



**CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

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**QUARTERLY REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF
THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
(January - March 2003)**

Note by the Executive Secretary

Contents :

	page
I. INTRODUCTION	4
II. EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND MANAGEMENT.....	4
III. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.....	6
A. Personnel Arrangements	6
B. Financial Arrangements	7
IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES	7

DECISIONS:

Scientific Technical and Technological Matters

VI/2 Biological diversity of inland water ecosystems.....	7
VI/3 Marine and coastal biological diversity.....	9
VI/4 Biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands.....	10
VI/5 Agricultural biological diversity	12

VI/6	The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and agriculture.....	13
VI/7	Identification, monitoring, indicators and assessments	13
VI/8	Global Taxonomy Initiative	15
VI/9	Global Strategy for plant conservation.....	16
VI/12	Ecosystem approach.....	16
VI/20	Cooperation with other organizations, initiatives and conventions	17
VI/22	Forest biological diversity.....	18
VI/23	Alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species	20
VI/29	Administration of the Convention and the Budget for the Programme of Work for the 2003-2004 Biennium.....	21
VI/30	Preparations for the seventh meeting of the COP.....	21

Social Economic and Legal Matters

VI/10	Article 8(j) and related provisions.....	21
VI/11	Liability and redress (Article 14, paragraph 2).....	22
VI/13	Sustainable use.....	23
VI/14	Biological diversity and tourism.....	23
VI/15	Incentive measures.....	23
VI/21	Annex to the Hague Ministerial Declaration.....	24
VI/24	Access and benefit-sharing as related to genetic resources.....	24
VI/28	Multi-year POW of the COP up to 2010.....	25

Biosafety Unit

VI/1	Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.....	25
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Implementation and Outreach

VI/16	Additional financial resources	27
VI/17	Financial mechanism.....	27
VI/18	Scientific and technical cooperation and the Clearing-house Mechanism.....	28
VI/19	Communication, education and public awareness.....	29
VI/25	National reporting	30
VI/26	Strategic Plan for the Convention on Biological Diversity.....	30
VI/27	Operations of the Convention.....	30

Annexes

Annex I	Status of Implementation o
Annex II	Organisational Chart of the CBD Secretariat.....	38
Annex III	General Trust Fund for additional voluntary Contributions (BE).....	45
Annex IV	General Trust Fund for additional voluntary Contributions (BZ).....	47
Annex V	General Trust Fund for the CBD (BY).....	48
Annex VI	List of meetings organised by the Secretariat.....	55
Annex VII	List of Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.....	56

I. INTRODUCTION

1. This report is prepared in keeping with decision III/24 of the Conference of the Parties which requested the Executive Secretary to prepare a quarterly report on the administration of the Convention including such matters as the staff lists, status of contributions, progress on the implementation of the medium term work programme and financial expenditures. The requirements to report on a regular basis to the Parties were further elaborated under the Administrative Arrangements between the Secretariat and UNEP, which were endorsed by the Conference of the Parties in decision IV/17.

2. The Executive Secretary has prepared this Quarterly Report, which contains a summary of key activities implementing the decisions of the Conference of the Parties and other relevant matters during the period 1 January to 31 March 2003.

II. EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND MANAGEMENT

3. The eighth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA-8) was held in Montreal, from 10-14 March 2003. The principal theme of SBSTTA-8 was mountain biological diversity and a keynote speaker, Dr. Christian Körner, was invited to give a detailed overview of the theme. An in-depth review of inland waters ecosystems and marine and coastal biological diversity was also undertaken by the meeting. SBSTTA-8 was preceded by a one-day meeting of the Informal Advisory Committee (IAC) of the Clearing-house Mechanism of the CBD, as well as by a one day meeting of the SBSTTA Bureau.

4. Subsequent to SBSTTA-8, a four-day Open-ended Inter-sessional Meeting on the Multi-Year Programme of Work of the Conference of the Parties up to 2010 (MYPOW) was held from 17-20 March 2003, also in Montreal. Prominent on the meeting's agenda were the analysis of the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) as it relates to the Convention process, the review of the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan and discussions on the establishment of an international regime for access and benefit-sharing.

5. Financial support for the SBSTTA-8 and MYPOW meetings were provided by the following countries: Denmark; Germany; Ireland; Japan; New Zealand; Spain; Sweden and the United Kingdom.

6. On the margins of the above-mentioned meetings, the Secretariat held discussions with the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) to promote a more effective collaboration between the two organizations on, *inter alia*, the development of an interoperable network of biodiversity databases, capacity-building and the promotion of taxonomy related issues. The Secretariat also held talks with the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) on topics of mutual concern.

7. On 15 March 2003, a joint meeting of the Bureaux of the sixth meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP-6) and the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (ICCP) was held in Montreal. The meeting focused on the scenarios and modalities of the organization of the first meeting of the Conference of Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (COP/MOP-1) and provided an update on the CBD-initiated capacity building project proposals.

8. The Secretariat hosted the second Equator Initiative Board Meeting which was held on 21 March 2003. The Board heard updates on the progress of the Equator Initiative and discussed matters related to its future directions.

9. On the margins of the MYPOW meeting, the Secretariat held discussions with Malaysian government officials in order to finalize the Host Government Agreement for the seventh meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP-7) and MOP-1.

10. Consultations, which resulted in the conclusion of a Letter of Agreement (LoA), were held with UNEP-WCMC and UNDP to discuss preparations for the meeting on “2010 – The Global Biodiversity Challenge” which will be organized in response to COP-6 decision VI/26 to consider issues pertaining to the internationally adopted target of significantly reducing the rate of biodiversity loss by 2010. The meeting is scheduled to take place in London, United Kingdom, from 21-23 May 2003. The dates have been chosen to coincide with the International Day for Biological Diversity which will be celebrated on 22 May 2003.

11. During the first quarter of 2003, six countries (Cameroon, Ecuador, India, Marshall Islands, Republic of Moldova and Tunisia) acceded/ratified the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, bringing the total number of Parties to 45. The Government of Tuvalu ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity, raising the number of Parties to the Convention to 187.

12. In commemoration of the upcoming International Biological Diversity Day, the Secretariat is considering several public awareness and outreach promotional activities around the city of Montreal to highlight the value of biodiversity and the importance of the Convention’s work.

13. The CBD Secretariat was represented at the Meeting on Biodiversity after Johannesburg: the Critical Role of Biodiversity and Ecosystems in Achieving the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), held from 3-4 March 2003 in London. This meeting was particularly significant as the focus of the discussions was at the core of the work of the Secretariat in the follow-up to the outcome of COP-6 decisions and the WSSD Plan of Implementation.

14. The Secretariat was represented at a number of important meetings during the first quarter of 2003, namely: the UNEP Think-Tank meeting on Establishing an Intergovernmental Panel on Global Environmental Change which took place in Oslo, Norway on 15 January 2003; and the twenty-second session of the UNEP Governing Council, held from 3-7 February 2003, in Nairobi, Kenya. However, due to the developments in Iraq and the outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), the Secretariat had to decline invitations to participate in the second International Tropical Marine Ecosystems Management Symposium (ITMEMS 2) and the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) Coordinating and Planning Committee (CPC) Meeting, held from 24-29 March 2003, in Manila, the Philippines as well as an *Ad hoc* European Task Force on Banking, Business and Biodiversity organized by the European Center for Nature Conservation which was scheduled to take place in London, United Kingdom, on 1 April 2003.

15. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the CBD Secretariat and the *Institut de l'Énergie et de l'Environnement de la Francophonie* (IEPF) in January 2003. The MoU aims to strengthen the partnership between the two organizations with the purpose of assisting Francophone countries to develop and reinforce their capacity for implementing the provisions of the CBD and its Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. As an initial step, the CBD Secretariat participated in the *Atelier de concertation des Points Focaux sur les synergies entre les Conventions issues de Rio*, a workshop organized by the *Agence Inter-gouvernementale de la Francophonie* of the IEPF in Marrakech, Morocco from 27-31 January 2003.

16. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), aiming to advance the development, implementation and monitoring of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC), was signed between the CBD Secretariat and Botanic Gardens Conservation International.

17. A Letter of Intent (LoI) with the Government of the Netherlands was also concluded in January 2003 in order to, *inter alia*, ensure increased cooperation with other biodiversity-related conventions and organizations and to facilitate the implementation of various COP-6 decisions.

18. During the first quarter of 2003, the CBD Secretariat organized a number of meetings, namely: the Scoping meeting of the Advisory Group for the second edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook Report (16-17 January 2003); the Expert meeting on indicators of biological diversity including indicators for rapid assessment of inland water ecosystems (10-12 February 2003); the *Ad hoc* Technical Expert Group meeting on the potential impacts off genetic use restriction technologies on smallholder farmers, indigenous

and local communities and farmers' rights (19-21 February 2003); the *Ad hoc* Technical Expert Group on Traditional Knowledge and Clearing-house Mechanism (24-26 February 2003); and the African Regional meeting on the Clearing-house Mechanism (31 March – 2 April 2003). These meetings were held in Montreal, with the exception of the latter two which were held in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia and Nairobi, Kenya, respectively.

19. The Secretariat also participated in several international meetings including: the FAO Technical Consultation on Biological Risk Management in Food and Agriculture (13-17 January 2003, Bangkok, Thailand); the second Steering Committee Meeting for the UNEP/GEF Project on Development of National Biosafety Frameworks (16 January 2003, Geneva, Switzerland); the UNEP-GEF Project Regional Training Workshop for Asia (21-24 January 2003, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia); the third TESEO Users Brainstorming Event (TUBE III) of the European Space Agency (23 January 2003, Frascati (Rome), Italy); a peer review meeting on access and benefit-sharing in Africa, organized by the Environmental Law Institute (23-24 January 2003, Nairobi, Kenya); the seminar on SPS/TBT Agreements and GMOs (10-14 February 2003, Bern, Switzerland); the third meeting of the Board of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) followed by the MA Biodiversity "Cross-cutting" meeting (11-12 and 13-15 February 2003, Gland, Switzerland); the OECD Working Group and Task Force Joint Session (12 February 2003, Paris, France); the Workshop on Implementing the CBD GTI Programme of Work: Invitation to a Follow-up Workshop to 3GTW (12-14 February 2003, Paris, France); the UNFCCC Workshop on "Issues related to Modalities for including Afforestation and Reforestation Activities under Articles 12 in the First Commitment Period" (12-14 February 2003, Foz do Iguazu, Brazil) the third meeting of the UNEP Working Group on Economic Instruments for Environmental Policy which was held back-to-back with the Meeting on Integrated Assessment of Trade Liberalization in the Agriculture Sector, also organized by UNEP (17-18 and 19-20 February 2003, Geneva, Switzerland); an informal Expert Meeting on the arrangements for the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (17-19 February 2003, Bonn, Germany); the UNEP-GEF Project Fourth Sub-regional Workshop for Small Island Developing States (18-21 February 2003, Nadi, Fiji); the second meeting of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) Task Force on streamlining forest-related reporting (24-26 February 2003, Cambridge, United Kingdom); the UNEP Africa Environment Information Network – Stakeholders Meeting (24-26 February 2003, Pretoria, South Africa); the GMO Guidelines Project Advisory Board Meeting (28 February – 1 March 2003, Bangkok, Thailand); the ninth meeting of the CPF (9 March 2003, by teleconference); and expert meeting organized by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) together with a brainstorming session between the GTZ's managers of projects relevant to the Convention to Combat Desertification and the Convention on Biological Diversity (30 March – 1 April 2003, Bonn, Germany).

20. Recruitment procedures are underway for some five professional posts with the expectation of filling them during the second quarter of 2003.

III. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

A. Personnel Arrangements

21. During the reporting period, the Secretariat had **30** regularized Professional staff members and **21** regularized General Service staff members funded from the core budget. Additionally, **5** Professional posts and **5** General Service posts were funded from other sources. There are also **3** short-term staff on approved posts. A total of 8 consultants/contractors were hired during the period under review. Additionally, there was one intern working with the Secretariat during this period. For more information, please refer to the attached staff list and organigram (Annex I Appendix 1, and Annex II respectively).

22. The Secretariat initiated a new Fellowship Programme in 2002. Candidates from developing countries were eligible to apply to this six month Programme. The purpose of the SCBD Fellowship Programme is to give nationals from developing countries the opportunity to gain knowledge in the area of biodiversity in order to assist their organizations and communities in protecting and promoting the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. It is expected that these fellows will use this opportunity

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to broaden their professional knowledge and experience on issues they are working on in their countries by acquainting themselves with the issues facing biodiversity conservation and sustainable use worldwide and the functioning of the intergovernmental processes that deal with it. Four fellows worked at the Secretariat during the period under review. For more information please refer to the attached Annex I.

B. Financial Arrangements

23. With regard to budgetary matters, as at 31 March 2003, of the total pledged contributions of US\$7,257,328 for 2003 to the General Trust Fund for the Convention on Biological Diversity (**BY Trust Fund**), the total contributions received amounted to US\$3,509,047. Additionally US\$4,564 has been collected as additional contributions to the BY Trust Fund in 2003. Total unpaid pledges to the BY Trust Fund for prior years amount to US\$752,857. Details of the BY Trust Fund are contained in Annex V.

24. Several Parties have contributed additional voluntary funds in support of approved activities under the Convention (**BE Trust Fund**). As of 31 March 2003, the total amount pledged for 2003 amounts to US\$773,125. The total collected for 2003 as at 31 March 2003 was US\$235,025 and an additional \$147,843 has been collected in 2003 for prior years. Total unpaid pledges for 2003 and prior years to the BE Trust Fund is US\$875,573. Details of the BE Trust Fund are contained in Annex III.

25. Pledges totalling US\$231,153 have so far been made as additional voluntary contributions to facilitate the participation of Parties to the Convention Process (**BZ Trust Fund**) in 2003, of which US\$155,569 has already been paid. Total unpaid pledges for 2003 and prior years to the BZ Trust Fund amount to US\$174,370. Details of the BZ Trust Fund are contained in Annex IV.

26. Invoices have been sent to the 187 Parties to the Convention, inviting them to pay their contributions to the General Trust Fund for 2003. As at 31 March 2003, sixty-six countries have totally or partially paid their assessed contributions for 2003 representing 48.4% of the total amount pledged to the Trust Fund in 2003.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL MATTERS

DECISION VI/2 BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY OF INLAND WATERS

27. In decision VI/2, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to (i) strengthen collaboration with the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands on the implementation of the River Basin Initiative and the third joint work plan, and (ii) implement paragraph 5 of decision V/2 i.e., review the programme of work and include in its review, advice on the further elaboration and refinement of the programme of work.

(a) Collaboration with the Ramsar Convention

28. The Executive Secretary organized, in collaboration the Ramsar Bureau, a side event during SBSTTA 8 to provide delegates with detailed information about the River Basin Initiative (RBI). The side event facilitated the exchange of information on the inland waters item on the agenda of SBSTTA-8, and provided an update of progress made on the implementation of the RBI.

29. The Secretariat also continued discussions with the Ramsar Bureau and the Global Environment Centre, which hosts the River Basin Initiative (RBI), as to the direction the Initiative should take after its initial operating phase (2001-2003). Under its new web address (<http://www.riverbasin.org/>) the RBI has created a portal for information relating to sustainable river basin management, which allows users to establish and modify their own websites. This approach was considered to be extremely valuable because

it attracts information. However, there is currently no quality control and no possibility of extracting best practices and lessons learned.

30. With respect to the implementation of the third joint work plan (2002-2006) between the CBD and the Ramsar Convention, SBSTTA 8 recommended that COP endorse the development of a joint classification system for types of wetlands based on the current Ramsar classification.

31. Further discussions were also held between the CBD Secretariat and the Ramsar Bureau on the further development of Environmental Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment procedures (see also under Decision VI/7 A on Identification, Monitoring, Indicators and Assessment) and the development of biodiversity indicators.

