

United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

Ref.: SCBD/ITS/YX/80955

29 October 2012

Dear Mrs. Ishii,


I have the pleasure of referring to the outcomes of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, held from 8-19 October 2012 in Hyderabad, India. Two decisions are of direct relevance to the Global Environment Facility: decision XI/4 on resource mobilization and decision XI/5 on the financial mechanism. In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the Conference of the Parties and the Council of the Global Environment Facility, the decision on the financial mechanism should be responded to by the Council.

Under decision XI/4, the Conference of the Parties resolves to double total biodiversity-related international financial resource flows to developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition, by 2015 and at least maintain this level until 2020, and that at least 75% of Parties, provided with adequate financial resources, have prepared national financial plans for biodiversity by 2015, and 30% of those Parties have assessed and/or evaluated the values of biodiversity and its components.

Decision XI/5 on the financial mechanism contains the provisions on the report from the Global Environment Facility, four-year framework of programme priorities and review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism, needs assessment for the sixth GEF replenishment cycle, and additional guidance to the financial mechanism in respect of Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, marine and coastal biodiversity, protected areas, invasive alien species, cooperation with international organizations, other conventions and initiatives, Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing, monitoring progress in implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, engagement of other stakeholders, capacity-building support to Parties, and biosafety.

The two decisions are reproduced in full in the annex to this letter. I will very much appreciate if the two decisions from the Conference of the Parties are brought to the attention of, and action by, the Council of the Global Environment Facility at its forty-third meeting.

Yours sincerely,


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Executive Secretary

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Annex

XI/4. Review of Implementation of the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, including the establishment of targets

The Conference of the Parties,

I. TARGET SETTING

1. *Urges* Parties to consider all possible sources and means that can help to meet the level of resources needed, in accordance with Article 20 and consistent with decision X/3;

2. *Concerned* that the lack of sufficient financial resources continues to be one of the main obstacles to achieving the Convention's three objectives and the implementation of the Strategic Plan and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets;

3. *Recalling* decision X/3 and Target 20 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and *reiterating* that resources (financial, human and technical) need to be mobilized from all sources and that this should be balanced with the effective implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and highlighting the need for further consideration to the evaluation of the resources mobilized in terms of the biodiversity outcomes achieved;

4. *Recalling* decision X/3, paragraph 8(i), reaffirms its decision to adopt targets at its eleventh meeting provided that robust baselines have been identified and endorsed and that an effective reporting framework has been adopted;

5. *Welcomes* and *decides to use* the preliminary reporting framework and methodological and implementation guidance (UNEP/CBD/COP/11/14/Add.1) as a flexible and preliminary framework to report on and monitor the resources mobilized for biodiversity at a national and global level, and *invites* Parties to build on this flexible framework at a national level as part of monitoring, including the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, as appropriate, and to report prior to the fifth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention on the success and the barriers encountered in reporting on and monitoring the resources mobilized for biodiversity, in view of the review foreseen in paragraph 23;

6. *Invites* Parties and other Governments to submit their information through the preliminary reporting framework, as referred to in paragraph 5, and using the average of annual biodiversity funding for the years 2006-2010 as a preliminary baseline, and report as well as on their experiences with applying the preliminary reporting framework, prior to the fifth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention in a timely manner for their consideration by the Working Group;

7. As outlined in decision X/3, *decides* on an overall substantial increase of total biodiversity-related funding, for the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2011 – 2020, from a variety of sources, using the baseline information as referred to in paragraph 6 and, taking into account the limited information available regarding baselines for the indicators adopted in decision X/3, based on Parties' reporting in line with paragraph 5 *resolves* to achieve the following preliminary targets, which are to be considered mutually supportive but independent:

(a) Double total biodiversity-related international financial resource flows to developing countries, in particular least developed countries and Small Island Developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, by 2015 and at least maintaining this level until 2020, in accordance with Article 20 of the Convention, to contribute to achieving the Convention's three objectives, including through a country-driven prioritization of biodiversity within development plans in recipient countries, using the preliminary baseline referred to in paragraph 6;

(b) Endeavour for 100% but at least 75% of Parties have included biodiversity in their national priorities or development plans by 2015 and therefore have made appropriate domestic financial provisions,

