



NOTIFICATION

28 June 2001

Dear Sir/Madam,

The fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity has requested the Executive Secretary to assemble practical principles, operational guidelines and associated instruments, and related guidance specific to sectors and biomes, which would assist Parties and Governments to develop ways to achieve the sustainable use of biological diversity, within the framework of the ecosystem approach. This work is to be carried out in collaboration with relevant organizations, as indicated in decision V/24 (attached).

Further to my letter of 8 June 2000, in which the Secretariat requested case studies on sustainable use, I would like to invite your organization to provide information on current activities and instruments relevant to the sustainable use of biological diversity. The Secretariat of the Convention is compiling this information to identify best practices and lessons learned on the use of biological diversity under the thematic areas of the Convention, and to respond to the request of the Conference of the Parties, as indicated in decision V/24, paragraph 1.

I would be grateful if this information could include the following:

- list of projects undertaken by your organization and methodologies used; monitoring and assessment of the sustainable use of biological diversity under those thematic areas of the Convention, which are within the mandate of your organization;
- case studies or examples of best practices for the use of biological diversity under the thematic areas of the Convention which are within the mandate of your organization;
- on-going capacity-building and field activities to promote sustainable use of biological diversity; and
- principles, guidelines, codes of conduct and legal agreements on sustainable use.

Invitation to organizations involved in sustainable-use initiatives, and other relevant organizations.



The results of this survey on existing activities and instruments on sustainable use will be made available through the Clearing-house Mechanism of the Convention. They will also be considered by the Convention's Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at its seventh meeting in November 2001, which, in turn will make recommendations to the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. I believe that these results can contribute significantly to the elaboration of practical principles, operational guidelines and associated instruments for sustainable use.

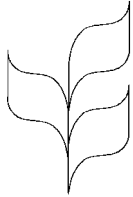
I would appreciate receiving this information no later than **1 August 2001**.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support to the implementation of the Convention.

Yours sincerely,

[signed]

Hamdallah Zedan
Executive Secretary



CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Decision V/24
Adopted by the Conference of the
Parties at its Fifth Meeting,
May 26th, 2000, Nairobi.

SUSTAINABLE USE AS A CROSS-CUTTING ISSUE

The Conference of the Parties,

Recognizing that conservation of biodiversity is a global service to humankind and is not captured and adequately recognized by current economic relations and patterns,

Recognizing also that conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity is essential to the survival of species and also benefits humankind particularly those people who are dependent on biological resources for their livelihoods,

Further recognizing the importance of integrating, as far as possible and as appropriate, the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity into sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies, and recognizing the importance of addressing this issue in national biodiversity strategies and action plans, in accordance with Articles 6 and 10 of the Convention on Biological Diversity,

Taking into account the decisions of the Conference of the Parties and the ecosystem approach,

Noting the synergies between the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity,

Noting also that the highest levels of biodiversity often occur in the less economically developed regions,

Recognizing the harmful effects of war and poverty on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity especially in regions rich in endemic species, and the need for mobilization of financial and technical resources for the rehabilitation and restoration of affected bio-ecological zones,

Noting the important linkages with the programmes of work on indicators (decision V/7) and incentive measures (decision V/15), and that appropriate indicators and incentive measures are essential elements in developing effective approaches to the sustainable use of biological diversity,

1. Requests the Executive Secretary to invite organizations involved in sustainable-use initiatives, and other relevant organizations, to gather, compile and disseminate through the clearing-house mechanism and other means, case-studies on best practices and lessons learned from the use of

biological diversity under the thematic areas of the Convention, drawing on the experience of Parties, Governments, relevant organizations, the private sector and indigenous and local communities;

2. Commends to the Executive Secretary the process being used to develop the ecosystem approach and requests him, together with relevant organizations, to adapt and immediately initiate that process for relevant work on sustainable use;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to assemble, in collaboration with relevant organizations, drawing from an assessment of the case-studies referred to in paragraph 1 above, and the process referred to in paragraph 2 above, practical principles, operational guidelines and associated instruments, and guidance specific to sectors and biomes, which would assist Parties and Governments to develop ways to achieve the sustainable use of biological diversity, within the framework of the ecosystem approach, and to present a progress report for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice prior to the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

4 Invites Parties and Governments to identify indicators and incentive measures for sectors relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity;

5. Invites Parties, Governments and relevant organizations to undertake appropriate actions to assist other Parties, especially developing countries and countries with economies in transition, to increase their capacity to implement sustainable-use practices, programmes and policies at regional, national and local levels, especially in pursuit of poverty alleviation. Appropriate actions may include:

- (a) Workshops;
- (b) Assistance to Parties in the identification of sectors where priority action is required;
- (c) Assistance to Parties in the development of appropriate action plans;
- (d) Information dissemination and appropriate technology transfer under mutually agreed terms;

6. Urges Parties, Governments and organizations to develop or explore mechanisms to involve the private sector and indigenous and local communities in initiatives on the sustainable use of biological diversity, and in mechanisms to ensure that indigenous and local communities benefit from such sustainable use;

7. Recognizes that sustainable use can be an effective tool in imbuing value to biodiversity, and invites Parties to identify areas for conservation that would benefit through the sustainable use of biological diversity, and to communicate this information to the Executive Secretary.