(b) Review of the implementation of work

32. The Executive Secretary convened an expert meeting on indicators of biological diversity including indicators for rapid assessment of inland water ecosystems held from 10-12 February 2003 in Montreal, Canada. In reviewing biodiversity indicators the meeting paid particular attention to indicators on inland water biological diversity (see also under Decision VI/7 B on Identification, Monitoring, Indicators and Assessment).

33. The Executive Secretary has invited additional comments on the report, on the status and trends of, and threats to, inland water biological diversity, which was prepared by the World Resources Institute. The document is intended for publication in the Technical Publication Series of the Convention.

34. The Executive Secretary strengthened collaboration with the African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement by proposing a number of joint activities, including the use of the Convention's clearinghouse mechanism for the sharing of information on wetlands of particular importance for migratory water birds.

35. Six substantive and four information documents on inland water biological diversity were prepared for SBSTTA 8. These documents related to the review, further elaboration and refinement of the programme of work on inland water ecosystems.

(c) Consideration at SBSTTA 8 and MYPOW meetings

36. In its recommendation VIII/2, SBSTTA adopted the revised programme of work, and welcomed the guidelines for the rapid assessment of inland waters. SBSTTA also called for the adoption of the Ramsar classification system as a framework for the initial inventory of inland water ecosystems. For implementation of the elements of the revised programme of work, SBSTTA requested the preparation of outcome oriented targets and identified priorities for each activity, including timescales, to be considered by SBSTTA-9.

37. MYPOW recommended that the next in-depth review of the thematic programme of work on inland water biodiversity be undertaken by COP-10.

(d) International Year of Freshwater

38. The Executive Secretary invited UNESCO, the lead agency for the 2003 International Year of Freshwater to deliver a statement to SBSTTA-8 and enhance awareness about the objectives of this undertaking and the activities planned for the year.

DECISION VI/3 MARINE AND COASTAL BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

39. In decision VI/3, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to:
- (i) Continue facilitating the implementation of the specific work plan on coral bleaching and the work plan on physical degradation and destruction of coral reefs;
 - (ii) Continue developing the work plan on physical degradation and destruction of coral reefs; and
 - (iii) Strengthen collaboration with the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans.

(a) Review and further elaboration of the programme of work

40. Four substantive and nine information documents on marine and coastal biological diversity were prepared for SBSTTA-8. These documents related to the review and further elaboration of the programme of work, as well as to the results of the ad hoc technical expert groups on marine and coastal protected areas and on mariculture. A joint study with the Secretariat of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea was also prepared on the topic of conservation and sustainable use of deep seabed genetic resources beyond national jurisdiction.

41. SBSTTA produced recommendation VIII/3, which relates to the issues listed above. SBSTTA requested the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with a Liaison Group, to elaborate the programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity based on the guidance given by SBSTTA recommendation VIII/3 for the consideration of the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

(b) Coral reefs

42. The Status of Coral Reefs of the World 2002 Report was launched in the CBD context at a SBSTTA-8 side event. Dr. Clive Wilkinson, Coordinator of the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network and the editor of the report, was present at the launch. Dr. Wilkinson also gave a presentation to Working Group II at SBSTTA regarding coral reef status, appropriate management actions such as establishment of marine protected areas, and suggestions for a way forward in the CBD context. The CBD Secretariat is a co-sponsor of the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network, which helps implement the CBD work plan on coral bleaching. Additionally, discussions were held with Dr. Wilkinson regarding how the GCRMN and the International Coral Reef Initiative (ICRI) can assist in elaboration and implementation of the work plan on physical degradation and destruction of coral reefs. A meeting regarding collaborative activities relating to socio-economic aspects of coral reefs was held with Ms. Sian Owen of WWF. Initial collaboration will take place through the implementation of the CBD work plan on coral bleaching, as well as through WWF assistance in the elaboration of the work plan on physical degradation and destruction of coral reefs.

(c) Integrated Marine and Coastal Area Management

43. A meeting on best approaches for developing CBD-relevant integrated marine and coastal area management guidance was held in the margins of SBSTTA between the CBD Secretariat, the Ramsar Convention and the Dutch Coastal Management Centre, which is undertaking this work with funding from the Government of Netherlands. It is intended that a first draft of this guidance will be available as an information document at the ninth meeting of SBSTTA. The Dutch Coastal Management Centre also conducted a side event on the topic at SBSTTA-8.

(d) Collaboration with Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans

44. A meeting with Mr. Chedly Rais from the Mediterranean Action Plan's Regional Activity Centre on Specially Protected Areas was held regarding future collaborative activities. Such activities will focus on a Mediterranean CHM node on marine and coastal biological diversity, development of methods for rapid assessment of marine and coastal biological diversity, as well as possible joint activities relating to marine and coastal protected areas.

(e) Rapid assessment of marine and coastal biological diversity

45. A Liaison Group on Rapid Assessment of Marine and Coastal Biological Diversity was established in February to assist the Secretariat in developing guidance on the issue. This liaison group operates electronically, using a listserv and a restricted web site, and has representatives from a number of organizations undertaking assessments in a variety of marine environments. The document reviewed by the Liaison Group will be presented to SBSTTA-9 as an information document.

DECISION VI/4 BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY OF DRY AND SUB-HUMID LANDS

46. In decision VI/4, the Conference of the Parties noted the progress reports on the implementation of the programme of work on the biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands prepared by the Executive Secretary and the report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on the Biodiversity of Dry and Sub-Humid Lands. The COP requested the Executive Secretary to (i) prepare, in collaboration with the secretariats of relevant conventions, proposals to develop a mechanism to coordinate activities in biodiversity, desertification/land degradation and climate change, and (ii) enhance synergies in the implementation of this programme of work and other thematic programmes of work of the Convention.

47. In response to these decisions, the Executive Secretary prepared documents UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/8/10 which assisted SBSTTA in formulating its recommendation VIII/4 to which some follow-up actions have been started.

(a) Proposals for the development of a coordination mechanism

48. The proposals made by the Executive Secretary for the coordination mechanism were further elaborated and adopted by SBSTTA-8 for consideration by COP-7.

(b) Review of the programme of work

(i) Assessment of status and trends (Activity 1 of the programme of work):

49. Following the recommendations of SBSTTA 8, the Global Land Degradation Assessment (LADA) of FAO and the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) have been invited to prepare proposals of how the needs of the dry and sub-humid lands programme of work could be integrated and addressed through their ongoing activities. Contributions were made to the MA board meeting and the Biodiversity review meeting held in early February 2003, making explicit suggestions of how such needs could be better addressed in the current structure of the MA. LADA in consultation with the Secretariat drafted TORs for a consultant to develop a strategy paper exploring the possibilities of addressing the assessments needs of biological diversity as requested. A consultant was identified by FAO to work on this assignment.

(ii) Indicators (Activity 3 of the programme of work):

50. The AHTEG on Indicators held in February, addressed aspects relevant to dry and sub-humid lands, especially through the explicit invitation of representatives of relevant countries. Working contacts have been established with the Land Use Cover Change (LUCC) of the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP), and the Secretariat has been invited to actively participate in the third IGBP congress in Banff, Canada, 19-24 June 2003, to address overlaps and needs in the work on dry and sub-humid lands.

(iii) Knowledge on processes that affect biodiversity (Activity 4 of the programme of work):

51. A meeting was held with the Executive Secretary of DIVERSITAS in the margins of SBSTTA-8. DIVERSITAS, in their review meeting on their core project area III on "Developing the science of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity" in March 2003, agreed to consider in this project, biological diversity in dry and sub-humid lands, using the refined work programme discussed during SBSTTA 8 as guidance.

(iv) Measures for conservation and sustainable use - promotion of responsible resource management - support for sustainable livelihoods (Activities 7 to 9 of the programme of work):

52. The UNDP Drylands Center made proposals for collaboration with the Secretariat especially in facilitating the implementation of work programme activities as included in SBSTTA recommendation VIII/4. Development of a joint work plan has been initiated. Similar discussions are ongoing with GTZ/UNCCD Network. The Secretariat has been invited to participate in discussions between March 30 and April 4 2003, in Bonn, Germany, to identify areas of possible joint activities.

(c) Joint work programme with the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification:

53. The joint programme of work (JPW) has been finalized and approved by the Executive Secretaries of the UNCCD and the CBD. The JWP was submitted to SBSTTA-8 as an information document (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/8/INF/10). A short briefing meeting on JWP is being scheduled for 4 April 2003 in Bonn, between the CBD Programme Officer on dry and sub-humid land and UNCCD staff.

(d) Dissemination of relevant information

54. A paper on land degradation/desertification is under preparation for possible publication in "Review of European Community and International Law".

56. Contributions were made to the development of an educational CD-Rom on land degradation assessment and management, which is currently being developed by LADA/FAO. The Secretariat is participating in an e-discussion on "Rehabilitation of degraded lands in Sub-Saharan Africa" facilitated by the European Tropical Forest Research Network (ETFRN), VITRI (Univ. of Helsinki), and the International Union of Forest Research Organisations' (IUFRO) Special Programme for Developing Countries (SPDC).

(e) Indicators and Assessments (VI/7)

57. LADA/FAO and the MA have been invited to prepare proposals on how the needs of the dry and sub-humid lands programme of work could be integrated and addressed through their ongoing activities. Following SBSTTA-8 invitation letters were sent to both LADA/FAO and the MA (see also Activities 1 and 3 above). Dry and sub-humid lands experts were part of the AHTEG on indicators held in February 2003.

(f) Cooperation

58. In the margins of SBSTTA-8, discussions took place to further explore areas for future collaboration with CMS and its related agreements in particular the Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA) and the Agreement on the Conservation of Bats in Europe (EUROBATS).

DECISION VI/5 AGRICULTURAL BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

59. In decision VI/5, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to:

- (i) Undertake, in collaboration with other institutions, the necessary steps for the full implementation of the programme of work as contained in table 1 of the annex to the decision and to report, as presented in table 2:
 - A preliminary assessment of status and trends of agricultural biodiversity, in collaboration with FAO and the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, to be submitted for consideration by SBSTTA prior to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties; and
 - An analysis of lessons learned from case-studies, in collaboration with FAO, WTO, Parties and other relevant organizations, to be submitted for consideration by SBSTTA prior to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, including on the following issues: cost-effective practices and technologies, partnerships and forums, and mainstreaming.
- (ii) Prepare a draft format for the thematic report on agrobiodiversity and report to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
- (iii) Study further the impacts of trade liberalization on agrobiodiversity in collaboration with UNEP, FAO, WTO and other relevant organizations.

60. In the same decision, the COP, *inter alia*:

- (iv) Established an ad hoc technical expert group on the potential impacts of genetic use restriction technologies (GURTs) on smallholder farmers, indigenous and local communities and Farmer's Rights, and requested the ad hoc technical expert group to report to the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8(j) and related provisions and to SBSTTA prior to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
- (v) Adopted and decided to periodically review, as appropriate, the plan of action for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Pollinators.

(a) Programme of work and reporting schedule

61. In January 2003, the Executive Secretary discussed plans with the main partner institutions, namely FAO, IPGRI, OECD, UNEP/WCMC and MA, to define the ways for the full implementation of the programme of work on agricultural biological diversity, with particular attention to the outputs expected prior to the ninth meeting of SBSTTA and the seventh meeting of the COP.

62. FAO proposed organizing a meeting, in collaboration with the Secretariat, with the main partner institutions, to (i) review the schedule and define the collaborative process and activities to achieve the tasks presented in tables 1 and 2 of annex 1 to decision VI/5 (including modalities, milestones, indicators, emerging pilot studies and case-studies); and (ii) agree on a format for the comprehensive assessment of

agrobiodiversity requested by COP 6. The meeting would be held in FAO headquarters in Rome, Italy, tentatively in the second trimester of year 2003. The discussions would include consideration of progress in the implementation of the International Pollinator Initiative and the International Soil Biodiversity Initiative.

(b) Draft format for the thematic report

63. A preliminary draft was submitted to the SBSTTA Bureau and SBSTTA focal points for their comments, to which two Parties have so far responded. The format was further discussed at a side-event of the eighth meeting of SBSTTA. The format is being finalized for consideration by the seventh meeting of the COP.

(c) Further study on the impacts of trade liberalization on agrobiodiversity

64. The Secretariat has prepared a draft of the first part of the study entitled ‘Domestic support measures and their incentive effects for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity’ and sent it out for peer review to all CBD National Focal Points, the International Center for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD), the Institute for European Environmental Policy (IEEP), IUCN – The World Conservation Union, the NAFTA Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). Comments are expected until 1 May 2003.

(d) Ad hoc technical expert group on genetic use restriction technologies

65. The Ad hoc technical expert group on genetic use restriction technologies (GURTs) met at the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Montreal, from 19 to 21 February 2003. UPOV and FAO presented a progress report on the implementation of paragraphs 23 and 24 of COP 6 decision VI/5. Indigenous and local communities and the private sector were represented in the meeting. The Group is working on the report to be finalized for consideration by the ninth meeting of SBSTTA.

(e) International Initiative on Pollinators

66. A draft format for a thematic report on agricultural biodiversity has been prepared by the Executive Secretary following consultations with the focal points of SBSTTA, as recommended by the Bureau of SBSTTA. In addition, SBSTTA-8 and a side event organized at the margin of SBSTTA-8, provided some comments on the draft format. The Secretariat will revise the draft format on the basis of these comments and include it as a part of the format for third national reports.

DECISION VI/6 THE INTERNATIONAL TREATY ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

67. In decision VI/6 on the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to develop cooperation with the Secretariat of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture acting as the Interim Committee for the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

68. In response to this decision, the Executive Secretary is discussing with the Secretariat of the Treaty the terms of a Memorandum of Cooperation.

DECISION VI/7: IDENTIFICATION, MONITORING, INDICATORS AND ASSESSMENT

(a) Further development of guidelines for incorporating biodiversity-related issues into environmental impact assessment legislation or processes and in strategic impact assessment

69. The COP in decision VI/7A, requested the Executive Secretary to compile and disseminate experiences on environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment using biodiversity criteria, and prepare proposals for further development and refinement of the guidelines and to synthesize and disseminate the experiences made in applying the guidelines.

70. Pursuant to this decision the Executive Secretary is making arrangements to convene, in collaboration with the Ramsar Bureau, a session on the integration of biodiversity-related issues into environmental impact assessment procedures and legislation at the Annual Conference of the International Association for Impact Assessment, which will be held from 17-20 June 2003 in Marrakech. An abstract has been prepared for the conference programme.

71. During SBSTTA-8, the Secretariat organized, in preparation for the Annual Conference of the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA'03), a meeting with representatives of the Ramsar Bureau and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds to coordinate the session on biodiversity at IAIA'03.

72. The Secretariat held discussions with FAO regarding possible collaboration on the analysis of experiences from various forms of forest management for the further development of strategic impact assessments.

73. Under the provisions of the Letter of Intent with the Netherlands, the Secretariat initiated collaboration with the Netherlands Commission for Environmental Impact Assessment (MER Commission) to compile case studies and develop best practices derived from those case studies.

(b) Designing national-level monitoring programmes and indicators

74. In decision VI/7 B, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to *inter alia* invite Parties to respond to a questionnaire on indicators and convene a technical expert meeting to further develop the three annexes on ongoing work on indicators on the following issues:

- Principles for developing national-level monitoring and indicators;
- A set of standard questions for developing national-level indicators; and
- A list of available and potential indicators based on a conceptual framework that has qualitative and quantitative approach.

75. In the same decision, the Executive Secretary was requested to report to SBSTTA-9 on the outcome of the expert meeting.

(i) Questionnaire on indicators

76. The Executive Secretary prepared a synthesized analysis of the 52 responses received since May 2001. The analysis was included in the background document prepared for the expert meeting on biodiversity indicators.