(c) Endeavour for 100% but at least 75% of Parties provided with adequate financial resources, have reported domestic biodiversity expenditures as well as funding needs, gaps and priorities by 2015, in order to improve the robustness of the baseline to refine the preliminary targets, as appropriate;

(d) Endeavour for 100% but at least 75% of Parties provided with adequate financial resources, have prepared national financial plans for biodiversity by 2015, and 30% of those Parties have assessed and/or evaluated the intrinsic, ecological, genetic, social economic, scientific, educational, cultural, recreational and aesthetic values of biological diversity and its components;

8. Mindful of the potential of Aichi target 3 to mobilize resources for biodiversity, *decides* to consider at COP 12 modalities and milestones for full operationalization of this target, with a view to their adoption.

9. *Acknowledging* that, in many developing countries, domestic resources already cover the largest share of biodiversity-related resource mobilization, *decides* to establish at COP 12 a transparent process that would encourage and facilitate the efforts of reporting by developing countries for achieving the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Aichi Targets.

II. REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY FOR RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

10. *Recalling* decision IX/11 on the Strategy for Resource Mobilization, *decides* to review the implementation of the strategy for resource mobilization at the fifth meeting of WGRI and *requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare for this review, including by completing the review of implementation of Goals 2, 5, 6, 7 and 8 of the strategy for resource mobilization, based on the input provided by Parties and other relevant stakeholders as well as additional relevant sources of data for consideration by the fifth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on the Review of Implementation of the Convention;

11. *Reiterates* decision X/3, paragraph 5, that the global monitoring reports on the implementation of the strategy for resource mobilization should be prepared in time for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its ordinary meetings, and *requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare periodic global monitoring reports on the implementation of the strategy for resource mobilization;

12. *Decides* to include consideration of resource mobilization for the Nagoya Protocol in the implementation of the Strategy for Resource Mobilization in support of the achievement of the three objectives of the Convention for the period 2008-2015;

13. *Recalling* decision X/3, paragraph 11, which recognizes that many developing countries have undertaken analyses of the values of their biodiversity and are working to close the financial gap to effectively conserve their biological resources, *invites* Parties to share their experiences and lessons learned, and *calls upon* developed countries to respond to the needs identified, and to create enabling conditions for those countries yet to undertake such analyses to identify their respective needs;

14. *Recalling* decision IX/11, paragraph 6, *urges* Parties and other governments, where appropriate, to continue to enhance national administrative and managerial capacities, to create the enabling environment to mobilize private and public-sector investments in biological diversity and its associated ecosystem services;

15. *Invites* Parties, as appropriate, to support developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition to enhance institutional, national, administrative and managerial capacities, in order to increase the effectiveness and sustainability of the international and national financial flows;

16. *Recalling* decision IX/11, paragraph 4, and taking into account decision X/3, paragraph 11, *invites* Parties and relevant partner organizations to examine their role in establishing enabling conditions, for the public and private sector, in supporting the objectives of the Convention and its two protocols, and submit information on their experiences to the Executive Secretary (also see UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/4/9);

17. *Encourages* Parties to undertake institutional mapping/analysis, covering the whole range

of biodiversity resourcing options, as part of developing country-specific resource mobilization strategies in the framework of the revision of their national biodiversity strategies and action plans;

18. *Invites* Parties to consider the advice and technical information contained in decision XI/30 on incentive measures;

19. *Recognizing* that the Convention on Biological Diversity's strategy for resource mobilization calls for the exploration of new and innovative financial mechanisms at all levels with a view to increasing funding to support the Convention and its Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and that some of them are already being applied and *recalling* decision X/3, *reiterates* that any new and innovative financial mechanisms are supplementary and do not replace the financial mechanism established under Article 21 of the Convention;

