

**REQUESTS FROM THE COP-9 TO
PARTIES, GOVERNMENTS, AND RELEVANT ORGANIZATIONS, IN RESPECT OF
FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND THE FINANCIAL MECHANISM
(as derived from decisions IX/11 and 31)**

**THE European Commission SUBMISSION to the Notification No. 2008 - 122 – Decisions IX/11 and IX/31 requesting
actions/submissions from Parties, governments and relevant organizations**

Decision	Action/submission required by the ninth Conference of the Parties	Submissions requested by 31 July 2009	The European Commission Responds
IX/11, A	1. <i>Encourages</i> the Parties and relevant organizations to improve the existing financial information through enhancing accuracy, consistency and delivery of existing data on biodiversity financing and improved reporting on funding needs and shortfalls for the Convention's three objectives, and, in this context, <i>requests</i> the Executive Secretary to regularly update and further develop the Convention's online network on finance;		<p>In the mid-term assessment of implementing the EC Biodiversity Action Plan the European Commission came to the conclusion that a systematic problem encountered in many policy areas is the difficulty in obtaining reliable figures for the amount of money actually spent on biodiversity. In many cases, this is simply due to the recording and reporting procedures. Thus there is a need to further develop approaches to determine how much Community funding has been used by the Member States for nature, and whether this is sufficient to support the management and restoration of Natura 2000 and wider biodiversity needs.</p> <p>The European Commission is in a process to refine and strengthen its reporting system on Official Development Assistance (ODA) in general, including improved reporting on financing for biodiversity. This may take the form of introducing sub-codes for different elements of biodiversity in its marker system, and contributing to work in OECD/DAC context on improving the Rio Markers.</p> <p>In June 2009 Directorate General AIDCO has circulated an information note for operational staff of the EC Delegations which presents briefly the main environmental</p>

			issues and the three Rio Conventions. Both the English and French versions present a practical and simple methodology to determine whether a programme or project should be "Rio-Marked". The aim is to improve the usefulness of the OECD "Rio Markers".
	2. <i>Encourages</i> the Parties and relevant organizations to intensify efforts to assess, as appropriate, the economic costs of the loss of biodiversity and its associated ecosystem services and of the failure to take measures to fulfil the three objectives of the Convention, as well as the benefits of early action to reduce loss of biological diversity and its associated ecosystem services, in order to inform decision-making and awareness-raising, <i>inter alia</i> through contributing to the "Global Study on the Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity;"		The European Commission provides support to the global study on 'The Economics of Ecosystems & Biodiversity (TEEB)' of which a next interim report is foreseen to be published in September 2009. Under the 2009 Annual Action Programme implementing the "Thematic Strategy Paper for the Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources, including Energy (ENRTP) for the period 2007-2010" for the Development Cooperation Instrument a contribution of EUR 1 000 000 is foreseen to support dissemination of findings of the study. The European Commission also tries to assess the benefits provided by the Natura 2000 network of protected areas. A toolkit applicable to specific Natura 2000 sites has been developed for this purpose. This might allow in the future attributing a monetary value to the Natura 2000 network.
	4. <i>Urges</i> Parties and Governments, where appropriate, to create the enabling environment to mobilize private and public-sector investments in biological diversity and its associated ecosystem services;		As a conclusion of the 'Lisbon Conference' on Business and Biodiversity (2007), the Commission committed itself to provide technical support for further developing the EU Business and Biodiversity (B@B) Initiative. The Commission has published a call for tender to establish a technical facility/platform. The project aims to set up and operate the B@B Platform web-site including the collection and preparation of up-to-date information on knowhow and best practices; to facilitate discussion and co-operation between stakeholders and enhancing business and financial sector engagement; the preparation of