(ii) Expert meeting on indicators

77. The Executive Secretary convened an expert meeting on indicators of biological diversity including indicators for rapid assessment of inland water ecosystems, which was held from 10-12 February 2003 in Montreal. The meeting made progress on the three annexes and established an intersessional working group to complete the document by 10 June 2003.

(iii) Collaboration with other organizations

78. The Secretariat participated in the Third TESEO (Treaty Enforcement Services using Earth Observation) Users Brainstorming Event convened by the European Space Research Institute in Frascati, Italy, on 23 January 2003. The Secretariat gave a presentation on areas in which Parties to the Convention would particularly benefit from the use of satellite information and discussed common needs with representatives of other multilateral environmental agreements.

79. Under the provisions of the Letter of Intent with the Netherlands, the Secretariat initiated collaboration with the Netherlands National Institute of Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) on the development of indicators for progress in the implementation of the Strategic Plan of the CBD.

80. Discussions have been initiated with the Smithsonian Institute's Monitoring and Assessment of Biodiversity Program (SI-MAB) and the International long-term ecological research programme (ILTER) on the promotion of permanent observation plots for large-scale ecological studies.

(c) Scientific Assessments

81. In decision VI/7 C, the Conference of the Parties requested (i) the Executive Secretary to *inter alia* facilitate development and implementation of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA), and (ii) SBSTTA to review the findings of the MA.

82. In response to this decision the Secretariat participated in the Board Meeting of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment held in Geneva from 10 to 12 February 2003 and the two-day special working group meeting (13 to 14 February 2003) entitled "Addressing biodiversity within the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment - a cross-cutting approach". The Secretariat also participated in a side event organized by the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment at SBSTTA-8.

DECISION VI/8 GLOBAL TAXONOMY INITIATIVE

83. The COP requested the Executive Secretary to:

- (i) Initiate regional meetings of scientists, managers and policy makers to prioritize the most urgent global taxonomic needs;
- (ii) Coordinate activities of the GTI with existing initiatives such as the GBIF and the CHM;
- (iii) Complete the guide to the Global Taxonomy Initiative;

84. The COP also decided to make permanent the post of Global Taxonomy Initiative Programme Officer.

(a) Regional and global meetings.

85. A workshop was organised in partnership with UNESCO-MAB and BioNET-INTERNATIONAL, at UNESCO headquarters in Paris during February. This built on the outputs of the Global workshop held in Pretoria, in conjunction with the same two partners, in July 2002. Twenty-eight participants representing 26 organizations and initiatives participated in the Paris workshop. The outcome was a plan of action, with detailed activities and commitments from a number of organisations and various initiatives, to implement the GTI programme of work. A report on progress in implementation of the GTI programme of work, and specifically on the outcome of workshops held to meet the calls of the Conference of the Parties including the Paris workshop will soon be posted on the CBD website.

(b) Coordinate with GBIF and CHM

86. GBIF has expressed a commitment, within its mandate, to act in the implementation of the GTI programme of work. Details of this commitment and partnership will be included in the report of the Paris workshop.

(c) Parties to set up taxonomic networks

87. NAFRINET, a technical cooperation network for taxonomic capacity building affiliated to BioNET-INTERNATIONAL, was set up with formal Government endorsement from Egypt, Morocco and Algeria in February 2003. Following the UNDP rules for Technical Cooperation Networks, the network is now formally operational and will focus on implementing the Global Taxonomy Initiative by building taxonomy to meet priority user-needs in the region. Further endorsements are anticipated from the Governments of Libya, Mauritania and Tunisia.

DECISION VI/9 GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR PLANT CONSERVATION

88. In decision VI/9, the Conference of the Parties requested SBSTTA to:

- (i) Take the targets into consideration in its periodic reviews of the thematic and cross-cutting programmes of work;
- (ii) Develop ways and means of promoting implementation of the Strategy, and of monitoring and assessing progress; and to report to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

89. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to:

- (iii) Implement the further work required to develop and implement the Strategy giving due consideration to the need to:
 - Clarify the scope of activities, develop sub-targets or milestones for each target and, develop baseline data and indicators to monitor progress towards achieving the targets;
 - Develop regional components of the Strategy;
 - Establish, if appropriate, a flexible coordination mechanism.

(a) Targets

90. The targets were considered during SBSTTA-8 and the MYPOW meeting, particularly in the context of the Strategic Plan and the Plan of Implementation of the WSSD.

(b) Promotion of the implementation of the Strategy

91. Based on the recommendations made by the Liaison Group on the Strategy at its meeting in Cartagena, Colombia (11-12 October 2002), the Secretariat is considering organizing, in collaboration with a number of relevant organizations, a series of regional/stakeholder meetings to facilitate and support the holding of stakeholder consultations which would review the development of sub-targets, milestones and indicators for each of the 16 targets included in the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, as well as elaborate baseline data available and necessary for monitoring. These meetings should be completed prior to a Global Liaison Group meeting to be held in time for the presentation of the results to the ninth meeting of SBSTTA.

DECISION VI/12 ECOSYSTEM APPROACH

92. In decision VI/12, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to:
- (i) Continue the compilation and dissemination of case studies and lessons learned and report to SBSTTA prior to the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
 - (ii) Carry out the activity specified above in collaboration with relevant organization and bodies, in particular the United Nations Forum on Forests, to convene a meeting of experts to compare the ecosystem approach with sustainable forest management and develop proposals for their integration; and
 - (iii) Develop proposals for the refinement of the principles and operational guidance.
- (a) Collaboration with relevant organizations
93. The Secretariat is considering co-sponsoring the publication of the Pathfinder Report based on the workshops organized by the IUCN Commission on Ecosystem Management during year 2000.
- (b) Case-studies
94. The Secretariat, in collaboration with relevant organizations, is in the process of finalising the compilation of case-studies and lessons learned, as well as the proposals for the refinement of the principles and operational guidance. These documents will serve as critical inputs for the expert meeting on the Ecosystem Approach that is being planned for July 2003.

DECISION VI/20 COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, INITIATIVES AND CONVENTIONS

95. The Conference of the Parties in decision VI/20 requested SBSTTA and the Executive Secretary to:
- (i) Continue to cooperate with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), including its Kyoto Protocol, and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) on relevant issues such as dry and sub-humid lands, agricultural biological diversity, forest biological diversity, marine and coastal biological diversity, especially on coral reefs, and incentive measures and impacts of measures envisaged under the Kyoto Protocol with a view to maximizing synergies between these processes;
 - (ii) Recognize the need to take immediate actions under the Convention on Biological Diversity and UNFCCC to reduce and mitigate the impacts of climate change on the biodiversity of coral reefs; and,
 - (iii) Carry out further work with the UNFCCC Subsidiary Body on Scientific and Technical Advice (SBSTA), especially on issues relating to the national level.
- (a) Cooperation with the UNFCCC
96. A representative of the UNFCCC Secretariat made a statement in the first plenary session of SBSTTA-8, highlighting the progress made in collaborative work between the UNFCCC and CBD. Individual meetings with programme officers, on further potential to establish closer working linkages were

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also held. Discussions on the future of the Liaison Group of the UNFCCC, UNCCD and CBD also took place, in preparation for the meeting of the Executive Secretaries of the three conventions.

97. In March, the Executive Secretary of the UNFCCC informed the Executive Secretary of the CBD about her plans for the next meeting of the Liaison Group and the workshop on synergy among the Rio conventions at the national level.

(b) Cooperation with IPCC and other relevant organisations on climate change matters

98. The Secretariat organized and serviced a meeting of the core team members of the ad hoc technical expert group (AHTEG) on biodiversity and climate change, from 22 to 25 January, 2003. The purpose of the meeting was to develop a revised version of the draft report on *inter-linkages between biological diversity and climate change and integration of biodiversity into the UNFCCC and its Kyoto Protocol*. This revised version is being currently reviewed by Parties to the CBD and the UNFCCC, and by experts and relevant institutions, following the issuance of a notification by the Executive Secretary. The AHTEG will produce the final report version during a meeting to be held in Helsinki, Finland, in May. An oral presentation regarding the main findings of the AHTEG draft report was made at a side event on 14 March 2003 during SBSTTA-8.

(c) Cooperation with the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

99. A meeting between the Secretariats and Members of the IPPC and the CBD took place from 24-25 February 2003, at the SCBD in Montreal, Canada (see progress report on decision VI/23 below for additional information)

(d) Cooperation with the "Institut de l'énergie et de l'environnement de la Francophonie (IEPF)".

100. IEPF organized a workshop entitled "Atelier de concertation des Point Focaux sur les synergies entre les Conventions issues de Rio", in Rabat, Morocco, from 27 to 31 January 2003. The purpose of the workshop was to: (i) exchange views on experiences and about issues arising in the implementation of the 3 Rio conventions at the national level; (ii) identify ways and means of establishing and strengthening synergies among actors implementing the 3 Rio conventions at the national, regional and local levels; and (iii) propose priorities in ways for enhancing synergies. The secretariats of all the 3 conventions participated. Lessons learnt and recommendations to national focal points of the 3 conventions were presented in the report of the workshop.

101. The Secretariat held a two-day consultation, in Montreal, with the Secretariat of the IPPC to discuss future cooperation between the two Conventions.

DECISION VI/22 FOREST BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

102. In decision VI/22, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to:

- (i) Initiate, in collaboration with the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) Secretariat and the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), actions on the following areas identified as important first steps towards the implementation of the expanded work programme: ecosystem approach, collaboration with other bodies, cross-sectoral integration, protected areas, forest law enforcement and related trade, sustainable use, benefit sharing and servicing capacity building;

- (ii) Develop, in consultation with other partners, a format to report on the implementation of the expanded programme of work;
- (iii) Develop a format for voluntary thematic national reports;

103. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties also:

- (iv) Further invited the ad hoc technical expert group on biological diversity and climate change to consider issues related to inter-linkages between biological diversity and climate change;
- (v) Urged the CPF to consider the Secretariat of the CBD to be the focal point for forest biological diversity;

(a) Implementation of the expanded work programme:

104. The Secretariat participated in the second meeting of the CPF Task Force on Streamlining Forest-related reporting, during February 2003. Members of the Task Force carried out a comparative analysis of their reporting formats, and highlighted the current opportunities and constraints facing the harmonization and streamlining process regarding forest-related reporting. Outputs of this meeting will be reported at the third UNFF session during May 2003. The Task Force also launched, during the CPF meeting on March 9th, a web-based “portal” that provides easy access to national reports submitted to the CPF Task Force member organizations, the corresponding reporting formats, key information on related efforts regarding reporting, as well as information on the work of the Task Force.

105. At its meeting held in Rome, on 9 March 2003, the members of the CPF welcomed the SCBD specific role as the focal point within the CPF on forest biodiversity, with defined terms of reference. The SCBD participated in the meeting via teleconference.

106. The SCBD completed the first version of a web-based portal, through the clearing-house mechanism, aimed at facilitating the implementation of the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity.

(b) Collaboration with UNFF and other bodies

107. On 10 January 2003, a meeting was held in Montreal between the Head of the United Nations Forum on Forests and the Executive Secretary of the CBD. The meeting concentrated on identifying ways and means of increasing coordination between the CBD and UNFF Secretariats, as well as ways and means for the SCBD to support the work of the UNFF Secretariat.

108. At the request of UNFF, the SCBD provided substantial inputs into documents related to (1) economic aspects of forests; (2) forest health and productivity; and (3) maintaining forest cover to meet present and future needs, all of which will be the main focus of the third UNFF session during May 2003.

(c) Report formats

109. Comments from national focal points were received regarding the format of the thematic report on forest biological diversity. Additional inputs and comments were provided during a side event that took place at SBSTTA-8 on 11 March, 2003. A notification followed by a questionnaire is expected to be sent shortly.

110. During the second meeting of the CPF Task Force on Streamlining Forest-related reporting, specific recommendations were made regarding the CBD national report format on forest biological diversity in order to facilitate data collection by Parties.

111. The draft format for a voluntary report on implementation of the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity has been prepared by the Executive Secretary. Consultations have been undertaken with all the national focal points and the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice. The draft format was presented to SBSTTA-8 for further comments. In addition, a side event was organized at the margin of SBSTTA-8 for more comments. The Secretariat will revise the format based on the comments received both in writing and from SBSTTA-8 and the side event. The format will be distributed to the Parties after its approval by the Bureau of the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

112. A section has been included in the format for third national reports for soliciting information to assess the implementation of related objectives and activities in the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity.

113. Meanwhile, the Secretariat is coordinating with UNFF, CFP, FAO, UNFCCC and other relevant institutions in an effort to streamline and harmonize forest-related reporting.

DECISION VI/23 ALIEN SPECIES THAT THREATEN ECOSYSTEMS, HABITATS OR SPECIES

114. In decision VI/23, the COP adopted the guiding principles for the prevention, introduction and mitigation of impacts of invasive alien species and requested the Executive Secretary to:

- (i) Carry out specific activities with GISP and other relevant organizations including developing a joint programme of work among the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP), the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar), the International Maritime Organization, the International Plant Protection Convention and other relevant bodies;
 - (ii) Support the development and dissemination on technical tools and related information;
 - (iii) Integrate invasive alien species considerations into thematic work programmes of the Convention and when reporting on the thematic work programmes to report specifically on how the threats and impacts of invasive alien species will be addressed;
 - (iv) Explore means to facilitate capacity enhancement for eradication work on alien species on continents and islands; and
 - (v) Identify mechanism(s) for providing Parties with access to financial support for rapidly responding to new incursions by alien species in collaboration with GISP, the Global Environment Facility (GEF), FAO and the OECD.
- (a) Collaboration with the Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP), and relevant organisations

115. GISP work on impacts of invasive alien species on inland waters and island biodiversity is currently progressing at a slow pace due to ongoing reorganisation of the programme;

116. The Ramsar Bureau informed the SCBD about the outcome of its COP meeting in particular on the issue of invasive alien species. Both Secretariats are exploring ways to enhance synergies in future work on invasive alien species

117. Invasive alien species issues were integrated in the documents prepared for the consideration of mountain, inland water and marine and coastal biodiversity by SBSTTA-8. The issue is also considered in the discussion on capacity building for the eradication of invasive alien species.

(b) Collaboration with International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC)

118. The IPPC Secretariat held a meeting with the SCBD to explore areas for possible joint activities in order to promote synergies between IPPC and the CBD. The draft MOU was discussed and an agreed text was forwarded to FAO for approval and signature. The meeting considered *inter alia* matters arising from COP-6 decision VI/23; CBD participation in the development by IPPC of a consultation on the role of the IPPC for managing risks of invasive alien species; matters relating to LMOs and biosecurity; capacity building and exchange of information including through the CHM and the biosafety clearing house.

DECISION VI/29 ADMINISTRATION OF THE CONVENTION AND THE BUDGET FOR THE PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE BIENNIUM 2003-2004

119. In decision VI/29, the COP welcomed the generous offer of the Botanic Gardens Conservation International to second a staff member to the Secretariat to promote the implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and requested the Executive Secretary to enter arrangements to this end.

120. Arrangements are being made with the Botanic Gardens Conservation International regarding modalities for the two-year secondment of a programme officer for the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation.

DECISION VI/30 PREPARATIONS FOR THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

121. In decision VI/30, the Conference of the Parties welcomed the proposals put forward by the Executive Secretary in his note on preparations for the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties and requested that preparation for the priority themes of the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties continue as outlined in that document.

122. With regard to mountain biodiversity, SBSTTA-8 in its recommendation VIII/1, (i) welcomed the documents on status and trends of mountain biological diversity and measures taken for the conservation and sustainable use of mountain biological diversity, (ii) adopted the elements and goals of the programme of work, and (iii) requested the Executive Secretary to form an *ad hoc* technical expert group on mountain biological diversity. The group's overall goal is to revise existing—and propose new—activities under each of the adopted elements and goals of the programme of work on mountain biological diversity (annex I to recommendation VIII/1) to be considered at SBSTTA-9.