20. *Takes note* of the synthesis on innovative financial mechanisms (UNEP/CBD/COP/11/14/Add.3) based on the submissions in response to decision X/3, paragraph 8 (c), highlighting the activities related to innovative financial mechanisms that have taken place since the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and the discussion paper on safeguards for scaling-up biodiversity finance and possible guiding principles (UNEP/CBD/COP/11/INF7), *recalls* the Rio+20 outcome which encourages the further exploration and use of innovative sources of financing, alongside the traditional means of implementation, and *notes* the report of the Informal Seminar Dialogue on Scaling-up Biodiversity Finance held in Quito, Ecuador, from 6 to 9 March 2012, *inter alia*, the proposal on a net avoided emissions mechanism as well as the Workshop on Financing Mechanisms for Biodiversity: Examining Opportunities and Challenges held in Montreal, Canada on 12 May 2012; *requests* the Executive Secretary to further develop the discussion paper for submission to WGRI5 based on comments from Parties and other relevant stakeholders and *requests* the WGRI5 to prepare a recommendation for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting;

21. *Invites* Parties and other relevant stakeholders to submit views and lessons learnt on possible risks and benefits of country specific innovative financial mechanisms, including on possible principles and safeguards for their use, in time for consideration by WGRI-5, and *requests* the Executive Secretary to compile this information, taking into account discussion paper UNEP/CBD/COP/11/INF7 and building on previous submissions and initiatives, including the Quito seminar and the Montreal workshop referred to above; and *requests* the WGRI-5 to discuss this for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting.

III. Roadmap

22. *Decides* to review at COP-12 progress towards the achievement of Aichi Target 20 with the aim of adopting the final target for resource mobilization, building upon the financial resource flow responding to the preliminary target referred to in paragraph 7(a) and the information set out in 7 (c) and (d); and keep under review the achievement of these targets at subsequent COPs until 2020;

23. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on the Review of Implementation of the Convention at its fifth meeting to further review the preliminary reporting framework as well as the baseline information for each of the targets, including the role of collective action including by indigenous and local communities and non-market based approaches for the achievement of the CBD objectives; and *requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare for that review, based on information received from Parties on its application, funding needs, gaps and priorities;

24. *Welcomes* the initial findings of the high-level panel on global assessment of resources for implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and *invites* the High Level Panel, in collaboration with other relevant initiatives that could provide a more bottom-up approach, to continue its work with a broadened composition and to report back on the results of its work to COP12;

25. In support of the targets set in paragraph 7 above, *encourages* Parties and relevant organizations to improve the existing financial information through enhancing accuracy, consistency and delivery of information on biodiversity financing and improved reporting on funding needs and shortfalls; *encourages* Parties to integrate national resource mobilization strategies, including existing needs

assessments, into the decision making process on their funding targets in order to address the funding gap as soon as possible; and to develop, as appropriate, country specific resource mobilization strategies, including assessment of resource needs, as part of their updated NBSAPs, as a matter of priority;

26. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to elaborate additional guidance for Parties to apply the indicators adopted in decision X/3 for national and subnational application, and to undertake an assessment of the indicator framework based on Party experiences;

27. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to voluntary contributions, to also organize regional and sub-regional workshops on the establishment of robust baselines and reporting framework and preparation of national financial plans for biodiversity.

XI/5. The Financial Mechanism

The Conference of the Parties,

A. Report of the Global Environment Facility

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Global Environment Facility (UNEP/CBD/COP/11/8);

B. Four-year framework of programme priorities and review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism

2. *Adopts* the four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities for the period 2014-2018 as contained in the annex to the present decision and *requests* the Global Environment Facility (GEF) to implement it and report back to the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting on the GEF-6 strategy and its thirteenth meeting on its implementation and how it responds to the individual Elements and their components, and the Additional Strategic Considerations of the Framework, in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the Council of the Global Environment Facility;
3. *Encourages* the Global Environment Facility to further expedite the provision of financial support, based on a flexible and national demand driven approach, taking into consideration the needs of developing countries in accordance with Article 20 of the Convention;
4. *Calls upon* the Global Environment Facility to avoid additional and lengthy processes and to utilize existing NBSAPs as the basis for GEF 6 determination of needs based priorities;
5. *Calls upon* the Global Environment Facility to further clarify the concept and application of co-financing for biodiversity projects, and *invites* the GEF to apply co-financing arrangements in ways that do not create unnecessary barriers and costs for recipient countries to access GEF funds;
6. *Invites* developed country Parties and others to increase their financial contributions through the financial mechanism during the sixth GEF replenishment period (GEF-6) while recognizing the increase of funds under GEF-5, taking into account the substantial financial needs in order to implement the obligations of the Convention, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;
7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to make available to Parties the report of the fourth review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism prepared in response to decision X/27 for consideration by the Ad Hoc Open-ended Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention at its fifth meeting.

