services and functions, into poverty eradication and development strategies, initiatives and processes at all levels, and to integrate poverty eradication and sustainable development concerns and priorities into national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) and other appropriate plans, policies and programmes for the achievement of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets;

2. *Encourages* Parties to engage in the Sustainable Development Goals process and to promote the integration of biodiversity and ecosystems in such process;

3. *Encourages* Parties, international agencies, other organizations and relevant stakeholders to monitor (through the development of appropriate indicators) the integration of biodiversity and nature’s benefits to people, including ecosystem services and functions, into poverty eradication and development strategies, initiatives, processes and implementation, according to different visions and approaches such as, *inter alia*, the living well in balance and harmony with Mother Earth;

4. *Encourages* Parties to include information on steps taken and progress made toward the integration of biodiversity into poverty eradication and development strategies, programmes and activities in their national reports to the Convention;

5. *Encourages* Parties, international agencies, other organizations and relevant stakeholders to identify and promote policies, activities, projects and mechanisms on biodiversity and sustainable development that empower women, indigenous and local communities, the poor, marginalized and vulnerable, who depend directly on biodiversity and ecosystem services for their livelihoods;

6. *Encourages* Parties, international agencies, other organizations and relevant stakeholders, indigenous and local communities, women, the poor, marginalized and vulnerable, to identify best practices and lessons learned on integrating biodiversity, poverty eradication and development, and to share this information using the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention and, as appropriate, other relevant ways;

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<sup>13</sup> Report of the Second Session of the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, held in Antalya, Turkey, 9-14 December 2013 (IPBES/2/17, p. 44).

7. *Encourages* Parties, international agencies, other organizations and relevant stakeholders, indigenous and local communities, women, the poor, marginalized and vulnerable to take steps to identify and overcome barriers to implementation of decisions of the Conference of the Parties, such as, *inter alia*, lack of cross-sector coordination and mobilization of sufficient funding, to effectively integrate biodiversity, poverty eradication and development, and to share lessons learned and best practices to overcome barriers using the clearing-house mechanism;

8. *Encourages* Parties, international agencies, other organizations and relevant stakeholders, to facilitate the full and effective participation in decision-making processes, and access to education, of indigenous and local communities, the poor, marginalized and vulnerable, and stakeholders, particularly women, taking into account international instruments and international law related to human rights, in their efforts to integrate biodiversity and nature's benefits to people, including ecosystem services and functions, into poverty eradication and sustainable development strategies, initiatives and processes;

9. *Calls upon* Parties to promote that the integration of biodiversity and ecosystem services and functions into poverty eradication and sustainable development strategies, initiatives and processes takes into account customary sustainable use, access to and governance of biodiversity, applying a rights-based approach and taking into consideration, as appropriate and in accordance with national legislation, the Tkarihwaié:ri code of ethical conduct, and the global plan of action on customary sustainable use and other relevant voluntary guidance;

10. *Encourages* Parties to use the knowledge and experiences gained from the implementation of programmes integrating biodiversity into poverty eradication and development programmes to build resilience of ecosystem services and functions from climate change risks and natural hazards, for consideration in strategies and national development/sectoral plans, among others;

11. *Encourages* Parties, international agencies, other organizations, multilateral and regional development banks and the private sector to recognize and take into account the diverse and holistic values of biodiversity, respecting gender, as well as spiritual and cultural diversity, in their poverty eradication and sustainable development efforts;

12. *Encourages* Parties, international agencies, other organizations, and stakeholders to respect, preserve and promote appropriate and effective non-market-based, appropriate market-based and rights-based approaches, such as, among others, those preserving the integrity and the rights of Mother Earth, as well as the role of collective action of indigenous and local communities in the conservation of biodiversity and the sustainable use of its components, including, *inter alia*, the living well in balance and harmony with Mother Earth, the indigenous and community conserved areas and territories (ICCAs), and community-based management, customary sustainable use and governance to enhance livelihoods; and

13. *Calls upon* Parties and the international community to develop or strengthen the enabling environment and the capacity of Parties, communities, organizations and individuals, to effectively integrate the interlinkages between biodiversity and poverty eradication and relevant cross-cutting issues related to gender, indigenous and local communities, the poor, marginalized and vulnerable, by providing the necessary technical and financial resources.