123. In addition, the Executive Secretary has been invited to participate in the organization of the Trondheim workshop on technology transfer and capacity building, scheduled from 23 to 27 June 2003 in Norway. The Executive Secretary is also having discussions with two countries in Europe regarding the possibility of their hosting the AHTEG meetings on protected areas and mountain biodiversity.

SOCIAL ECONOMIC AND LEGAL MATTERS

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124. During the last quarter, work of the SEL unit focused mainly on preparations for, and servicing of, the eighth meeting of the SBSTTA and the Inter-sessional meeting on the Multi-year Programme of Work of the Conference of the Parties up to 2010, as well as ongoing preparations for the workshops on liability and redress, and incentive measures, to be held later in the second quarter of 2003. These activities are examined below in some detail.

DECISION VI/10 ARTICLE 8(J) AND RELATED PROVISIONS

125. In response to decision VI/10 relating to the implementation of Article 8(j) and related provisions, work is in progress to prepare relevant reports and documents for the third meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Intersessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and related provisions.

126. The Secretariat, with the support of the Bolivian Government and financial support of the Spanish Government, convened a meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Traditional Knowledge and the Clearing-house Mechanism, in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, 24-26 February 2003.

127. The following items were discussed:

- a. Roles and Responsibility of the Thematic Focal Point on Article 8(j):
 - Characteristics
 - Functions
 - Development
- b. Development and establishment of communication mechanisms;
 - Identification of existing communication networks and potential relationship with emerging global networks
 - Establishment of focal points and relationship of focal points with networks
 - Definition of regions for communication networks.
- c. Technical discussion on the development of communication networks;
 - Structure
 - Physical
 - Human

128. The following points below were identified by the experts to cover both (b) and (c) above

- Electronic mechanism at international, national levels
- Electronic non-internet mechanism at national, international, regional and local levels;
- Traditional mechanisms principally at local levels however these could also be regional.
- Existing Networks
- Development of the Network

129. The report from this meeting is now on the CBD website.

130. The Secretariat contracted a consultant team of 8 experts to carry out work on the composite report on the Status and Trends Regarding the Knowledge, Innovations and Practices of Indigenous and Local Communities Embodying Traditional Lifestyles Relevant to the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity. Work is now in progress on the composite report. The team of consultants will focus their study on the following regions Africa, Asia, Pacific, Central America, South America, North America and Europe.

DECISION VI/11 LIABILITY AND REDRESS

131. A notification was sent to Parties and Governments on 13 January 2003 regarding nominations for the meeting of the Group of Legal and Technical Experts on Liability and Redress in the context of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

132. The nominations are currently under review by the Executive Secretary and selection will be undertaken by 15 April 2003.

133. Preparation of documents for the meeting of the Group of Legal and Technical Experts is at an advanced stage.

DECISION VI/13 SUSTAINABLE USE AS A CROSS-CUTTING ISSUE

134. The Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat continued preparatory work for the Fourth Workshop on the Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity, which will be held in Ethiopia from 6 to 8 May 2003 with the financial support of the Governments of Norway and of The Netherlands. Contacts were made with Ethiopian authorities to discuss logistical arrangements for the meeting and a Memorandum of Understanding between the CBD and the Ethiopian Environmental Protection Authority was signed. Information for participants was made available to participants on the CBD the website.

135. The Secretariat is also finalizing documents for the workshop. The agenda and provisional agenda of the meeting were posted on the CBD website, and a synthesis report of the previous three workshops is being drafted, which will serve as the main background document for the meeting. The document will shortly be available for comments to selected participants through an electronic forum organized by the Secretariat. A first draft of the report on case studies on best practices and lessons learned from the sustainable use of biological diversity under the thematic areas of the Convention is being completed and will be submitted to the fourth workshop as an information document.

136. The Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat is also continuing work on the report pertaining to the "Management of forest biodiversity, sustainable use to derive products and services and benefit sharing". The document contains a compilation of responses to the questionnaire issued by the Secretariat on this issue. Eleven submissions have been received to date.

DECISION VI/14 BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND TOURISM

137. The revised version of the CDB international guidelines on sustainable tourism in vulnerable ecosystems prepared by the Secretariat, taking into account the results of two rounds of electronic consultations (document UNEP/BD/SBSTTA/8/11) was submitted to SBSTTA-8 for its consideration. A synopsis of case studies was also submitted to SBSTTA-8 as an information document.

138. With few amendments, SBSTTA-8 endorsed the revised text of the guidelines and forwarded a series of recommendations to the Conference of the Parties, proposing the adoption of the guidelines and advising on future work to be undertaken on the issue of biological diversity and tourism.

DECISION VI/15 INCENTIVE MEASURES

139. The Secretariat prepared a study entitled “The Impact of Trade Liberalization on Agricultural Biological Diversity: Domestic Support Measures and Their Incentive Effects for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity”. The document was open for peer review by the Scientific Community.

140. Further work was undertaken to prepare the workshop on incentive measures, which will be held from 3 to 5 June 2003 in Montreal. The Secretariat finalized the background documentation for this workshop. Participants in the workshop will be selected among the many nominations received from Parties and international organizations.

141. The Secretariat also participated in the Third Meeting of the UNEP Working Group on Economic Instruments for Environmental Policy and the Meeting on Integrated Assessment of Trade Liberalization in the Agricultural Sector, held in Geneva, Switzerland. The meetings discussed *inter alia*, draft documents pertaining to the role of economic instruments in the context of biodiversity related multilateral environmental agreements and to the integrated assessment of trade-related policies on agriculture. The Secretariat provided input for the review of these documents, which are of importance for the further implementation of the CBD’s programme of work on incentive measures.

DECISION VI/21 ANNEX TO THE HAGUE DECLARATION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

142. The Executive Secretary reviewed and analyzed the results of WSSD and prepared documentation for consideration by the Open-ended Inter-sessional Meeting on the Multi-year Programme of Work. The meeting reviewed WSSD results and made recommendations to the Conference of the Parties on how best to follow up on the Plan of Implementation and the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development within the framework of the Convention.

143. The report of the Inter-sessional meeting is now available on the Secretariat website.

DECISION VI/24 ACCESS TO GENETIC RESOURCES

144. The Plan of Implementation of the WSSD calls for action “to negotiate within the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity, bearing in mind the Bonn Guidelines, an international regime to promote and safeguard the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources.” In light of these developments and further to consultation with the COP-6 Bureau, it was decided to include the issue of an international regime on access and benefit-sharing as a distinct agenda item for the Inter-sessional meeting on the Multi-Year Programme of Work of the Convention up to 2010, held from 17 to 20 March 2003.

145. In preparation for this meeting, a note was prepared by the Executive Secretary entitled “Proposals for an international regime on access and benefit-sharing” (UNEP/CBD/MYPOW/6).

146. Over 450 representatives from Government, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations, academia and the private sector participated in the meeting. With respect to the negotiation of an international regime on access and benefit-sharing, recommendations were adopted on how to address this issue under the framework of the Convention, for consideration by the second meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing and the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

147. In order to further enhance information-sharing mechanisms related to access and benefit-sharing under the Clearing House Mechanism, the Secretariat has developed draft structures for databases related to access and benefit-sharing. One of the databases will include information on existing capacity-building projects related to access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing and the other will provide information on existing measures adopted by countries at the national or regional level to address access and benefit-sharing.

148. During the first quarter of 2003, the Secretariat has also participated in two meetings related to access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing. The first was organized by the Environmental Law Institute, based in Washington, and was held in Nairobi, on 23-24 January 2003. A two day peer review meeting was organized to review case studies carried out in twelve African countries by national consultants, in order to assess developments related to access and benefit-sharing in these countries. These case studies will provide input to a publication on access and benefit-sharing in Africa which should be published during the Summer of 2003. The Secretariat also participated in a small meeting organized in Montreal by the Center for International Sustainable Development Law, on 14 March 2003. This meeting was an opportunity to raise awareness on access and benefit-sharing issues among the Montreal academic and legal community.

DECISION VI/28 MULTI-YEAR PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES UP TO 2010

149. The Conference of the Parties decided to hold an open-ended inter-sessional meeting to consider the multi-year programme of work for the Conference of the Parties up to 2010. In decision VI/21 (“Annex to The Hague Ministerial Declaration of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity”), the Conference of the Parties requested the President of the Conference of the Parties, in close cooperation with the Bureau and the Executive Secretary, to analyse the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) as it relates to the Convention process and to report thereon to the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting. Given the Summit’s relevance to the programme of work of the Conference of the Parties, including a commitment to negotiate and international regime on access and benefit-sharing under the framework of the Convention, it was decided that this matter should also be addressed at the inter-sessional meeting.

150. The Conference of the Parties also decided that the inter-sessional meeting should be of two days’ duration, and should be held back-to-back with the eighth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice. However, in light of the heavy agenda of the meeting, the Bureau decided that the duration of the inter-sessional meeting should be extended to four days and authorized the Executive Secretary to take appropriate measures to organize the meeting on that basis.

151. The Multi-year programme of work of the Conference of the Parties up to 2010 was discussed at the Intersessional Meeting held in Montreal, on 17-20 March 2003. The recommendations of the MYPOW, contained in the report of the Meeting, will be submitted to the Conference of the Parties for its consideration.

BIOSAFETY

**DECISION VI/1 INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THE CARTAGENA
PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY**

The Biosafety Protocol

152. During the reporting period under consideration, the Secretariat activities continued to focus mainly on the implementation of recommendations of the third meeting of the ICCP related to the development of the pilot phase of the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH) and capacity-building for facilitating the implementation of the Protocol once it enters into force.

153. In this regard, a new version of the on-line pilot phase of the BCH (version 2.0) was launched in early February 2003, developed on the basis of the recommendations of the third meeting of the ICCP and the feedback received so far from Governments and organizations that have participated in the development of the pilot phase.

154. Highlights of the new developments include: i) improved searching facilities and faster download times for the website; ii) expansion of the capacity-building project and initiatives databases to include information on other available capacity-building opportunities, such as funding and training opportunities, as well as a facility for countries needing support to register their capacity-building needs and priorities; iii) further development of the tool kit and other help functions of the BCH to include more in-depth training materials, targeted to different audiences; iv) improvements to the BCH Management Centre, the web-based mechanism by which Governments and capacity-building organizations can register information; v) inclusion of a registry for unique identification of LMOs (which will be linked to the system being developed by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development-OECD); vi) access to, and interoperability with, more external databases, including the bibliographic database developed by the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB); vii) documents such as common formats for reporting information, provided in multiple formats (e.g. HTML, Word Documents, PDF files).

155. The pilot phase of the BCH is accessible on-line at <http://bchbiodiv.org> and Governments are encouraged to further participate in its development by registering and retrieving information, to send any feedback and suggestions for improvement to the Secretariat, and to submit views on the transition between the pilot phase and the fully operational and functional BCH as soon as possible.

156. While the recently launched new version of the pilot phase of the BCH relates mainly to the Central Portal developed by the Secretariat, the ongoing development and implementation of the pilot phase of the BCH also takes into account the establishment of national components of the BCH. In this regard, preparations are under way for the holding of a meeting of technical experts to provide advice to the Executive Secretary on the requirements for the establishment of national components of the BCH as well other technical aspects necessary for the effective functioning of the BCH (e.g. interoperability and controlled vocabulary) at the time of entry into force of the Protocol. This meeting is scheduled to take place from 10 to 11 April 2003 in Montreal.

157. On the basis of the recommendations that will be provided by the technical experts, the Secretariat will aim at working with other partners (e.g., the GEF and its implementing agencies; other bilateral and multilateral donors) to promote and facilitate the development of the capacities required for the establishment and functioning of national components of the BCH through appropriate capacity building

projects, especially in developing countries and countries with economies in transition that have already ratified the Protocol.

158. The Secretariat continued to make improvements to the ongoing development of the roster of experts on biosafety, registering new nominations of experts submitted by Governments, and facilitating the on-line update of information regarding experts by the experts themselves, or their national focal points. In this regard, it should also be noted that pursuant to decision VI/29, paragraph 27, establishing, on a pilot basis, a trust fund for voluntary contributions for the use by developing countries and countries with economies in transition, of experts from the roster of experts on biosafety, the “General Trust Fund (BF) to Support Developing Countries and Countries with Economies in Transition on Biosafety Issues” was officially set up by UNEP in January 2003 and pledges and contributions are now welcome.

159. A joint meeting of the Bureaux of the ICCP and COP 6 was held on 15 March 2003 at the office of the Secretariat. The main purpose of the joint meeting was to continue consideration of matters related to the preparation and organization, including scenarios and modalities, of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, in light of recent developments, further to the joint meeting held on 18 December 2002.

160. The minutes of the meetings have been made available on the website of the Secretariat and will also be sent to all national focal points. It was agreed that the two Bureaux will hold another joint meeting in November 2003 in Montreal in the margins of the SBSTTA-9 meeting to further consider matters related to the organization of the first meeting of the COP/MOP. In the meantime, the Bureau of the ICCP will hold a meeting sometime in September 2003 to review the status of preparation of the documentation for the first meeting of the COP/MOP.

161. During the reporting period, the Secretariat continued to participate actively in several workshops, conferences and training courses organized by a number of organizations involved in capacity-building for biosafety or biosafety-related activities (e.g. UNEP/GEF, FAO Biosecurity Initiative, the Swiss-funded project on development of guidelines for field testing of GMOs under the auspices of the International Organization for Biological Control), in order to promote synergies and complementarities in capacity building and promote a greater awareness on the Protocol.

162. With regard to the status of ratification of the Biosafety Protocol, it should be noted that, by end of March 2003, 45 Parties to the CBD had ratified or acceded to the Protocol.

IMPLEMENTATION AND OUTREACH

DECISION VI/16 ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES

163. In order to promote coordination, coherence and synergies in financing for biological diversity, the Secretariat posted “an Introduction to Funding Guidance of the Convention on Biological Diversity” on the website of the Convention. The Secretariat also continued to compile funding information for the “Guide to Sources of Financing for Biodiversity 2003” as well as the “Database of Biodiversity-related Projects in Developing Countries around the World”.

164. The Secretariat planned to attend the meeting of the ad hoc European Task Force on Banking, Business and Biodiversity organized by the European Centre for Nature Conservation in London on 1st April, but had to cancel the trip due to security reasons as a result of the war. However, the Secretariat informed the organizers of the progress made in the implementation in decision VI/16 concerning banking,

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business and biodiversity, including an assessment of relevant COP decisions, global and regional initiatives, national activities, as well as organization of a workshop.

165. The annotated provisional agenda for COP-7 with respect to financial resources was prepared and finalized. Four documents will be prepared for COP-7, including one on additional financial resources and another for the third review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism. An advance draft on budgetary implications in the financial field was also prepared.

166. The Secretariat continued to compile information concerning the impacts of external debts on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and a compilation of relevant information from the World Bank/International Monetary Fund, HIPC's Initiative as well as Paris Club was prepared.

167. The Interactive Info-Bulletin on Financing for Biological Diversity has been designed and is currently undergoing advanced stages of technical testing. The info-bulletin will contain the following sections: announcements offering funding opportunities; project proposals seeking financial support; funded biodiversity projects and related information; institutions/projects/individuals seeking/offering technical collaboration and/or expertise; business, banking and biodiversity; debt and biological diversity.

DECISION VI/17 FINANCIAL MECHANISM UNDER THE CONVENTION

168. Following the development of a searchable database on the GEF Council decisions by subjects of interest to the Convention, a compilation of relevant COP decisions and relevant GEF responses as well as other documents has also been made available as a Handbook of the Financial Mechanism under the Convention on Biological Diversity on the website of the Convention Secretariat.