C. Needs assessment for the sixth GEF replenishment cycle

Recalling its decision X/26,

8. *Emphasizes* that the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets provide the overall framework for the implementation of the Convention for the decade, including for the activities during the period of the sixth replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility (2014-2018);
9. *Notes* that implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 will require the funding of activities that contribute to all five goals and all twenty targets;
10. *Also notes* the report of the assessment of needs for GEF-6 and expresses its appreciation to the members of the expert group;
11. *Takes note* of the range of funding needs estimated for the sixth replenishment. This includes both what might be provided through the replenishment of the GEF trust fund for the biodiversity focal area, as well as what might be mobilized and provided through other funds;

12. *Urges* the GEF, in the process of replenishment for GEF-6, to give due consideration to all aspects of the expert team's needs assessment report on the levels of funding for biodiversity;

13. *requests* the Executive Secretary and *invites* the Global Environment Facility to identify the Aichi Biodiversity Targets benefiting the most from synergies with other GEF focal areas and make this information available for further use;

14. *Emphasizes* that:

(a) The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets are an ambitious framework adopted by Parties to the Convention that require a substantial increase in the resources available;

(b) Full use of the financial mechanism of the Convention, including GEF and its network of agencies, with improved efficiency of resource utilization and expanded financial support to recipient countries, is instrumental and critical in advancing the implementation of the Strategic Plan and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;

(e) Prioritization of activities needs to be done in consultation with the Convention through its Conference of the Parties, based on the four year framework of programming priorities;

15. *Transmits* to the Global Environment Facility the report on the assessment of needs for GEF 6, for consideration by the Global Environment Facility, so that the Facility will in its regular report to the Conference of Parties indicate how it has responded during the replenishment cycle to the previous assessment by the Conference of the Parties.

D. Additional guidance to the financial mechanism

Global Strategy for Plant Conservation

16. *Recalling* decision X/17, *urges* Parties and *invites* other Governments, the financial mechanism, and funding organizations to provide adequate, timely and sustainable support for the implementation of the Strategy, especially for developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as Parties with economies in transition and those countries that are centres of genetic diversity;

Marine and coastal biodiversity

17. *Urges* Parties and *invites* other Governments, the financial mechanism, and funding organizations, as appropriate, to provide adequate, timely, and sustainable support to the implementation of training and capacity-building and other activities related to EBSAs, especially for developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, and Parties with economies in transition, including countries with upwelling systems, and, as appropriate, indigenous and local communities;

Protected areas

18. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility and its implementing agencies to facilitate the alignment of the development and implementation of protected area projects with the actions identified in national action plans for the programme of work, for example by clearly articulating the linkages with elements of Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 in project documents, with a view to facilitating the systematic monitoring and reporting of the results of those projects as they contribute to achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 and other related targets by Parties, and to maximize the contribution of such projects to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020;

Invasive alien species

19. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility, in accordance with its mandate, and *invites* other donors, to provide adequate and timely financial support to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States among them, as well as countries with economies in transition, including countries that are centres of origin or diversity of genetic resources;

Cooperation with international organizations, other conventions and initiatives

20. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility and *invites* other financial mechanisms to continue to support projects and activities to improve synergies among relevant multilateral environment agreements;

Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing

21. *Recommends* that the Global Environment Facility makes available the necessary funds for activities to support access and benefit-sharing and the early entry into force and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in order to implement the third objective of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and *further recommends* that GEF operational focal points carefully consider the urgent need to finance activities related to access and benefit-sharing and the Nagoya Protocol when consulting national stakeholders on the distribution of the System for Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR) allocation;

22. *Further recommends* that the Global Environment Facility continues to finance, as a priority, technical support to Parties aimed at the speedy ratification and early entry into force of the Nagoya Protocol, and its implementation at national level;