*Annex II*

**GUIDANCE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTEGRATION OF BIODIVERSITY  
AND POVERTY ERADICATION**

1. Biodiversity is crucial to alleviation or eradication of poverty, due to the basic goods and ecosystem functions and services that it provides, as appropriate. It is integral to key development sectors such as agriculture, forestry, fisheries, tourism, and pastoralism, among others, on which around 1.5 billion people heavily depend for their livelihoods. The impacts of environmental degradation in general and biodiversity loss in particular are most severe among people living already in poverty since they lack other livelihood options.
2. Although the relationship between biodiversity and poverty is complex, multidimensional (environmental, social, political, cultural, and economic) multi-scale, and involves multiple actors, the integration of biodiversity into poverty eradication and sustainable development can be achieved by identifying and using opportunities and entry points specific to each context, reflecting on the different root causes and drivers of biodiversity loss that exacerbates poverty and taking measures to overcome them. This is also highly dependent on the different visions and approaches of countries to achieve sustainable development and poverty eradication as established in the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) outcome document, “The Future We Want” (paragraph 56), including the indigenous and local communities’ holistic view of communities and environment embraced in the notion of living well and Mother Earth.
3. Such integration also needs to take into consideration the differences in national circumstances, goals and priorities, as well as cross-cutting issues related to gender, indigenous and local communities, and inequalities, and to promote an understanding that maintaining biodiversity is not a problem to be solved but rather an opportunity to help achieve broader social and economic goals in addition to a healthy environment and society. This is important for adaptation and resilience to continuously changing environmental and socioeconomic conditions. The implementation of the integration of biodiversity considerations into sectoral and cross-sectoral policies at the regional and national levels, as well as the incorporation of the sustainable development dimensions and the issue of poverty eradication into the national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) and subnational strategies and action plans (SAPs), is also important.
4. Hence, the Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development proposed the following voluntary guidance with respect to implementation of the integration of biodiversity and poverty eradication for sustainable development, ways to overcome some of the main root causes and drivers of biodiversity loss that hinder poverty eradication, and key issues to tackle to enhance relevant policies and facilitate poverty eradication taking into account countries’ own visions and approaches and national priorities as well as cross-cutting issues related to gender, indigenous and local communities, and inequalities, and special circumstances of countries, in particular, developing countries and the Rio+20 outcome document, “The Future We Want”. It is of the utmost importance to take into consideration that there is not a single approach valid for all countries and that this guidance, if applied, needs to be adapted to national circumstances and priorities.

***1. Integration of biodiversity and poverty eradication for sustainable development***

- (a) To identify linkages between biodiversity and poverty eradication for sustainable development, as well as drivers of biodiversity loss and poverty acceleration, *inter alia*, by using specific voluntary tools such as mapping of social and environmental vulnerability, regional poverty-environment profiling, and distributional studies assessing country- and region-specific links between biodiversity and poverty; and ensuring that the selected tools are gender sensitive and consider the diversity of views from indigenous and local communities, women, the poor, marginalized and vulnerable;

(b) To promote the integration of poverty eradication and sustainable development concerns and priorities into national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs), local and regional biodiversity strategic action plans, and other appropriate plans, policies and programmes for the achievement of the objectives of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, taking into account different visions and approaches of countries to achieve sustainable development;

(c) To promote the integration of biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services concerns into national development strategies and sectoral development plans, fiscal and, as appropriate, national accounting systems, and their implementation. The use of national economic tools may be effective for mainstreaming poverty-environment into national planning;

(d) To use, as appropriate, the biodiversity indicators adopted by the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity, as well as the indicators used in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the Rio Markers, and indicators addressing both biodiversity and poverty for sustainable development as appropriate to national circumstances and priorities;

(e) To integrate biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, as appropriate, into the international sustainable development dialogue within the post-2015 process; and

(f) To recommend to the CBD national focal points to take into account the proposed guidance when considering the integration of biodiversity into poverty eradication for sustainable development.

## **2. *Minimizing adverse impacts, and facilitating participation***

(a) To prepare and implement effective biodiversity management plans for minimizing and/or mitigating any potential adverse impacts on the biological resources and the well-being of society, in the context of poverty eradication and sustainable development, *inter alia*, including through:

- (i) Identifying resource persons and organizations at the national (e.g., the CBD national focal point or development cooperation agency) and subnational levels to provide technical assistance or advice on developing such plans for each sector where biodiversity is integrated into poverty eradication and sustainable development; as well as promote the implementation of these plans; and
- (ii) Designing and implementing tools/mechanisms to avoid negative impacts on customary use and access to biological resources enjoyed by communities, in accordance with national legislation.