169. The Secretariat received approximately fifty project proposals for its review, including the proposed work programme for approval by the twenty-first meeting of the GEF Council. These proposals provide a fair coverage of all the ecosystems (marine and coastal, inland waters, dry and sub-humid land, mountain, agricultural and forest ecosystems) recommended by the Conference of the Parties, with the largest number of projects on dry and sub-humid land biodiversity. The common feature of the proposed biodiversity projects is that all proposals contain capacity building components.

170. Additionally, most of these proposals request funding for identification and monitoring as well as for sustainable use and tourism. Sustainable use, invasive alien species, targeted research and awareness raising are also addressed in some of the proposals. Incentive measures and the involvement of local and indigenous communities feature in one or two proposed projects. Enabling activity proposals were focused on the clearing-house mechanism, access and benefit-sharing, incentive measures, monitoring and taxonomy, and implementation of national plans, national reports. A salient issue is that some project countries do not seem to have prepared their national biodiversity strategy and action plan, leading to questions with respect to the internationally known national priority status of their projects.

171. The CBD and GEF secretariats held intensive consultations with respect to the implementation of eligibility criteria versus the determination of eligibility criteria by the COP. Several higher middle-income countries which are not receiving funds from regular programmes of the World Bank or United Nations Environment Programme were subject to discussions within the GEF system. A brief concerning the eligibility criteria was prepared.

172. In response to a request from the GEF, the Secretariat has reviewed the GEF draft paper on climate change adaptation, which proposed a phased synergistic approach to organizing GEF support to climate change adaptation efforts, taking into account potential contributions of the existing GEF operational programmes and activities. The Secretariat compiled all the existing COP decisions with respect to climate change and relevant guidance given the financial mechanism, and requested further

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information concerning the benefits and costs of retrofitting the GEF project review process that would ultimately require redesigning approved biodiversity projects. The Secretariat also suggested that the GEF explore a synergistic approach to its support for enabling activities in order to make implementation activities and institutional arrangements mutually supportive for all the conventions.

173. In response to a request from the Secretariat of the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (2001) concerning “the lessons learned and experience gained from the use of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Global Environment Facility and the Convention on Biological Diversity as well as from the provision of guidance given to the Global Environment Facility (GEF) by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity”, the Secretariat provided an analysis of the experience in using the Memorandum of Understanding paragraph by paragraph, and also a compilation of COP decisions with respect to the provision of guidance.

174. In response to decision VI/27 concerning the retirement of decisions, a review of decisions III/5, III/6, III/7, III/8 and IV/11, IV/12, IV/13 was conducted in collaboration with the GEF Secretariat, and a draft section is proposed for inclusion in COP-7 documentation.

DECISION VI/18 SCIENTIFIC TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND THE CLEARING HOUSE MECHANISM

Clearing-house Mechanism

175. During the period under review the CHM participated in the following meetings and undertook the following activities:

- Memorandum of Cooperation was established with the UNEP-World Conservation Monitoring Center to undertake a review to assess the current and potential role of the Clearing-house Mechanism in promoting technical and scientific cooperation;
- The first draft of the Clearing-house Mechanism Toolkit was completed;
- The Africa Regional Meeting on the Clearing-house Mechanism was organized in Nairobi Kenya from 31 March –4 April 2003;
- The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Traditional Knowledge and Clearing-House Mechanism was held in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, from 24 to 26 February 2003;
- The development of the Pilot Phase of the Biosafety Clearing-House, is ongoing;

VI/19 COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS

176. By the end of March, 2003, the Secretariat had received 44 thematic reports on forest ecosystems, 56 reports on alien species and 14 reports on benefit-sharing.

177. The format for national reports adopted at COP-5 has been reviewed. In doing so, some questions on those decisions that have been retired in accordance with Decision VI/27 B have been removed. Some questions have been consolidated with those new questions developed on the basis of the decisions adopted at COP-6 considering the possibility of overlapping information to be submitted by the Parties.

178. The following activities have been undertaken during the period under review:

- Preparations for the International Day for Biological Diversity are underway.

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- Work has been on-going on the preparation of the next issue of the CBD News.
- A press release for SBSTTA-8 has been distributed and several interviews organized during the meeting, resulting in newspaper articles and radio features.

Library and documents management

179. A database is being set-up to control the inventory of publications. Additionally the database will be used to generate reports regarding types of publications requested by organization type, country, etc.; and provide better management of resources.

180. A global CBD document search mechanism is now available on the web site and on the intranet. Its objective is to provide the web user with a central search page for the following type of CBD information items:

- Documents of the meetings
- National Reports
- Case-Studies
- Library books (for intranet users)
- CBD articles (for intranet users)

181. The search mechanism offers the following criteria:

- Type of information
- Thematic Area
- Meeting
- Country
- Language
- Year
- Keywords

Publications

182. The following publications have been printed:

- The Bonn Guidelines;
- Handbook of the CBD;
- STTM brochure;
- COP6 booklet in Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish.

183. Preparations continue for the production of the following publications:

- SBSTTA book of abstracts – CBD Tech. Series no.8;
- COP6 booklet in Arabic;
- Biodiversity Day poster.

DECISION VI/25 NATIONAL REPORTING

184. The first draft of the format for third national reports has been prepared by the Executive Secretary and sent to all national focal points for comments, which are expected to return by April, 15, 2003. It should be noted that all the elements as required in paragraph 3 (d) of Decision 25 have been considered in formulating the format for third national reports. Particular attention was paid to the development of the questionnaire which could allow Parties to identify the progress in and obstacles to the implementation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans as well as the Strategic Plan of the Convention. The format will be further revised based on the comments received from NFPs and the

relevant recommendations emerging from the Intersessional Meeting on the Multi-year Programme of Work held in Montreal from 17 to 20 March, 2003.

185. By the end of March, 2003, the Secretariat had received 94 second national reports, 30 thematic reports on mountain ecosystems, 5 reports on protected areas and 2 reports on transfer of technology and technology cooperation. Meanwhile, in order to facilitate the submission of these reports, a notification has been sent to those Parties that have not submitted their second national reports and three thematic reports.

186. Pursuant to paragraph 4 of Decision VI/25, a synthesis was made of the information contained in thematic reports on mountain ecosystems and presented to the eighth meeting of the Subsidiary Body of Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/8/Inf. 5.

187. Preparations are under way for an analysis of the information contained in the second national reports, as required by paragraph 3 (a) of Decision VI/25. Meanwhile the Secretariat is compiling comments received from those Parties that have not submitted their second national reports regarding the reasons for late or non-submission.

188. The second edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook is being prepared in accordance with the Operation Plan recommended by the first meeting of the Advisory Group held in the middle of January 2003.

DECISION VI/26 THE STRATEGIC PLAN AND DECISION VI/27 OPERATIONS OF THE CONVENTION

189. In paragraph 4 of decision VI/26 and paragraph 13 of decision VI/27 A, the 6th meeting of the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to provide appropriate information to Parties at an inter-sessional meeting for consideration of the future evaluation of progress in the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan. In response to this request, the Executive Secretary invited Parties to submit proposals regarding modalities for the evaluation of progress in the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan. The Executive Secretary accordingly prepared a note in response to paragraph 4 of decision VI/26, which took into consideration suggestions and proposals, received from the Parties.

190. The note, which was presented for the consideration of the Open-ended Inter-sessional Meeting on the Multi-Year Programme of Work (MYPOW) up to 2010 provides a review of the scope of the challenges and proposes a number of options for the future evaluation of progress in the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan. On the basis of the review of the note, the Inter-Sessional meeting recommended that at each of its meetings up to 2010, the Conference of the Parties and possibly including its Ministerial Segment, should assess, as an explicit agenda item, the state of progress, including obstacles, in achieving the goals of the Strategic Plan and progress towards the achievement of the Convention's 2010 target and the Millennium Development Goals.

191. In February 2003, the Secretariat participated in a stakeholders meeting on the UNEP-Africa Environment Information Networking (AEIN), which took note of decision VI/27 adopted at the sixth meeting of the Conference of Parties with respect to regional and sub-regional mechanisms for implementation of the Convention. Decision VI/27(B) on the operations of the Convention acknowledges the important role that regional and sub-regional mechanisms and networks play in promoting the implementation of the Convention.

192. This decision was viewed by the AEIN stakeholders meeting, as providing the necessary authority and framework within which AEIN could work with, and support the work of the CBD in the region. On

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the basis of this, the meeting recommended that the AEIN initiative should initiate direct consultations and dialogue with the CBD Secretariat to explore the way forward. As a start, the regional CHM workshop scheduled to be held in Nairobi at the end of March would be an appropriate opportunity to begin such consultations on modalities for more practical collaboration between CBD and AEIN. The meeting further recommended that a similar approach be adopted with regard to the UNFCCC and UNCCD.

ANNEX I

STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREED ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

I Personnel Arrangements

1. During the reporting period, the Secretariat had 30 regularized Professional staff members and 21 regularized General Service staff members funded from the core budget. Additionally, 5 professional posts and 5 General Service posts were funded from other sources. For more information, please refer to the attached staff list and organigram (Appendix 1 and Annex II respectively).

2. The Secretariat initiated a new Fellowship Programme in 2002. Candidates from developing countries were eligible to apply to this six month Programme. The purpose of the SCBD Fellowship Programme is to give nationals from developing countries the opportunity to gain knowledge in the area of biodiversity in order to assist their organizations and communities in protecting and promoting the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. It is expected that these fellows will use this opportunity to broaden their professional knowledge and experience on issues they are working on in their countries by acquainting themselves with the issues facing biodiversity conservation and sustainable use worldwide and the functioning of the intergovernmental processes that deal with it.

3. The four selected Fellows (one from each region), are:

Ms. Roshni Kutty (India).

Ms. Kutty worked with the Implementation & Outreach and the Socio-Economic & Legal Affairs Divisions in the Secretariat on the thematic and cross-cutting issues related to Intellectual Property Rights, sui generis and local communities. Her research explores the alternatives available to local and indigenous communities for protecting their traditional knowledge as well as assessing the communication mechanisms between SCBD (more particularly the CHM) and local communities

Ms. Tatyana Stefanovska (Ukraine)

Ms. Stefanovska worked with the Scientific, Technical & Technological Matters Division in the Secretariat. She is currently developing a course outline on "Biodiversity and business" as part of a lecture course she will teach in the Ukraine on "Biodiversity conservation: a global perspective". She is also preparing an indicative outline for compiling case studies on Agricultural biodiversity using the ecosystem approach.

Mr. Joel Awasoh (Cameroon)

Mr. Awasoh worked with the Biosafety Division in the Secretariat. He is conducting research on the salient features of the development of a biosafety framework in Cameroon. He is also conducting further research into liability and redress for damage resulting from transboundary movement of living modified organisms, Art. 27 of the Protocol and on Risk Assessment, Art. 15 of the Protocol.

Mr. Fabian Pina Amargos: (Cuba)

Mr. Amargos worked with the Scientific, Technical and Technological Matters Division on the Marine and Coastal biodiversity programme of work, particularly on Marine and Coastal Protected areas. He is conducting specific research on the benefits of MCPAs for conservation and sustainable use of fish assemblages; on community involvement in MCPAs processes; on methods and guidelines on the rapid assessment of marine and coastal biological diversity and on the implementation of the CBD guidelines on sustainable tourism in vulnerable ecosystems.

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4. The fellowship Programme ended in March 2003.

II Contributions and Funds

5. During the first quarter of 2003, eight new pledges of additional voluntary funds in support of approved activities under the Convention (**BE Trust Fund**) were made. New pledges were received from Canada, Finland, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The Government of Canada pledged funds for the preparation of the Composite Report on Status and Trends of Traditional Knowledge, and for the travel of participants to the Traditional Knowledge/CHM Workshop, which took place in Bolivia in February 2003. The Government of Finland pledged funds for the AHTEG on Biological Diversity and Climate Change, scheduled to take place in Helsinki, during May 2003. The Government of the Netherlands signed a Letter of Intent committing funds for the CBD with the Secretariat, and also pledged funds for the Biosafety Clearing House. The Government of the United Kingdom pledged funds for the AHTEG on Biological Indicators, which took place in Montreal in February 2003, and the FAO pledged funds for secondment during 2003 of an FAO Programme Officer at the SCBD.

6. For 2003 a total of US\$773,125 has been pledged to the BE Trust Fund, of which US\$235,025 or 30.4% has been collected as at 31 March 2003. Additionally, \$147,843 was collected in 2003 for pledges made for 2002 and prior years. Full details of the pledges and contributions to the BE Trust Fund are reflected in Annex III.

7. With regard to the General Trust Fund for the Convention (**BY Trust Fund**), as at 31 March 2003, total unpaid pledges to the BY Trust Fund for 2002 and prior years amounted to US\$752,857. The total amount pledged for the BY Trust Fund in 2003 is US\$7,257,328. Of this amount, US\$3,509,047 or 48.3% has been received as at 31 March 2003. Additionally, US\$4,564 has been collected as additional contributions to the BY Trust Fund, and US\$167,056 has been collected for 2002 and prior years. Total unpaid pledges to the BY Trust Fund for 2003 amounts to US\$4,743,717. Total unpaid pledges for 2003 and prior years are therefore US\$5,496,574. Full details of the pledges and contributions to the BY Trust Fund are reflected in Annex V.

8. As at 31 March 2003 a total of US\$231,153 was pledged for 2003 as additional voluntary contributions to facilitate the Participation of Parties in the Convention process (**BZ Trust Fund**). This sum includes pledges from Germany (\$14,088), Japan (\$55,000), New Zealand (\$10,000), Spain (\$31,315), and the United Kingdom (\$120,750).

9. As at 31 March 2003, contributions to the BZ Trust Fund in 2003 amounted to US\$155,569 or 67.3% of the total pledged for 2003. A total of US\$174,370 remains outstanding for the BZ Trust Fund for 2003 and prior years. Full details of the pledges and contributions to the BZ Trust Fund are reflected in Annex IV.

10. A new trust fund entitled "General Trust Fund (BF) to support developing country Parties on Biosafety Issues" has been established by UNEP in response to COP Decision VI/29.27 establishing, on a pilot phase basis, a trust fund for voluntary contributions for the specific purpose of supporting developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition to pay for the use of the experts selected from the roster of experts on biosafety.

11. A notification announcing the new BF trust fund was issued by the Executive Secretary on 19 February 2003. As at 31 March 2003, no pledges had been made to the trust fund.

III Accounting and Reporting

Status of Expenditure

12. COP-6 approved a budget of US\$9,506,600 for the BY Trust Fund for 2003. As at 31 March 2003, a total of US\$2,848,047 has so far been spent or committed. This represents 30% of the approved amount. US\$307,752 has so far been spent/committed under the BE Trust Fund and US\$265,781 under the BZ Trust Fund.

Reimbursement for Services provided to the Secretariat

13. At present eight UNEP staff members, the Chief, Fund Management and Administration, the Administrative Officer, the Finance Officer, the Senior Finance Assistant, the Finance Assistant, the Personnel Assistant, the Conference Assistant and the Information Assistant are funded from the programme support funds (PSC).

Conference and Other Services

14. During the period January to March 2003, conference servicing assistance was provided to the CBD by UNON for the African Regional Meeting on the Clearing House Mechanism, Nairobi, Kenya, 31 March – 2 April 2003.