			<p>sectoral guidance documents on business involvement; the development of clear tools (indicators) to measure biodiversity impacts (benefits); and an EU B@B award scheme to acknowledge outstanding performance.</p> <p>Furthermore Directorate General Environment of the European Commission supports the Biodiversity Technical Assistance Units (BTAU) project. The BTAU project is a Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, European Centre for Nature Conservation, and BirdLife International consortium project which seeks to create 'Pro-Biodiversity' Businesses (PBBs) through dedicated Biodiversity Technical Assistance Units, one in each of the following countries: Bulgaria, Hungary and Poland. The Units will create and apply a public-private partnership approach to exploring business opportunities for safeguarding biodiversity by linking commercial loan funding with public subsidies to produce long-term, site and region-specific economic and nature benefits. The project began in January 2007 and runs for three years. More information on the project can be found here http://www.smeforbiodiversity.eu/.</p>
	5. <i>Recommends</i> that Parties and relevant organizations identify, engage and increase South-South cooperation as a complement to North-South cooperation to enhance technical, financial, scientific and technological cooperation and innovations, for biological diversity;		<p>2009 call for proposals under "Thematic Strategy for the Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources, including Energy (ENRTP) for the period 2007-2010" for the Development Cooperation Instrument invites proposers to submit project proposals to inter alia address this topic in a broad sense.</p>
	6. <i>Urges</i> the Parties and Governments to continue to enhance national administrative and managerial capacities, thus enabling		

	more efficient resource utilization and enhancing positive impacts;		
	7. Urges Parties, the Global Environment Facility, and relevant organizations to include gender, indigenous peoples and local communities perspectives in the financing of biodiversity and its associated ecosystem services;		<p>The EC Biodiversity Action Plan aims to ensure full participation of civil society in development of National Strategic Reference Frameworks (NRSF) and national Operational Programmes of the cohesion and structural funds and in Strategic Environmental Assessments/Environmental Impact Assessments (SEA/EIA) to ensure biodiversity interests are fully respected.</p> <p>The SEA process allows the participation of civil society (in conformity with the provisions of Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment). When the public had expressed comments on the programmes or the SEA, the authority responsible for the programmes had the obligation to explain how the opinions expressed during the consultation had been taken in consideration. The EC Biodiversity Action Plan also aims to ensure public participation, related access to justice requirements of the Aarhus Convention applied to projects, plans and programmes relating to or having an impact on biodiversity conservation. The European Commission monitors proper implementation of Directive 2003/35 on 'Public Participation when drawing up certain plans and programmes relating to the environment' (to be implemented as from June 2005).</p> <p>On 20 December 2005 the Presidents of the Commission, Parliament and the Council signed the new statement on EU development policy, the "European consensus", which, for the first time in fifty years of cooperation, defines the framework of common principles within which the EU and</p>

			<p>its Member States will each implement their development policies in a spirit of complementarity. The consensus contains provisions on how to address gender issues and the interests of indigenous peoples.</p> <p>Gender, indigenous peoples and local communities are taken into consideration in the 2009 call for proposals under "Thematic Strategy for the Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources, including Energy (ENRTP) for the period 2007-2010" for the Development Cooperation Instrument.</p>
	<p>9. <i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary to compile existing guidelines and best practices for mainstreaming financing of biodiversity and its associated ecosystem services into overall and sectoral planning as well as on financial needs assessment and make this information publicly available;</p>	<p>1. Financial needs assessment 2. Existing guidelines and best practices for mainstreaming financing of biodiversity</p>	<p>The European Commission has in 2004 approved a Communication to the Council and the Parliament on the Funding of the Natura 2000 network that identified financial needs for the network and suggested approaches for integrating funding needs into other policy areas and planning.</p> <p>In 2007 the European Commission published a guidance handbook that presents the EU funding options for Natura 2000 sites in the period 2007-2013 that are, in principle, available at the national and regional level. It focuses on the main EU funding instruments that will apply during these years, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Structural Funds (European Social Fund (ESF) and European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)); • The Cohesion Fund; • The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD); • The European Fisheries Fund (EFF); • The Financial Instrument for the Environment (LIFE+); and • The 7th Research Framework Programme (FP7). <p>Related documents and more information can be found here</p>