23. *Requests* GEF, in considering financing for Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund projects, to ensure that the Fund will specifically support activities related to early ratification and capacity-building, and be used for access to and utilization of genetic resources only when such activities have been approved by appropriate government authorities and endorsed through the GEF operational focal point;

Monitoring progress in implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

24. *Calls upon* Parties, the Global Environment Facility, donors, international organizations, academia, non-governmental organizations and organizations of indigenous and local communities to consider the provision of technical support and financial resources for collaborative programmes related to the work on indicators on traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use contained in decision XI/3;

25. *Recalls* paragraphs 5 and 6 of decision X/10, which, *inter alia*, request the Global Environment Facility and invite other donors, Governments and multilateral and bilateral agencies to provide adequate and timely financial support for the preparation of the fifth national reports;

Engagement of other stakeholders

26. *Reiterates* its invitation in paragraph 7 of decision X/23 to the Global Environment Facility to consider establishing a South-South biodiversity cooperation trust fund for the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020, based on voluntary contributions, and *welcomes* ongoing discussions on this matter;

Capacity-building support to Parties

27. *Expresses its gratitude* to all the international organizations and convention secretariats and to the Global Environment Facility for their contributions facilitating the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and *invites* them to further support the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020;

Biosafety

28. *Further transmit* the guidance received from the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, which is contained in appendix II to the present decision.

Annex

FOUR-YEAR OUTCOME-ORIENTED FRAMEWORK OF PROGRAMME PRIORITIES 2014-2018

Objective

1. The four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities 2014-2018 provides guidance to the Global Environment Facility (GEF) as the financial mechanism of the Convention in developing a robust strategy and monitoring system for the biodiversity focal area for the sixth GEF replenishment cycle (GEF-6).

Elements

2. In guiding the development of the GEF-6 biodiversity strategy, the four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities 2014-2018 consists of the following elements:

(a) The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, including its Aichi Biodiversity Targets (decision X/2, annex);

(b) The Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the period 2011-2020 (decision BS-V/16);

(c) The guidance to the financial mechanism on programme priorities to support the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing put forward by the second meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Nagoya Protocol, contained in appendix I to this decision;

(d) Any relevant indicators for national and global use for assessing the progress of implementation of the Strategic Plan;

(f) The current set of output, outcome and impact indicators, and associated monitoring processes and tracking tools, currently in use by the Global Environment Facility;

Additional strategic considerations

3. The GEF-6 biodiversity strategy should take into account that the Aichi Biodiversity Targets provide a flexible basis for Parties which can be adapted, taking into account different national circumstances and capabilities, including in revised national biodiversity strategy and action plans.

4. The GEF-6 biodiversity strategy should take into account coherence with, and synergies among, country-driven programmes and priorities set out in revised national biodiversity strategy and action plans, while focusing on filling the highest priority gaps associated with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

5. The GEF-6 biodiversity strategy should promote coherence and synergies among the GEF focal areas of biodiversity, land degradation, international waters, climate change – mitigation and adaptation, and within the context of country-driven programmes and priorities.

6. The GEF should continue to engage key stakeholders, including the Secretariat of the Convention, in the process of formulating the GEF-6 strategy for the biodiversity focal area.

Appendix I

GUIDANCE TO THE FINANCIAL MECHANISM ON PROGRAMME PRIORITIES TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL ON ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING

The Conference of the Parties

I. Programme priorities for the period 2014–2018

1. Invites the Global Environment Facility to support the following activities during its sixth replenishment period (2014-2018), *inter alia*:

(a) Building the capacity of Parties to develop, implement and enforce domestic legislative, administrative or policy measures on access and benefit-sharing, thereby contributing to the conservation of biological diversity and sustainable use of its components, including through:

- (i) Identification of relevant actors and existing legal and institutional expertise for the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable of Benefits Arising from their Utilization;
- (ii) Taking stock of domestic measures relevant to access and benefit-sharing in light of the obligations of the Nagoya Protocol;
- (iii) Development and/or amendment of access and benefit-sharing legislative, administrative or policy measures with a view to implementing their obligations under the Nagoya Protocol;
- (iv) Establishment of ways to address transboundary issues; and
- (v) Establishment of institutional arrangements and administrative systems to provide access to genetic resources, ensure benefit-sharing, support compliance with prior informed consent and mutually agreed terms and monitor the utilization of genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, including support for the establishment of check points;