Appendix 1
STAFFING TABLE of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
1 January – 31 March 2003

Post #	Level	Title	PROFESSIONAL STAFF
1101	ASG	Executive Secretary	Mr. H. Zedan (Regularized)
1102	D1	Principal Officer (SEL)	Mr. O. Jalbert (Regularized)
1103	D1	Principal Officer (STTM)	Mr. K. Mulongoy (Regularized)
1104	P5	Senior Programme Officer (Biosafety)	Ms. C. Sendashonga (Regularized)
1105	D1	Principal Officer (I&O)	Mr. A. Nogueira (Regularized)
1106	P4	Chief, Fund & Admin. (RMCS)	Ms. M. Rattray-Huish– (Regularized) (Post funded by UNEP)
1107	P4	Financial Resources & Instruments. PO (I&O)	Mr. Y. Xiang (Regularized)
1108	P4	PO Legal Advice and Support (SEL)	Mr. D.Ogolla (Regularized)
1109	P4	Economist (SEL)	Mr. M. Lehmann (Regularized)
1110	P4	PO Conservation Ecology (STTM)	Mr. M. Guariguata (Regularized)
1111	P4	PO, Agricultural Biodiversity (STTM)	Ms. M. Gauthier –(Regularized) (Post funded by FAO)
1113	P4	PO, Clearing House Mechanism (I&O)	Mr. M. Silva (Regularized)
1114	P4	Special Assistant to the ES. (EDM)	Ms. M. Soliman (Regularized)
1115	P4	PO, Indigenous Knowledge (SEL)	Ms. H. Marrie (Regularized)
1116	P5	PO. Reports & Reviews (I&O)	Mr. K. Kakuyo (Regularized)
1117	P3	Documentation Officer (I&O)	Mr. Z. Bamba (Regularized)
1118	P3	Meetings Services Officer (RMCS)	Mr. A. Yesli (Regularized)
1119	P3	Information Officer (I&O)	Ms. M. Stricker (Regularized)
1120	P3	Internet & Elect. Communications (I&O)	Mr. O. De Munck (Regularized)
1121	P4	PO, Jakarta Mandate (STTM)	Ms. M. Vierros (Regularized)
1122	P3	PO, Website Officer (I&O)	Vacant (Post advertised)
1124	P3	Administrative Officer (RMCS)	Ms. N. Patel (Regularized) (Post funded by UNEP)
1126	P3	Environmental Affairs Officer (Biosafety)	Mr. E. Tamale (Regularized)
1127	P3	Legal Affairs Officer (Biosafety)	Mr. W. Damena (Regularized)
1128	P2	Associate Computer Systems Officer (I&O)	Mr. Q. Nguyen (Regularized)
1131	P4	PO, Inland Waters (STTM)	Vacant (Post advertised)
1132	P4	PO, Scientific & Technical Assessments (STTM)	Mr. R. Hoft (Regularized)

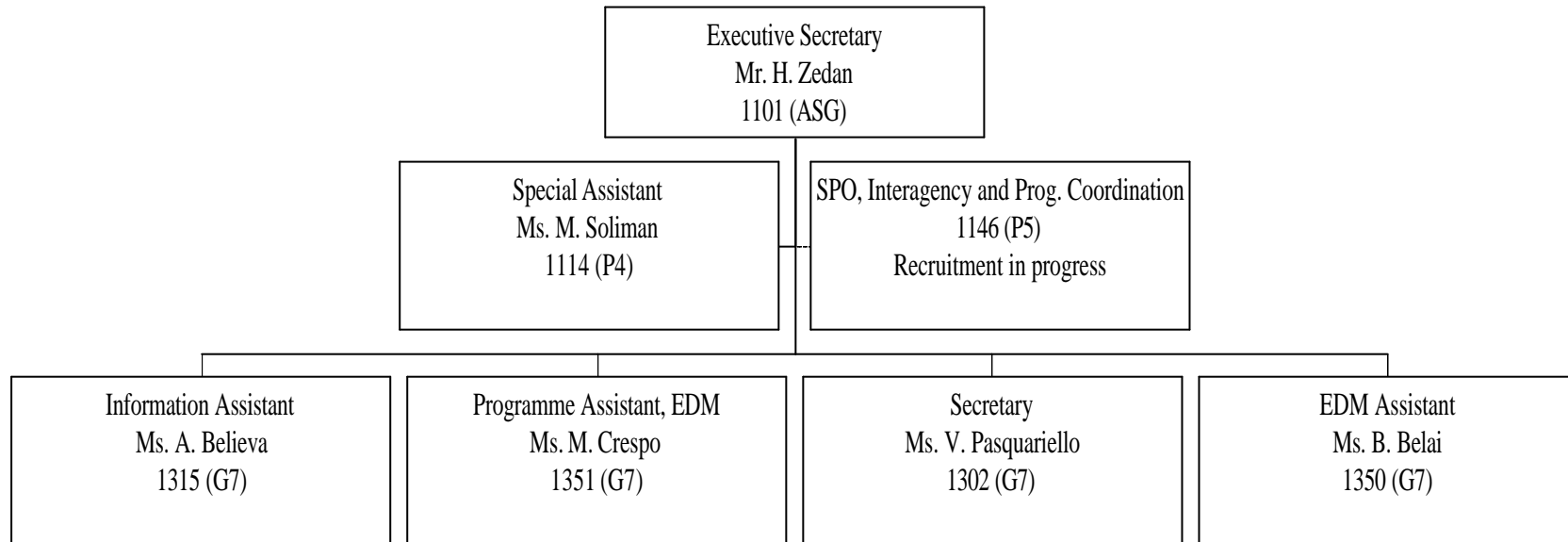
Post #	Level	Title	PROFESSIONAL STAFF
1133	P3	PO, Access & Benefit Sharing (SEL)	Ms. V. Normand (Regularized)
1134	P3	PO, Scientific, Technical Information (Biosafety)	Ms. K. Galloway-McLean (Regularized)
1135	P5	Editor (RMCS)	Mr. J. Fry (Regularized)
1136	P2	Associate Finance Officer (RMCS)	Ms. T.C. Fon Sing (Regularized) (Post funded by UNEP)
1137	P4	Taxonomy, PO (STTM)	Vacant
1139	L2	JPO, EIS (STTM)	Ms. I. Chung (Regularized) (Post funded by Republic of Korea)
1141	P4	PO, Dry and Sub-humid lands (STTM)	Ms. J. Zeidler (Regularized)
1142	P3	PO, Reports (I&O)	Mr. L. Cai (Regularized)
1143	P3	PO, Sustainable Use and Tourism (SEL)	Ms. P. Deda (Regularized)
1144	P4	PO, Legal & Policy Affairs (Biosafety)	Ms. X. Wang (Regularized)
1145	P3	PO, Scientific Assessments (Biosafety)	Mr. R. Hill (Regularized)
1146	P5	SPO, Interagency & Programme Coordination (EDM)	Vacant (Recruitment in progress) – new post
1148	P4	PO, In situ- and ex-situ Conservation (STTM)	Vacant (post advertised)
1149	P3	Computer Information Systems Officer, (I&O)	Vacant (Post advertised)

Post #	Level	Title	GENERAL SERVICE STAFF
1301	G8	Finance Assistant (RMCS)	Mr. M. Reyes (Regularized) (Post funded by UNEP)
1302	G7	Senior Secretary to the Executive Secretary (EDM)	Ms. V. Pasquariello (Regularized) (on secondment from ICAO)
1303	G6	Secretary (SEL)	Ms. F. Velarde (Regularized)
1304	G7	Programme Assistant - (STTM)	Mr. D. Hamel (Regularized)
1305	G7	Programme Assistant - (STTM)	Ms. I. Anderson (Regularized)
1306	G7	Programme Assistant - (I&O)	Ms. S. Penney (Regularized)
1307	G7	Programme Assistant - (Biosafety)	Ms. D. Stepic (Regularized)
1308	G7	Programme Assistant - (I&O)	Ms. M. Chiasson (Regularized)
1309	G7	Programme Assistant - (SEL)	Ms. J. Crowley (Regularized)
1310	G6	Administrative Assistant - (RMCS)	Ms. C. Risch (Regularized)
1311	G7	Travel Assistant - (RMCS)	Ms. R. Rabbath (Regularized)

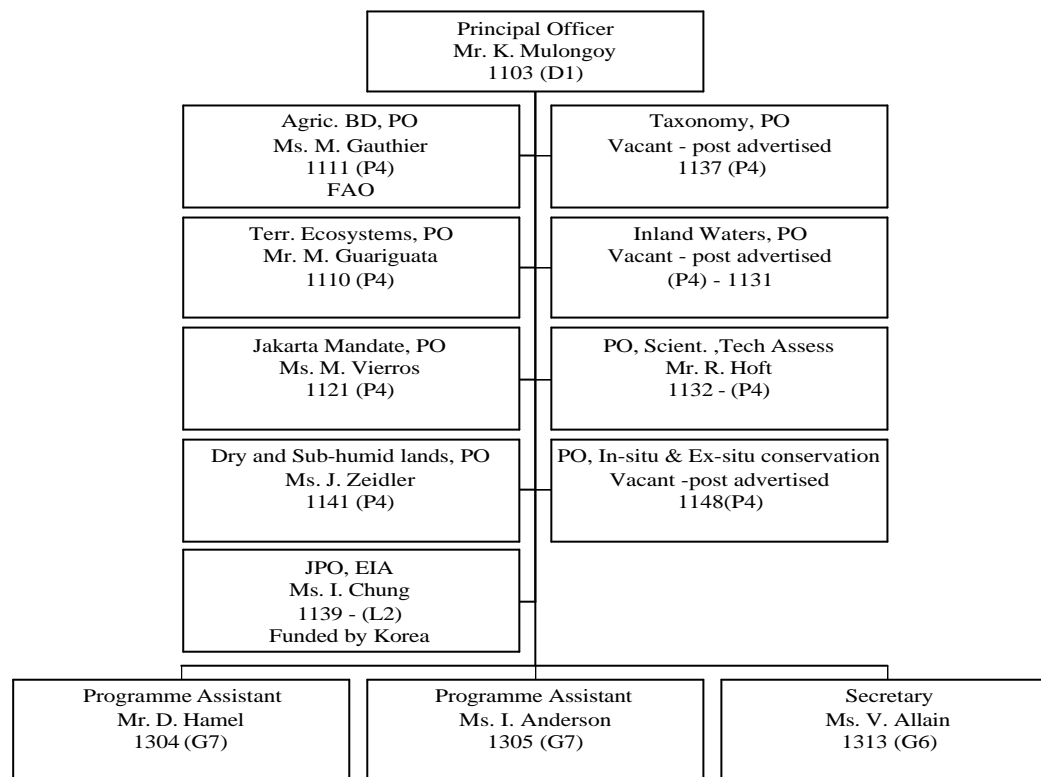
1312	G7	Personnel Assistant (RMCS)	Ms. J. Martinez (Regularized) (post funded by UNEP)
Post #	Level	Title	GENERAL SERVICE STAFF
1313	G6	Secretary - (STTM)	Ms. V. Allain (Regularized)
1314	G6	Secretary - (I&O)	Ms. A. Vincent (short-term)
1315	G7	Information Assistant (EDM)	Ms. A. Beliaeva (Regularized)
1316	G7	Computer Operations Assistant (I&O)	Mr. V. Gopez (Regularized)
1317	G5	Receptionist (RMCS)	Ms. L. Boutin (Regularized)
1318	G4	Messenger/Clerk (RMCS)	Mr. R. Bellido (Regularized)
1319	G6	Secretary (Biosafety)	Ms. J. Huppé (Regularized)
1329	G7	Programme Assistant, CHM (I&O)	Mr. H. Perea (Regularized)
1331	G7	Programme Assistant (SEL)	Ms. G. Dosen (Regularized)
1332	G5	Information Assistant - (CS/I&O)	Ms. M. Harrison (Regularized). Post funded by UNEP
1334	G5	Fund Mgmt Assistant - (RMCS)	Ms. L. Ali (Regularized). Post funded by UNEP
1337	G5	Conference Assistant – (RMCS)	Ms. T. Zavarzina (Regularized). Post funded by UNEP
1350	GS	EDM Assistant – (EDM)	Ms. B. Belai (Regularized)
1351	G7	Programme Assistant – (EDM)	Ms. M. Crespo (Regularized)
1352	G7	Programme Assistant – (I&O)	Ms. F. D’Amico (Regularized)
1353	G7	Programme Assistant – (Biosafety)	Ms. M. Ocampo (Regularized)
1354	G7	Programme Assistant – Liability, Redress & Sustainable Tourism (SEL)	Ms. R. Rubian (short-term)
1355	G7	Editorial Assistant (RMCS)	Vacant (Post advertised)
1356	G6	Travel Assistant – (RMCS)	Vacant (Recruitment in progress)

Annex II

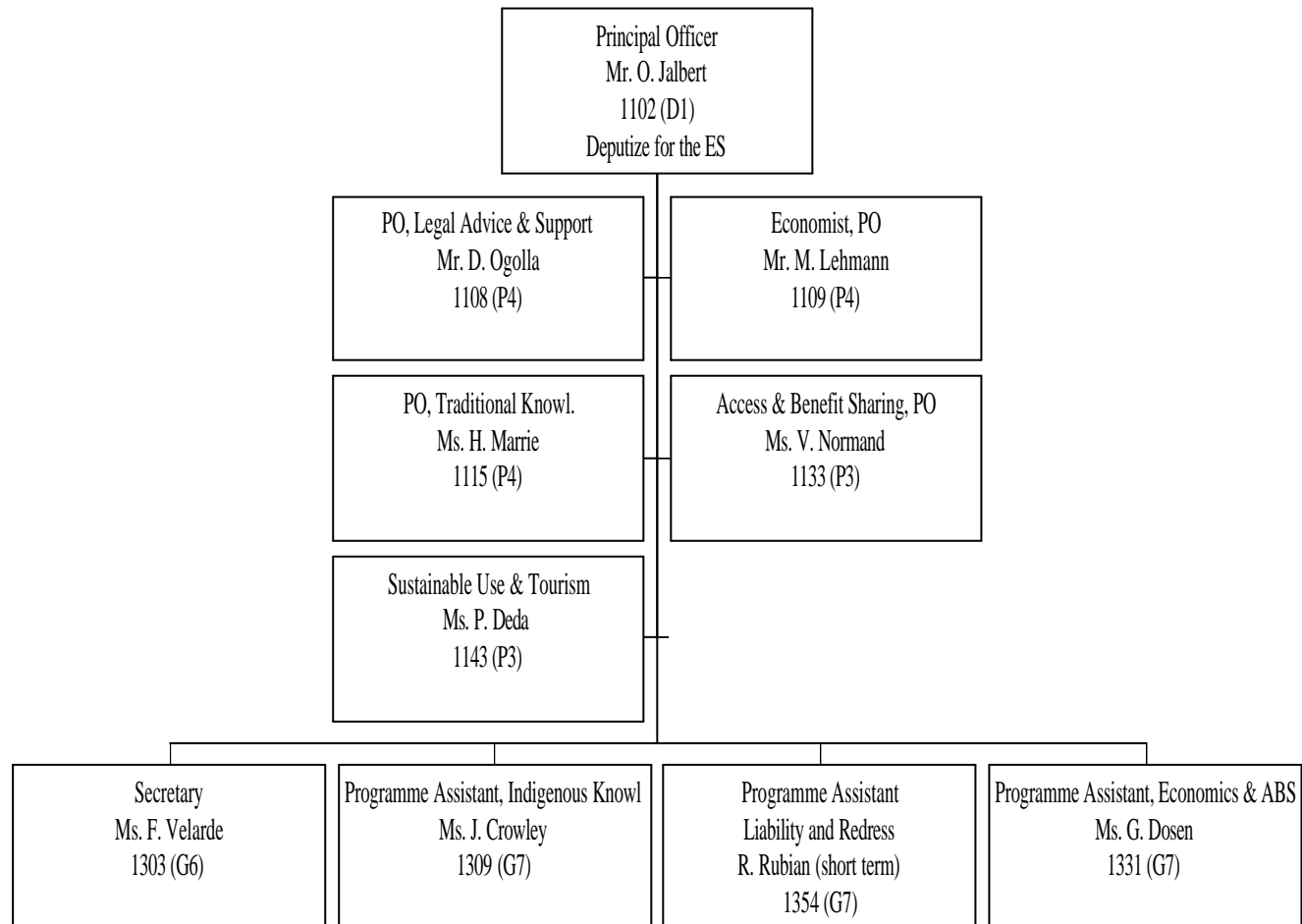
Executive Direction, Management & Inter-governmental Affairs