			http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/financing/index_en.htm The European Commission currently tries to assess the costs of Natura 2000 as the last figure is more than five years old and does not reflect the latest enlargements. The result is expected to be provided by September 2009. The Commission, together with the EU Member States, will in September 2009 start preparing a joint strategy for integrating environment and natural resources in development cooperation. This includes mainstreaming biodiversity, as well as strengthening capacity for mainstreaming environment and natural resources management.
	10. <i>Encourages</i> Parties and other Governments to build on existing knowledge of biodiversity and poverty alleviation mainstreaming to integrate biodiversity into national development policies and plans.		Integration of biodiversity into the European Community's agricultural and rural development, fisheries, regional and territorial, sustainable development, trade and external policies is an essential part of the EC Biodiversity Action Plan. The 2008 mid-term assessment of the plan identifies integration of biodiversity considerations into other sectoral policies as a key challenge. The European Commission and Member States made efforts to strengthen capacities in recipient countries and in Commission and MS cooperation programming, including integrating implementation of the CBD into national development strategies including Poverty Reduction Strategies. Capacities within the EC and partner countries have been strengthened as a result of an ambitious seminar programme on environmental integration in development cooperation put in place since 2005 including seminars in EC Delegations overseas and at EC Headquarters. Seminars have been open to participation from staff of Member States agencies. Methodological support has been made on request to

			operational staff. The Environmental Integration Handbook is increasingly used by EC desk officers http://www.environment-integration.eu/content/section/4/146/lang,en/
IX/11, B	2. <i>Also invites</i> the Parties and relevant organizations, including United Nations development system, the World Bank, regional development banks and all other relevant international and regional bodies, as well as non-governmental organizations and business sector entities to take prompt actions to implement the strategy for resource mobilization in support of the achievement of the Convention's three objectives;		The strategy for resource mobilisation was only adopted at COP 9 while the current EC Biodiversity Action Plan was adopted in May 2006. As the EC is currently reconsidering its biodiversity policy it will take the strategy into consideration during this process.
	3. <i>Invites</i> Parties to come forward with early commitments of additional funding in support of the strategy for resource mobilization in accordance with Article 20 of the Convention;		The European Commission has adopted its 2009 Annual Action Programme implementing the "Thematic Strategy Paper for the Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources, including Energy (ENRTP) for the period 2007-2010" for the Development Cooperation Instrument in May 2009. Considerable funding will be provided for actions that contribute to the achievement of the three objectives of the Convention. The Commission is exploring options for funding biodiversity related activities in its Country and Regional Support Strategies, as well as under the Environment Thematic Programme, in 2010. A total of €30.6 million has been allocated to biodiversity for the four year period from 2007- 2010 under the EC Thematic Programme for Environment and Natural Resources (ENRTP). Furthermore, some other headings of ENRTP are strongly linked to biodiversity. A total of €72

			<p>million is earmarked for the promotion of Sustainable Forest Management. €34 million is available for implementation of the initiative on Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT). €6.4 million is earmarked for fisheries & marine/coastal resources. €12,3 million is earmarked for climate change and biodiversity projects for countries covered by the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI). In total, approximately €155 millions will be available for biodiversity related matters under 2007-2010 ENRTP.</p> <p>As relates to Country and Regional Strategy Programmes for the 2007-2010 period, the provisions show that more than EUR 220 millions would be allocated to programmes with a focus on biodiversity.</p> <p>European Community's official development assistance is focused in certain areas of intervention, responding to the needs of partner countries, in line with the Paris Declaration on aid effectiveness and the Accra agenda for action which seek to strengthen country ownership by aligning to priorities set by recipient countries.</p>
	<p>4. <i>Invites</i> Parties to come forward with new and innovative financing mechanisms in support of the strategy for resource mobilization in accordance with Article 20 of the Convention, <i>requests</i> the Executive Secretary to support diffusion of such initiatives and <i>requests</i> the Global Environment Facility to support diffusion, and facilitate replication and scaling-up, of such initiatives</p>	<p>3. Early commitment of additional funding as well as new and innovative financing mechanisms in support of the strategy for resource mobilization</p>	<p>Under the biodiversity lot under priority two of the 2009 Annual Action Programme implementing the "Thematic Strategy Paper for the Environment and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources, including Energy (ENRTP) for the period 2007-2010" actions to substantially strengthen support for biodiversity conservation in protected areas and buffer zones for maintenance and improvement of ecosystem services to the benefit of local populations are eligible if innovative financing schemes (such as payment for ecosystem services) are part of the proposal. Under the forest lot of priority 2 actions are eligible that address deforestation and forest degradation</p>