(b) Building the capacity of Parties to negotiate mutually agreed terms to promote equity and fairness in negotiations in the development and implementation of access and benefit sharing agreements, including through enhanced understanding of business models and intellectual property rights;

(c) Building the capacity of Parties to develop their endogenous research capabilities to add value to their own genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources through, *inter alia*, technology transfer; bioprospecting and associated research and taxonomic studies; and the development and use of valuation methods;

(d) Addressing the capacity needs and priorities of indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders; in particular, projects that would:

- (i) Encourage their participation in legal, policy and decision-making processes;
- (ii) Assist in building their capacity related to genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, such as through the development of community protocols, model contractual clauses and minimum requirements for mutually agreed terms to secure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits; and
- (iii) Support a series of regional and subregional capacity-building workshops;

(e) Enabling Parties to actively participate in the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House and use the best available communication tools and Internet-based systems such as audio and video tools for access and benefit-sharing activities;

(f) Supporting Parties in raising-awareness of the importance of genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, and related access and benefit sharing issues, notably through the development and implementation of national and regional awareness-raising strategies;

(g) Supporting the implementation of the strategic framework for capacity-building and development in support of the implementation of the Protocol;

II. THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL IMPLEMENTATION FUND

2. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Nagoya Protocol Implementation Fund (NPIF) and notes with appreciation the initial financial contributions made by Japan, Switzerland, Norway, the United Kingdom, and France to the Fund;
3. *Recommends* that funds from the NPIF be used to support projects which will assist the early entry into force of the Nagoya Protocol and create enabling conditions at the national and regional levels for its effective implementation, in accordance with the primary objective of the NPIF as set out in document GEF/C.40/11/Rev.1, dated 26 May 2011;
4. *Recommends* to the Global Environment Facility to expedite and facilitate procedures for access to funds from the NPIF;
5. *Invites* donors and the private sector to contribute to, or co-finance, the NPIF with a view to ensuring continued support for the early entry into force and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol;
6. *Requests* the GEF to continue to administer the NPIF until the time the resources committed up to the end of GEF-5 are disbursed, and to report on the status of the fund to the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, which shall decide on its future.

III. SUPPORT FOR ACTIVITIES PRIOR TO THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL

7. *Reiterates* its invitation to the Global Environment Facility to provide financial support to Parties to assist with the early ratification of the Nagoya Protocol and its implementation.

Appendix II

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,

Recalling decisions BS-I/5, BS-II/5, BS-III/5, BS-IV/5 and BS-V/5,

Noting with concern the drastic decline in the level of bilateral and multilateral funding available for biosafety capacity-building activities,

1. *Urges* Parties to give priority to national biosafety plans and projects under the GEF System for Transparent Allocation of Resources (STAR) to ensure support for the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

I. Guidance to the financial mechanism

2. *Recommends* to the Conference of the Parties, in adopting its further guidance to the financial mechanism with respect to support for the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, that it invite the Global Environment Facility to:

(a) Support regional and multi-country thematic capacity-building projects for the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety using Focal Area Set-aside resources under the biodiversity focal area, outside national STAR allocations;

(b) Allow for more flexibility in the utilization of funds provided for capacity-building to address emerging needs within the overall framework of approved projects;

(c) Further streamline, simplify and expedite, to the extent possible, the process of accessing funds from the GEF trust fund;

(d) Consider developing a new strategy for financing biosafety, incorporating the priorities and objectives of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety 2011–2020 and other developments that have taken place since 2006;

(e) Set aside the guidance contained in paragraph 21 (b) of decision VII/20, which allowed Parties to the Convention that are not yet Parties to the Protocol to receive GEF funding for certain capacity-building activities related to biosafety after providing a clear political commitment towards becoming Parties to the Protocol;

(f) Provide further support to all eligible Parties for capacity-building in the use of the Biosafety Clearing-House, based on experiences or lessons learned during the Project or Continued Enhancement of Building Capacity for Effective Participation in the Biosafety Clearing-House and using resources under the biodiversity focal area;