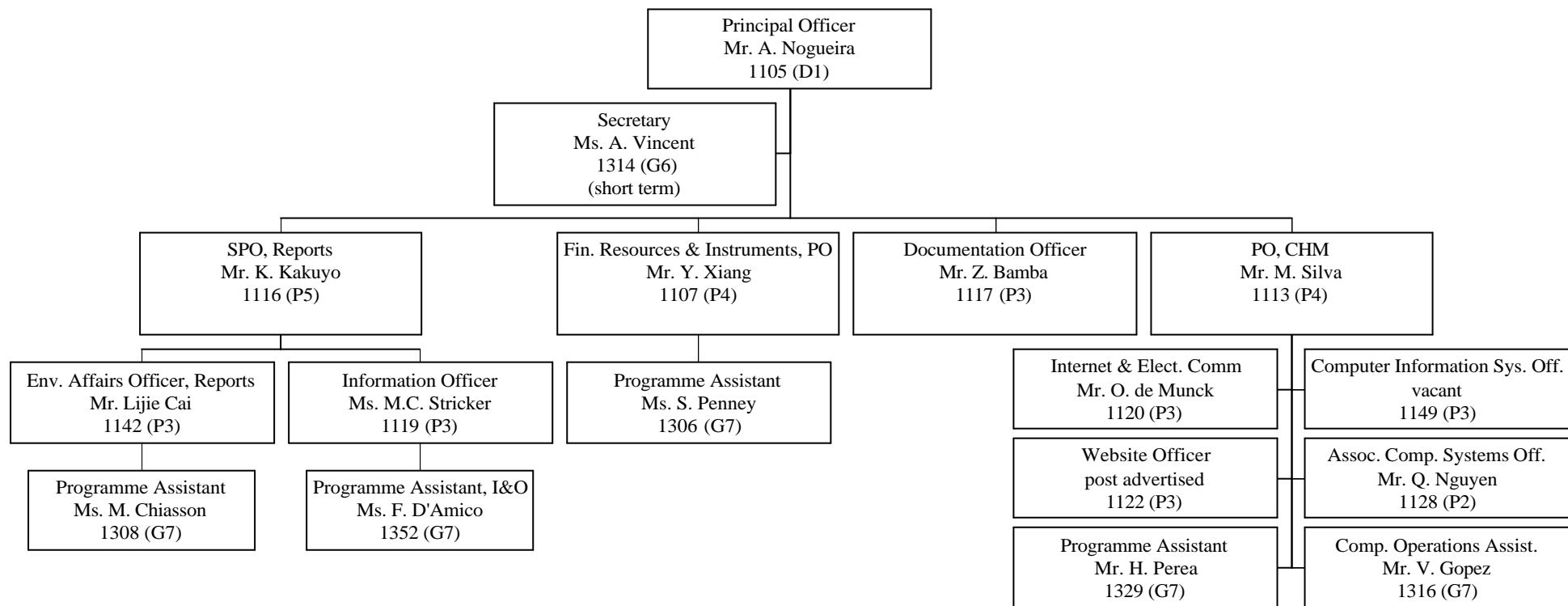
Scientific, Technical & Technological Matters



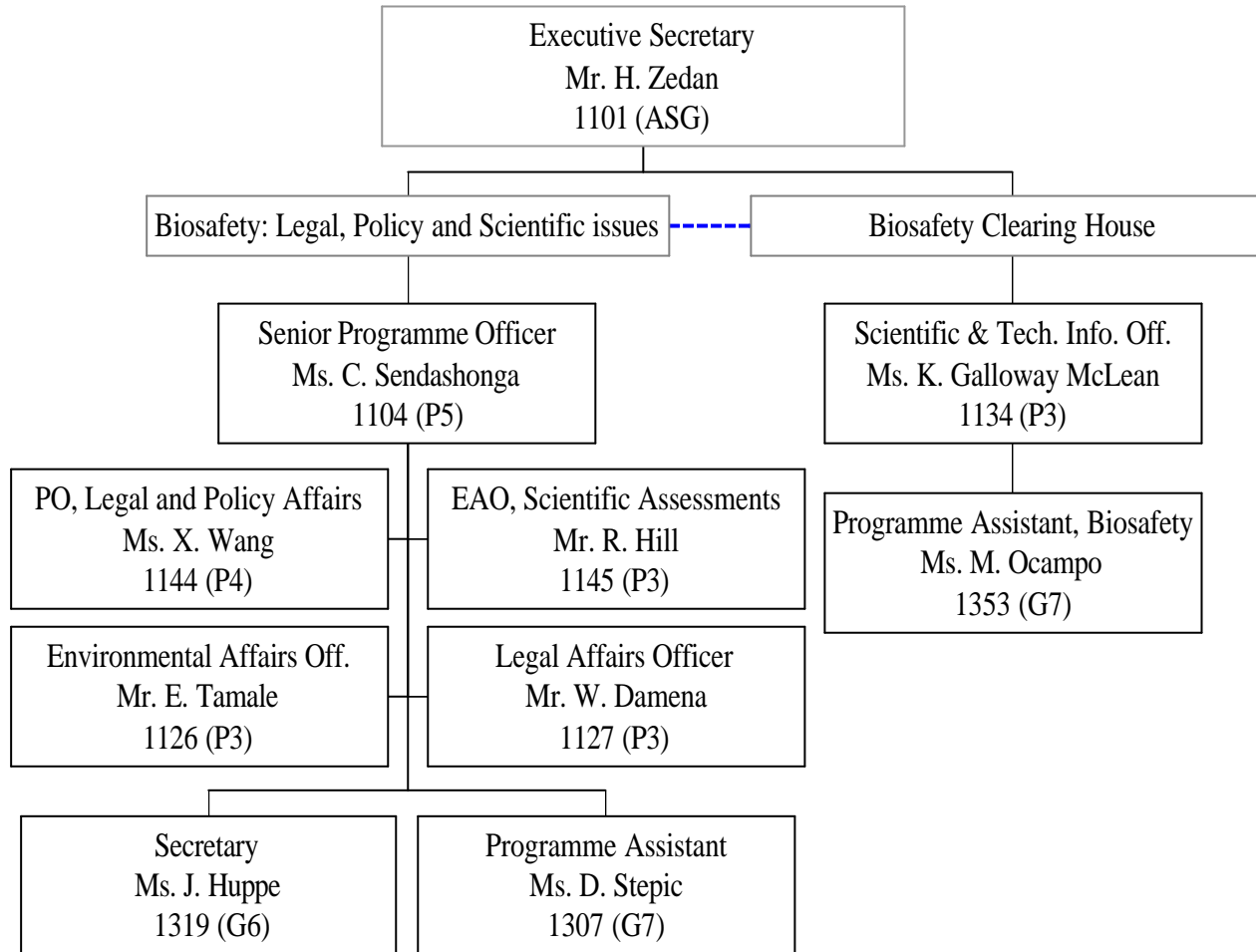
Social, Economic and Legal Matters



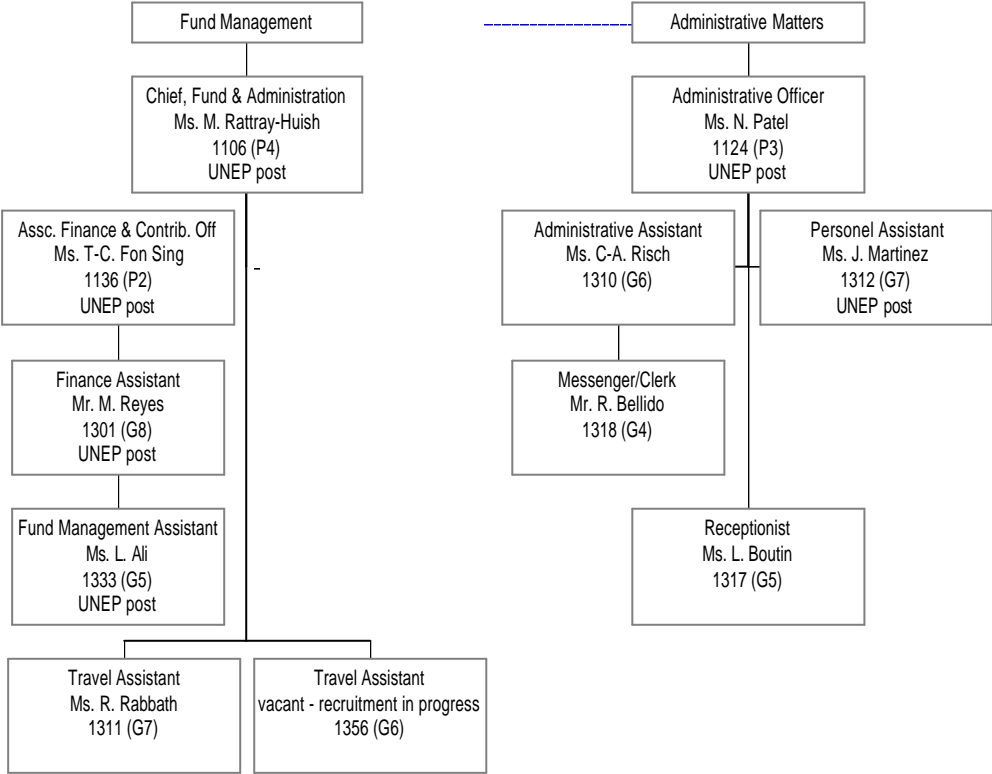
Implementation & Outreach



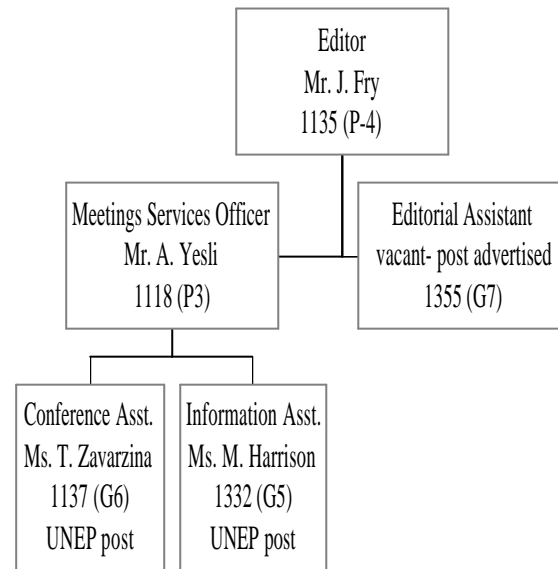
Biosafety Protocol



Resource Management



Conference Services



ANNEX III**GENERAL TRUST FUND FOR ADDITIONAL VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS IN SUPPORT OF APPROVED ACTIVITIES UNDER
THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (BE)**

Status of Contribution as at 31 March 2003 (in United States dollars)

COUNTRIES	Unpaid Pledges as at 31.12.02	Adjustments	Pledges for 2003	Collections in 2003 for prior years	Collections in 2003 for 2003 & futures yrs	Unpaid pledges for 2003 & prior years
Canada	40,498	1/				40,498
Canada			15,924	2/		15,924
Canada			2,041	17/		2,041
Denmark	3,415	3/			1114	2,301
EEC	5,954	4/				5,954
FAO			136,935	19/		136,935
Finland			55,025	18/		0
France	25,000	5/				25,000
Germany	20,882	6/				20,882
Netherlands	147,000	7/			100,000	47,000
Netherlands			100,000	8/		0
Netherlands			383,200	9/		383,200
Norway	100,000	10/				100,000
Spain	25,000	11/				25,000
Sweden	15,075	12/			17,523	(2,448)
Sweden	42,493	13/			29,206	13,287
UK			80,000	14/		0
USA	10,000	15/				10,000
USA	50,000	16/				50,000
Total	485,317		773,125		147,843	875,573

1/Canada pledge Cdn\$125,000 for meetings convened under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

- 2/Canada pledge Cdn\$25,000 towards the preparation of the Composite Report on Traditional Knowledge
- 3/Denmark pledge in support of the Open-ended Meeting of Experts on Capacity-building, Havana, Cuba 11-13 July 2001
- 4/EEC pledge Euros 30,000 for the Workshop on Liability and Redress - Cartagena Protocol, Rome, Italy, 2-4 December 2002
- 5/France pledge for the Technical Expert Group Meeting on Article 18.2(b) and (c), Montreal, Canada 13-15 March 2002
- 6/Germany pledge for Ad Hoc Working Group on Access and Benefits Sharing, 22-26 October 2001, Bonn, Germany
- 7/Netherlands pledge US\$147,000 for the Workshop on Forest Biological Diversity, Accra, Ghana 28-30 January 2002
- 8/Netherlands pledge US\$100,000 for the Biosafety Clearing House case no. 2002.04.152
- 9/Netherlands pledge for Euros400,000 regarding letter of intent for period 2003 - 2006
- 10/Norway pledge US\$100,000 for the 4th Workshop on Sustainable Use of Biological Resources, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, May 2003
- 11/Spain pledge US\$25,000 for the Capacity Building Experts Meeting on Biosafety Protocol, Havana, Cuba 11-13 July 2001
- 12/Sweden pledge SEK400,000 towards the cost of a Programme Officer for the Global Taxonomy Initiative in 2001
- 13/Sweden pledge SEK450,000 towards the cost of a Programme Officer for the Global Taxonomy Initiative in 2002
- 14/UK pledge US\$80,000 for the Expert Meeting on Indicators of Biological Diversity, Montreal, Canada 10-12 Feb 2003
- 15/USA pledge for GISP Meeting on Global Invasive Species
- 16/USA pledge for the Technical Expert Group Meeting on Article 18.2(a), Montreal, Canada 18-20 March 2002
- 17/Canada pledge Cdn\$3,000 towards the travel costs of Ms. M. Fleming to attend the Traditional Knowledge Meeting in Bolivia, February 2003
- 18/Finland pledge Euros 50,000 for the Ad Hoc Technical Group on Biological Diversity and Climate Change Meeting, Helsinki, Finland, May 2003
- 19/FAO pledge US\$136,935 towards the secondment of a FAO Programme Officer for 2003

ANNEX IV**GENERAL TRUST FUND FOR ADDITIONAL VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO FACILITATE THE PARTICIPATION OF PARTIES IN THE PROCESS OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (BZ)**

Status as at 31 March 2003 (in United States dollars)

COUNTRIES	Unpaid Pledges as at 31.12.02		Adjustments		Pledges for 2003	Collections in 2003 for prior years	Collections in 2003 for 2003 & fut yrs	Unpaid pledges for 2003 & prior years
Denmark	15,513	1/						15,513
Denmark	40,000	2/						40,000
EEC	9,984	3/						9,984
Germany				4/	14,088		14,088	0
Japan				9/	55,000			55,000
New Zealand				5/	10,000		10,000	0
Norway	33,289	6/						33,289
Spain				7/	31,315		10,731	20,584
UK				8/	120,750		120,750	0
Total	98,786				231,153	0	155,569	174,370

** Please note that the figures in bracket () means credit

1/Denmark pledge for travel expenses for Central and Eastern European countries-COP-5, Nairobi Kenya, 15-26 May 2000

2/Denmark pledge DKK300,000 towards the support of participants from Central and Eastern European countries to attend CBD meetings

3/EEC pledge Euros 50,000 towards the COP-6 and ICCP-3 Meetings, the Hague, the Netherlands, 7-26 April 2002