(b) To promote wide stakeholder consultations that are gender sensitive, including through the principle of free, prior and informed consent (FPIC), and accounting for the input from this process during the development of sectoral integration plans in order to identify potential adverse impacts, develop appropriate measures to minimize/mitigate them, and implement the plans, as well as monitor and evaluate them by devising a simple monitoring and evaluation tool/mechanism, including a form of social audit that would be carried out by communities for whom the integration of biodiversity for poverty eradication is being done by promoting that FPIC includes indigenous and local communities and all other stakeholders, particularly women, the vulnerable and marginalized.

(c) To promote, as appropriate, the implementation of safeguard measures to avoid adverse impacts and improve long-term livelihood and well-being of indigenous and local communities, with special attention to women, the poor, marginalized and vulnerable people in particular, according to national circumstances and priorities by:

- (i) Taking measures to promote land management transparency and access to natural resources for the poor and landless, paying special attention to women, indigenous and local communities and marginalized groups;
- (ii) Taking measures, as appropriate, in all sectors and from local to national level, to

promote more sustainable patterns of resource use that conserve biodiversity and ecosystem services and functions for the poor and vulnerable communities in particular, in line with the outcome document of the Rio+20 conference, “The Future We Want”;

- (iii) Strengthening community-based management and the role of collective action in the management of natural resources and traditional indigenous knowledge systems.

### **3. *Capacity-building, enabling environment and funding support***

#### **A. Enhancing capacity-building**

(a) To support the development of curricula, that are gender sensitive, on the importance, linkages and interaction of biodiversity, ecosystems and poverty eradication for sustainable development, in particular sustainable production and consumption patterns, for primary, secondary, and tertiary education; and support joint training of practitioners among relevant ministries and other bodies (e.g., on use of indicators and monitoring systems among others);

(b) To encourage coordination of activities and creation of synergies among the providers of capacity-building by:

- (i) Ensuring capacity-building programs that include both scientific and traditional knowledge and involve participatory processes, community-based management, and the use of the ecosystem approach and management of systems of life, and take into consideration the needs of relevant stakeholders, and particularly indigenous and local communities, women, the youth, vulnerable and marginalized;
- (ii) Giving special attention to gender and social equity, access to genetic resources and fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources, including non-market-based approaches, sustainable management of ecosystem services, appropriate incentive mechanisms in accordance with the Convention on Biological Diversity, scaling-up of best practices, and to empowerment of indigenous and local communities; and
- (iii) Encouraging and facilitating North-South as well as South-South and triangular cooperation and the exchange of experiences.

#### **B. Strengthening enabling environment**

(a) Parties, United Nations agencies to take into consideration national, regional and international successful experiences and best practices in order to enhance holistic views, understanding and values of biodiversity, including the respect for Mother Earth, through cross-sector coordination, and strengthening oversight bodies; and

(b) To recommend to Parties, national and international agencies and civil society actors to take into account the importance of customary law in line with Article 10 (c) and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

(c) Parties, national and international agencies and civil society actors to take into account the importance of customary law (in line with Article 10(c)) in dealing with issues of natural resource governance, the need to appropriately recognize indigenous and community conserved territories and areas and their traditional knowledge and conservation practices as the basis for local biodiversity conservation plans without interfering in their customary governance systems (helping to meet Aichi Biodiversity Target 11); and to set the local biodiversity conservation plans as the basis for poverty eradication for sustainable livelihoods programmes for this to enhance the basis for the achievement of sustainable development goals.

**C. Providing adequate funding**

The Global Environment Facility (GEF), funding agencies, United Nations agencies, bilateral development cooperation agencies and multilateral development banks:

(a) To mainstream the link between biodiversity and poverty eradication for sustainable development into their development cooperation programmes and technical assistance;

(b) To provide technical and financial support to capacity development initiatives that combine biodiversity and poverty eradication for sustainable development, so that they support more countries; and for the scaling up of innovative mechanisms and best practices, including through North-South and South-South exchanges and support of primary, secondary and tertiary education.

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