	that have proved to be successful;		through targeting improvements in forest law enforcement and governance and the development of finance/incentive mechanisms that can deliver at local level and provide benefits to forest-dependent local and indigenous people.
	<p>6. <i>Invites</i> Parties to submit views on concrete activities and initiatives including measurable targets and/or indicators to achieve the strategic goals contained in the strategy for resource mobilization and on indicators to monitor the implementation of the strategy;</p> <p>7. <i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary to prepare a compilation of the information provided in accordance with paragraph 6 of the present decision, including options on monitoring progress towards the goals and objectives of the resource mobilization strategy, and make it available three months prior to the third meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention</p>	4. Concrete activities and initiatives including measurable targets and/or indicators to achieve the strategic goals contained in the strategy for resource mobilization and indicators to monitor the implementation of the strategy	Within the "Streamlining European 2010 Biodiversity Indicators" (SEBI 2010) initiative a set of European biodiversity indicators has been developed. Under the headline indicator "funding to biodiversity" an indicator on financing biodiversity management has been developed to respond to the question of how much public funding is committed to conservation of biodiversity. It contains information on the use of the LIFE financial instrument for the environment. But the LIFE Nature project represents only a small proportion of the total EU budget and European funding benefiting biodiversity also comes from budget lines within other policy areas, such as agriculture, rural development and research. Therefore there is a need to further develop approaches to determine how much funding from the European Community from various sources has been used by the Member States for nature, and whether this is sufficient to support the management and restoration of Natura 2000 and wider biodiversity needs.
IX/11, B, annex	12. The strategy for resource mobilization is intended to assist Parties in establishing national targets, goals and objectives as well as actions and timeframes, and in considering the establishment of financial mechanisms and other options, to implement the financial	5. Resource mobilization focal point	The EC has already nominated a resource mobilization focal point.

	provisions of the Convention at all levels, based on success stories and good practices. Each Party should consider appointing a “ resource mobilization focal point ” to facilitate national implementation of the strategy for resource mobilization. National implementation should include, as appropriate, the design and dissemination of a country-specific resource mobilization strategy, with the involvement of key stakeholders such as non-governmental organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, environmental funds, businesses and donors, in the frame of updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans.		
IX/31, A	<p>5. <i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary, for consideration by the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties:</p> <p>(a) To invite Parties to submit assessments of their future funding needs based on their updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans;</p> <p>(b) To compile these national submissions;</p> <p>(c) To prepare, in consultation with the Parties, draft terms of</p>	<p>6. Assessments of future funding needs based on their updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans</p> <p>7. Draft terms of reference for a full assessment of the amount of funds needed for the</p>	<p>The European Commission currently tries to assess the costs of Natura 2000 as the last figure is more than five years old and does not reflect the latest enlargements of the European Union. The result is expected to be provided by September 2009.</p> <p>We have furthermore identified the need to develop approaches to determine how much Community funding has been used by the Member States for nature, and whether this is sufficient to support the management and restoration of Natura 2000 and wider biodiversity needs. The</p> <p>The Council Conclusions from 25 June 2009 invited the European Commission, in collaboration with Member</p>

	reference for a full assessment of the amount of funds needed for the implementation of the Convention for the sixth replenishment period of the Trust Fund of the Global Environment Facility	implementation of the Convention for the sixth replenishment period of the Trust Fund of the Global Environment Facility	States, to assess the adequateness of the integrated approach for the financing of Natura 2000 emphasised the importance of adequately considering biodiversity funding needs in the forthcoming EU budget review.
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