4/Germany pledge Euros12,775 towards SBSTTA 8 and the Multi-Year Programme of Work of the COP Meetings, Montreal, Canada, 10-20 March 2003

5/New Zealand pledge US\$10,000 towards SBSTTA 8 Meeting, Montreal, Canada, 10-14 March 2003

6/Norway pledge NOK250,000 towards the Capacity Building meeting on Access and Benefits Sharing, Montreal, Canada, 2-4 December 2002

& the Open-Ended meeting of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Access and Benefits Sharing, 2003

7/Spain pledge Euros30,000 towards SBSTTA 8 and the Multi-Year Programme of Work of the COP Meetings, Montreal, Canada, 10-20 March 2003

8/UK pledge GBP75,000 towards SBSTTA 8 Meeting, Montreal, Canada, 10-14 March 2003

9/Japan pledge towards the COP-7 Meeting, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, April 2004

ANNEX V**GENERAL TRUST FUND FOR THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (BY)
as at 31 March 2003**

Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/02	Pledges for 2003	Collections in 2002 for 2003	Collections in 2003 for prior years	Collections During 2003 for 2003 & future years	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2003	Unpaid Pledges for 2003 & Prior years
	US \$	US \$	US \$	US \$	US \$	US \$	US \$	US \$
Afghanistan	10	830				10	830	840
Albania	164	277				164	277	441
Algeria	15,393	6,473		15,393		0	6,473	6,473
Angola		185	1,799			0	(1,614)	(1,614)
Antigua & Barbuda		185	185			0	0	0
Argentina	224,809	106,252				224,809	106,252	331,061
Armenia	20,329	185				20,329	185	20,514
Australia	0	150,455	150,455			0	0	0
Austria	0	87,573			87,573	0	0	0
Azerbaijan	1,967	370				1,967	370	2,337
Bahamas	0	1,110	1,110			0	0	0
Bahrain	1,550	1,665		1,550	1,646	0	19	19
Bangladesh	433	925				433	925	1,358
Barbados	0	832	832			0	0	0
Belarus	74,881	1,757				74,881	1,757	76,638
Belgium	100,658	104,403		100,658		0	104,403	104,403
Belize	0	92	92			0	0	0
Benin	310	185				310	185	495
Bhutan	0	92	92			0	0	0
Bolivia	638	740				638	740	1,378
Bosnia & Herzegovina	47	369				47	369	416
Botswana	0	925				0	925	925
Brazil	30,704	221,012				30,704	221,012	251,716

Bulgaria	0	1,202				0	1,202	1,202
Burkina Faso	646	185				646	185	831
Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/02	Pledges for 2003	Collections in 2002 for 2003	Collections in 2003 for prior years	Collections During 2003 for 2003 & future years	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2003	Unpaid Pledges for 2003 & Prior years
Burundi	398	92				398	92	490
Cambodia	25	185				25	185	210
Cameroon	2,239	832				2,239	832	3,071
Canada	0	236,548			236,548	0	0	0
Cape Verde	2,362	92				2,362	92	2,454
Central African Rep.	0	92				0	92	92
Chad	2,506	92				2,506	92	2,598
Chile	0	19,604	26,650			0	(7,046)	(7,046)
China	0	141,670				0	141,670	141,670
Colombia	2,891	18,587		2,697		194	18,587	18,781
Comoros	2,506	92				2,506	92	2,598
Congo	1,809	92		1,000		809	92	901
Congo Dem.Rep	4,512	370				4,512	370	4,882
Cook Islands	179	92				179	92	271
Costa Rica	8,391	1,849				8,391	1,849	10,240
Cote d'Ivoire	1,631	832				1,631	832	2,463
Croatia	0	3,606	3,606			0	0	0
Cuba	14,893	2,774				14,893	2,774	17,667
Cyprus	0	3,514				0	3,514	3,514
Czech Republic	0	18,772	18,772			0	0	0
Denmark	0	69,263			69,263	0	0	0
Djibouti	179	92				179	92	271
Dominica	0	92	159			0	(67)	(67)
Dominica Rep.	6,034	2,127				6,034	2,127	8,161
Ecuador	1,824	2,312		1,824	2,312	0	0	0
EEC	0	181,063			184,264	0	(3,201)	(3,201)
Egypt	0	7,490				0	7,490	7,490
El Salvador	0	1,665				0	1,665	1,665
Equatorial Guinea	2,506	92				2,506	92	2,598

	0	92				0	92	92
Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/02	Pledges for 2003	Collections in 2002 for 2003	Collections in 2003 for prior years	Collections During 2003 for 2003 & future years	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2003	Unpaid Pledges for 2003 & Prior years
Eritrea	0	92				0	92	92
Estonia	0	925				0	925	925
Ethiopia	0	370	370			0	0	0
Fiji	0	370	684			0	(314)	(314)
Finland	0	48,271			48,271	0	0	0
France	0	597,935			597,935	0	0	0
Gabon	6,162	1,295				6,162	1,295	7,457
Gambia	179	92				179	92	271
Georgia	41,191	462				41,191	462	41,653
Germany	0	903,376			903,376	0	0	0
Ghana	0	462				0	462	462
Greece	1,182	49,843				1,182	49,843	51,025
Grenada	91	92				91	92	183
Guatemala	0	2,497	30			0	2,467	2,467
Guinea	0	277	277			0	0	0
Guinea-Bissau	2,027	92				2,027	92	2,119
Guyana	1,677	92				1,677	92	1,769
Haiti	1,672	185				1,672	185	1,857
Honduras	1,112	462				1,112	462	1,574
Hungary	0	11,097				0	11,097	11,097
Iceland	0	3,052	3,052			0	0	0
India	100	31,534				100	31,534	31,634
Indonesia	0	18,495				0	18,495	18,495
Iran	14,679	25,153				14,679	25,153	39,832
Ireland	0	27,187	27,187			0	0	0
Israel	0	38,377			38,377	0	0	0
Italy	0	468,356				0	468,356	468,356
Jamaica	0	370				0	370	370
Japan	0	1,593,350				0	1,593,350	1,593,350

Jordan	1,074	740				1,074	740	1,814
Kazakhstan	54,970	2,589		30,000		24,970	2,589	27,559
Kenya	1,250	740		437		813	740	1,553
Kiribati	88	92				88	92	180
Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/02	Pledges for 2003	Collections in 2002 for 2003	Collections in 2003 for prior years	Collections During 2003 for 2003 & future years	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2003	Unpaid Pledges for 2003 & Prior years
Korea, Dem. People's Rep.	0	832	832			0	0	0
Korea, Rep. of	0	171,169				0	171,169	171,169
Kuwait	1,951	13,559				1,951	13,559	15,510
Kyrgyzstan	6,185	92				6,185	92	6,277
Lao PDR	91	92		91	92	0	0	0
Latvia	1,550	925				1,550	925	2,475
Lebanon	0	1,110				0	1,110	1,110
Lesotho	182	92				182	92	274
Liberia	343	92				343	92	435
Libya	13,743	6,196				13,743	6,196	19,939
Liechtenstein	0	555				0	555	555
Lithuania	0	1,572	1,572			0	0	0
Luxembourg	0	7,398			7,398	0	0	0
Macedonia	365	555				365	555	920
Madagascar	0	277	11			0	266	266
Malawi	358	185				358	185	543
Malaysia	0	21,731			21,731	0	0	0
Maldives	0	92	92			0	0	0
Mali	2,362	185				2,362	185	2,547
Malta	0	1,387	1,387			0	0	0
Marshall Island	0	92			92	0	0	0
Mauritania	1,337	92				1,337	92	1,429
Mauritius	0	1,017	1,017			0	0	0
Mexico	12,677	100,426				12,677	100,426	113,103
Micronesia, Fed. States	0	92	92			0	0	0
Moldova, Rep. of	20,161	185				20,161	185	20,346
Monaco	0	370			370	0	0	0

Mongolia	182	92				182	92	274
Morocco	3,738	4,069				3,738	4,069	7,807
Mozambique	91	92				91	92	183
Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/02	Pledges for 2003	Collections in 2002 for 2003	Collections in 2003 for prior years	Collections During 2003 for 2003 & future years	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2003	Unpaid Pledges for 2003 & Prior years
Myanmar	0	925				0	925	925
Namibia	553	647		553	647	0	0	0
Nauru	2,626	92				2,626	92	2,718
Nepal	0	370	1,667			0	(1,297)	(1,297)
Netherlands	0	160,719				0	160,719	160,719
New Zealand	0	22,286	22,286			0	0	0
Nicaragua	0	92	92			0	0	0
Niger	2,362	92				2,362	92	2,454
Nigeria	11,298	6,288		5,570		5,728	6,288	12,016
Niue	91	92				91	92	183
Norway	0	59,738	59,945			0	(207)	(207)
Oman	0	5,641				0	5,641	5,641
Pakistan	0	5,641				0	5,641	5,641
Palau	0	92	600			0	(508)	(508)
Panama	0	1,665				0	1,665	1,665
Papua New Guinea	638	555		638		0	555	555
Paraguay	6,022	1,480				6,022	1,480	7,502
Peru	25,636	10,912				25,636	10,912	36,548
Philippines	447	9,247				447	9,247	9,694
Poland	0	34,955				0	34,955	34,955
Portugal	360	42,723				360	42,723	43,083
Qatar	0	3,144	3,144			0	0	0
Romania	0	5,363				0	5,363	5,363
Russian Federation	0	110,968			110,968	0	0	0
Rwanda	1,004	92		1,004	92	(0)	0	(0)
St.Kitts &Nevis	0	92	92			0	0	0

St. Lucia	0	185				0	185	185
Saint Vincent & Grenadines	1,677	92				1,677	92	1,769
Samoa	0	92	92			0	0	0
San Marino	0	185	185			0	0	0
Sao Tome Principe	179	92				179	92	271
Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/02	Pledges for 2003	Collections in 2002 for 2003	Collections in 2003 for prior years	Collections During 2003 for 2003 & future years	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2003	Unpaid Pledges for 2003 & Prior years
Saudi Arabia	50,578	51,230				50,578	51,230	101,808
Senegal	29	462				29	462	491
Seychelles	0	185	1,285			0	(1,100)	(1,100)
Sierra Leone	2,006	92		2,006	96	0	(4)	(4)
Singapore	0	36,342	36,342			0	0	0
Slovak	0	3,976	3,976			0	0	0
Slovenia	0	7,490	7,490			0	0	0
Solomon Is.	2,027	92				2,027	92	2,119
South Africa	0	37,729	37,729			0	0	0
Spain	0	232,918				0	232,918	232,918
Sri Lanka	2,148	1,480		1,094		1,054	1,480	2,534
Sudan	4,033	555				4,033	555	4,588
Suriname	1,337	185				1,337	185	1,522
Swaziland	182	185				182	185	367
Sweden	30	94,947		30	94,887	0	60	60
Switzerland	0	117,812	117,812			0	0	0
Syria	0	7,398	11,148			0	(3,750)	(3,750)
Tajikistan	1,923	92		1,923		0	92	92
Togo	179	92				179	92	271
Tonga	179	92		179	92	0	0	0
Trinidad & Tobago	0	1,480	7,188			0	(5,708)	(5,708)
Tunisia	0	2,774				0	2,774	2,774
Tuvalu	0	92					92	92
Turkey	0	40,688				0	40,688	40,688
Turkmenistan	7,527	277				7,527	277	7,804
Uganda	0	462	871			0	(409)	(409)

Ukraine	17,323	4,901				17,323	4,901	22,224
U. K.	0	511,935			511,935	0	0	0
United Arab Emirates	409	18,680		409	18,680	0	0	0
Un.Rep. of Tanzania	0	370	20,103			0	(19,733)	(19,733)
Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/02	Pledges for 2003	Collections in 2002 for 2003	Collections in 2003 for prior years	Collections During 2003 for 2003 & future years	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2003	Unpaid Pledges for 2003 & Prior years
Uruguay	12,429	7,398				12,429	7,398	19,827
Uzbekistan	14,242	1,017				14,242	1,017	15,259
Vanuatu	20	92				20	92	112
Venezuela	22,971	19,235				22,971	19,235	42,206
Viet Nam	0	1,480				0	1,480	1,480
Yemen	4,686	555				4,686	555	5,241
Yugoslavia	0	1,849				0	1,849	1,849
Zambia	378	185				378	185	563
Zimbabwe	2,191	740				2,191	740	2,931
Sub Total	919,913	7,257,328	572,402	167,056	2,936,645	752,857	3,748,281	4,501,138
Additional Contributions								
Canada	0	800,000				0	800,000	800,000
USA	0	0				0	0	0
Quebec	0	200,000	4,564			0	195,436	195,436
Grand Total	919,913	8,257,328	576,966	167,056	2,936,645	752,857	4,343,717	5,496,574

ANNEX VI

LIST OF MEETINGS ORGANIZED BY THE
SECRETARIAT OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
(as of 31 March 2003)

2003		
DATES	MEETING TITLE	VENUE
16- 17 January 2003	Scoping Meeting of the Advisory Group for the 2 nd Edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook Report	Montreal, Canada
10-12 February 2003	Expert Group on Indicators of Biological Diversity	Montreal, Canada
19-21 February 2003	Ad hoc Technical Expert Group on Genetic Use Restriction Technologies	Montreal, Canada
24-26 February 2003	Ad hoc Technical Expert Group on Traditional Knowledge and the Clearing House Mechanism	Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia
9 March 2003	SBSTTA Bureau Meeting	Montreal, Canada
9 March 2003	Meeting of the Informal Advisory Committee of the Clearing House Mechanism	Montreal, Canada
10-14 March 2003	Eighth Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice	Montreal, Canada
15 March 2003	Joint Meeting of the ICCP and COP-6 Bureaux	Montreal, Canada
17-20 March 2003	Open-ended Meeting of the Programme of Work of the Conference of the Parties up to 2010	Montreal, Canada
31 March – 2 April 2003	African Regional Meeting on Capacity Building for the Clearing House Mechanism	Nairobi, Kenya

ANNEX VII**LIST OF PARTIES TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY
as at 31 March 2003**

	COUNTRY	DATE OF RATIFICATION
1.	Trinidad and Tobago	5 October 2000
2.	Bulgaria	13 October 2000
3.	Norway	10 May 2001
4.	St. Kitts and Nevis	23 May 2001
5.	Fiji	5 June 2001
6.	Lesotho	20 September 2001
7.	Czech Republic	8 October 2001
8.	Nauru	12 November 2001
9.	Uganda	30 November 2001
10.	The Netherlands	8 January 2002
11.	Spain	16 January 2002
12.	Kenya	24 January 2002
13.	Liberia	15 February 2002
14.	Switzerland	26 March 2002
15.	Djibouti	8 April 2002
16.	Mauritius	11 April 2002
17.	Bolivia	22 April 2002
18.	Panama	1 May 2002
19.	Venezuela	13 May 2002
20.	Samoa	30 May 2002
21.	Botswana	11 June 2002
22.	Niue	8 July 2002
23.	Sweden	8 August 2002
24.	Belarus	26 August 2002
25.	Bhutan	26 August 2002
26.	European Community	27 August 2002
27.	Denmark	27 August 2002
28.	Austria	27 August 2002
29.	Mexico	27 August 2002
30.	Nicaragua	28 August 2002
31.	Mali	28 August 2002
32.	Luxembourg	28 August 2002
33.	Croatia	29 August 2002
34.	Maldives	2 September 2002
35.	Barbados	6 September 2002
36.	Cuba	17 September 2002
37.	Mozambique	21 October 2002

38.	Slovenia	20 November 2002
39.	Ukraine	6 December 2002
40.	India	17 January 2003
	COUNTRY	DATE OF RATIFICATION
41.	Tunisia	22 January 2003
42.	Marshall Islands	27 January 2003
43.	Ecuador	30 January 2003
44.	Cameroon	20 February 2003
45.	Republic of Moldova	4 March 2003