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14 August 2012

NOTIFICATION
Informal Dialogue on the CBD Strategy for Resource Mobilization
17-18 September 2012 - Geneva, Switzerland

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am pleased to inform you that in preparation for the Eleventh meeting of the Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP11), an *Informal Dialogue on the Strategy for Resource Mobilization* will be held from 17 to 18 September 2012, at the UNEP International Environment House, Salle 2 (MIE1) in Geneva, Switzerland.

You may recall that, at the request of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties, I had circulated an Indicative Roadmap on the subject of Resource Mobilization at the fourth meeting of the Working Group on the Review of Implementation (WGRI4). The Roadmap proposed a logical sequence to achieving the objectives of paragraph 8 (i) of decision X/3 at COP11 by highlighting the required steps.

Considering the minimal amount of data and information available at that time on biodiversity financing, the fourth meeting of the Working Group on Review of Implementation focused its discussions and recommendations on baselines and effective reporting framework. The subject of targets itself, to be considered at COP11, was not discussed at WGRI4. Given the limited information available, the WGRI4 requested both the Executive Secretary and the Parties to enhance the collection of required information in preparation for COP11.

In order to deepen the understanding related to some of the key elements for consideration by COP11, the roadmap suggested to hold an informal dialogue prior to COP11 to discuss the pre-session document UNEP/CBD/COP/11/14, specifically sharing information on the submissions from the reporting framework and other sources, concerns and expectations regarding baselines and potential approaches and elements for target-setting. The pre-session document UNEP/CBD/COP/11/14 will be available ahead of the informal dialogue.

This pre-session document builds upon WGRI4 recommendation UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/4/6. The Section II of this document provides information on the consideration of targets and baselines for the Strategy for Resource Mobilization. Section III provides options for target-setting and baseline years and Section IV contains suggested decisions for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties during its eleventh meeting.

To: All CBD National Focal Points and CBD Resource Mobilization Focal Points



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Biological Diversity**

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This document will be supported by three addendums containing:

- a. Information on the methodological and implementation guidance for the indicators to monitor the implementation of the Convention's Strategy for Resource Mobilization (UNEP/CBD/COP/11/14/Add.1);
- b. Key messages from the High-level Panel on Global Assessment of Resources for Implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (UNEP/CBD/COP/11/14/Add.2); and
- c. A synthesis report, provided in line with paragraph 5 (f) of WGRI recommendation 4/2, taking into account the submissions in response to decision X/3 8(c) as well as the informal seminar dialogue on Scaling up Biodiversity Finance held in Quito, Ecuador from 6 to 9 March 2012 and the workshop on Financing Mechanisms for Biodiversity held in Montreal, Canada on 12 May 2012 (UNEP/CBD/COP/11/14/Add.3).

In addition, 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 (UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/4/INF/10) will also be available, as provided by the Expert Team.

The purpose of the informal dialogue is to explore and contribute to understanding on the various aspects of the above mentioned documents and seek to clarify potential ways to scale up the mobilization of financial resources for biodiversity and discuss approaches and elements of target-setting that can be practically considered by COP11. The informal dialogue could additionally discuss possible sources of financing and financing mechanisms, such as fiscal policy instruments, mainstreaming of biodiversity, reform of perverse subsidies, positive incentives, role of the private sector, and so forth.

The informal dialogue will not draft any recommendations and will not engage in negotiation on targets but will seek to enhance understanding among participants on the various issues related to the strategy for resource mobilization with a view to facilitate discussions at COP11. The informal dialogue will be limited to the members of the COP Bureau and a further regionally balanced group of Government nominated experts. In order to share the highlights of the discussion with all Parties, a chairman's summary would be provided to COP11. A draft note and agenda for the informal dialogue is attached.

Accordingly, I would like to invite you to nominate a senior officer to participate in the *Informal Dialogue on the Strategy for Resource Mobilization*. The nominee should be the CBD focal point, CBD Resource Mobilization Focal Point, or other senior officer responsible for implementing the Strategy for Resource Mobilization in your country. The nominee should be comfortable working in English, which will be the language of the meeting. Nominations should be made as soon as possible and no later than **24 August 2012** to the secretariat@cbd.int.

The Government of Norway has kindly provided generous funding to facilitate the participation of developing countries and the Secretariat is offering travel support on a first-come first-served basis with priority given to least developed countries and small island developing states. This support will cover round-trip economy-class air tickets, hotel accommodation, meals and a daily subsistence allowance to cover incidentals.