(g) Make available, in a timely manner, adequate and predictable financial resources to eligible Parties to facilitate the preparation of their third national reports under the Protocol;

(h) Provide support to eligible Parties that have not yet done so to initiate implementation of their legal, administrative and other measures for the implementation of the Protocol;

(i) Take into account the new Framework and Action Plan for Capacity-Building for the Effective Implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety in providing financial support to developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

(j) Provide financial and technical assistance to developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition to undertake, as appropriate, the testing activities referred to in paragraph 3 of decision BS-VI/12 on risk assessment and risk management;

(k) Provide financial and technical assistance to developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition to implement the capacity-building activities referred in paragraph 9 of decision BS-VI/12 on risk assessment and risk management;

(l) Make financial resources available with a view to supporting awareness-raising, experience-sharing and capacity-building activities in order to expedite the early entry into force and implementation of the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Protocol;

(m) Cooperate with and support developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition to build capacity to implement the detection and identification requirements of paragraphs 2(b) and 2(c) of Article 18 of the Protocol and related decisions, including by facilitating the transfer of technology;

(n) Consider, within the four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities for biodiversity for the sixth GEF replenishment period (2014–2018), the following programme priorities with respect to biosafety:

1. National biosafety frameworks;
2. Risk assessment and risk management;
3. Handling, transport, packaging and identification of living modified organisms (LMOs);
4. Liability and redress;
5. Public awareness, education, access to information and participation;
6. Information sharing, including full participation in the Biosafety Clearing-House;
7. Biosafety education and training; and
8. Activities recommended by the Compliance Committee to assist eligible Parties to comply with their obligations under the Protocol;
9. Socio-economic considerations

(o) In providing support for priority 9 specified in paragraph 2(n) above, take into account the outcome of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Socio-Economic Considerations and the decision on the appropriate further steps towards fulfilling operational objective 1.7 of the Strategic Plan for the

Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety 2011-2020, recognising that further work to develop conceptual clarity on the issue is underway;

(p) In allocating resources under the biodiversity focal area, consider making a notional allocation which improves the biosafety share of the biodiversity focal area to support the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety during the sixth replenishment period (2014–2018);

II. *Mobilization of additional resources*

3. *Emphasizes* the need to include financing for biosafety as part of sustainable development financing in the context of the outcomes of the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development that relate to finance, especially section VI.A;

4. *Urges Parties and invites* other Governments to implement, as appropriate, the following measures within the overall framework of the Strategy for Resource Mobilization in support of the Convention on Biological Diversity, with a view to mobilizing additional financial resources for implementation of the Protocol and in accordance with Articles 20 and 21 of the Convention and Article 28 of the Protocol:

(a) Identify and seek funding support from diverse sources including regional and international donor agencies, foundations and, as appropriate, through private-sector involvement;

(b) Establish strategic partnerships with other Parties and other Governments and with various organizations, regional bodies or centres of excellence with a view to pooling resources and/or widening opportunities and possibilities for mobilizing resources from various sources;

(c) Identify and maximize opportunities for technical cooperation with regional and international organizations, institutions and development assistance agencies;

(d) Mainstream biosafety into national development plans and relevant sectoral policies, strategies and programmes, including development assistance programmes and national biodiversity strategies and action plans;

(e) Consider designating dedicated staff for resource mobilization and building internal capacity to mobilize resources for the implementation of national biosafety activities in a systematic, coordinated and sustainable manner;

(f) Ensure efficient use of available resources and adopt cost-effective approaches to capacity-building;

5. *Invites* Parties and other Governments to exchange, through the Biosafety Clearing-House, information on their experiences, good practices and lessons learned on the mobilization of resources at the national and regional levels;

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to include resource mobilization for the Protocol in activities to facilitate the implementation of the strategy for resource mobilization in support of the Convention on Biological Diversity, including in regional and subregional workshops to assist Parties to elaborate country-specific resource mobilization strategies for the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans;

7. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to further communicate with the GEF Secretariat before the meeting of the GEF Council in November 2012 in order to discuss the possibility of opening a special financial support window for implementation of the Protocol, and to report on the outcome to the Parties to the Protocol.