I look forward to receiving your nomination soon and thank you very much for your support and cooperation.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias
Executive Secretary

Informal Dialogue on CBD STRATEGY FOR RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

17-18 September 2012

1. Achieving the Aichi targets is a difficult issue politically. It involves short-term costs for achieving long-term benefits. The danger of biodiversity loss seems distant and can be crowded out by more pressing concerns. It is therefore important to highlight the expected benefits associated with the implementation of the Aichi Targets, including sustainable development and poverty reduction benefits. At the same time, the severe risk of reaching tipping points in the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services must also be clearly stressed.
2. In order to do so, it is necessary to go beyond the national Governments and persuade sub-national/local Governments and the private sector that the threat of biodiversity loss to the economy is real, serious, and calls for a concerted response, in particular to mobilize resources to implement the Strategic Plan and the Aichi Targets.
3. At the request of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties, the Executive Secretary circulated an Indicative Roadmap on the subject of Resource Mobilization at the fourth meeting of the Working Group on the Review of Implementation.
4. The Roadmap proposed a logical sequence to achieving at COP11 the objectives of paragraph 8 (i) of decision X/3 by highlighting the required steps. Considering the minimal amount of data and information available at that time, the fourth meeting of the Working Group on Review of Implementation focused its discussions and recommendations on baselines and effective reporting framework. The subject of targets itself was not discussed at WGRI4.
5. WRGI4 therefore requested both the Executive Secretary and the Parties to enhance the collection of information in preparation for COP11. This information will be contained in document UNEP/CBD/COP/11/14 providing the basis for discussions on resource mobilization at COP11.
6. In order to deepen the understanding related to some of the key elements for consideration by COP11, an informal dialogue is being organized prior to COP11 to help identify and explore possible approaches to resource mobilization and types of targets, and how these would be related to baselines and financial needs.
7. The purpose of the informal dialogue is to explore and contribute to understanding on the various aspects of the document UNEP/CBD/COP/11/14, specifically reviewing the available information relevant to the reporting framework, identification of financial flows, possible baseline years, available baseline numbers and potential approaches and elements for target-setting that can be practically considered at COP11.
8. The informal dialogue could additionally discuss possible sources of financing and financing mechanisms, such as fiscal policy instruments, mainstreaming of biodiversity, reform of perverse subsidies, positive incentives, role of the private sector, and so forth.
9. Resource mobilization for the Strategic Plan will need to continue throughout its entire duration and in this context the informal dialogue should be able to build a better understanding of the evolving nature of the work on resource mobilization for COP 11 and beyond.
10. The informal dialogue will not draft any recommendations and will not engage in negotiation on targets but will seek to enhance understanding among participants on the various issues related to the

strategy for resource mobilization with a view to facilitate discussions at COP11. The informal dialogue will be limited to members of the COP Bureau and a regionally balanced group of Government nominated experts. In order to share the highlights of the discussion with all Parties, a chairman's summary would be provided to COP11.

**Informal Dialogue on
CBD STRATEGY FOR RESOURCE MOBILIZATION**

Venue: UNEP International Environment House, Salle 3 (MIE1)
9-15 chemin des Anémones
CH-1219 Châtelaine
Geneva, Switzerland.
Date and Duration: 17-18 September 2012

Tentative Agenda

Monday, 17 September 2012

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Opening Session

- *Introductory remarks by the CBD Executive Secretary*
- *Explanation of the rules and objectives of the dialogue by Chair*
- *Introduction of participants*
- *Presentation on the relevant WGRI-4 discussions and COP-11 agenda items by the CBD Secretariat*

9:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m. Coffee break

10:15 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. SESSION I: Reporting Framework and Baselines

- *Brief presentation on the status of submissions, reporting and plans by CBD Secretariat*
- *Discussion*

Topics for discussion could include:

- Experiences with the reporting framework and how to improve it
- identification of financial flows and possible sources of financing, as well as financing mechanisms
- Improving the efficiency of available funding, enabling conditions for financing mechanisms, achieving co-benefits from sustainable development actions, etc.
- Approaches for defining baselines based on information on current financing flows

1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Lunch

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. PRESENTATION by Bob Watson (*tbc*) on the report of the High-level Panel on resource needs to implement the Aichi Targets and a Presentation by Guenter Miltacher (*tbc*) on the GEF6 Needs Assessment

Topics for discussion could include:

- availability of information on financing needs assessments and ways to improve it

3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Coffee break

4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. SESSION II: Approaches and elements for target-setting

- *Presentation of background information on the potential approaches and elements for target-setting by CBD Secretariat*
- *Discussion*

Topics for discussion could include:

- Potential approaches and types of targets that could be practically considered for resource mobilization, and how these are related to available funding and financing needs

6:30 p.m. Reception

Tuesday, 18 September 2012

9:00 am – 11:00 am SESSION II contd.: Approaches and elements for target-setting and road map to COP12

Topics for discussion could include:

- Potential approaches and types of targets that could be practically considered for resource mobilization, and how these are related to available funding and financing needs
- Possible sequencing of further work beyond COP11, including improved information gathering, review of baselines/targets, connection to the Rio+20 process, etc.

11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Coffee break

11:30 p.m. – 12:30 p.m. CONCLUDING SESSION

- *Remarks by the Chair*
- *Statement from the COP10 Presidency (Japan)*
- *Statement from the incoming COP11 Presidency (India)*