



CBD COP-12

BIODIVERSITY & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

WWF Coordination on CBD, 21 August 2014

TWELFTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
6 - 17 October 2014 - Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea

Agenda Item 16. Biodiversity and Sustainable Development

WWF key messages

The UN post 2015 process is a once in a generation opportunity to ensure that the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services is fully recognised and integrated into the future global sustainable development agenda

WWF urges COP-12 to adopt the draft decision on this agenda item from Document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/1/Add.2 with WWF proposed text changes set out below, and particularly to call on Parties to:

1. Engage fully in the UN negotiations for the post 2015 Development Agenda to ensure that the critical values of biodiversity and ecosystems are integrated into all relevant goals and targets, and that the post 2015 Development Agenda is a transformative agenda for the future of people and the planet;
2. Welcome the integration of biodiversity and ecosystem aspects into the proposed SDGs by the Open Working Group on SDGs;
3. Integrate biodiversity and ecosystem services into national poverty eradication strategies and national development, accounting and planning processes;
4. Note the necessity to meet the Aichi targets and welcome the challenge to build further on them if the proposed SDGs are to be achieved; and
5. Reflect these messages in the High Level Segment's Statement and the 'Pyeongchang Roadmap to 2020'.

WWF welcomes the draft decision as set out in UNEP/CBD/COP/12/1/Add.2 and calls on COP-12 to consider for inclusion the following proposed text changes in its final decisions.

New text proposed by WWF is in bold and underlined. Text that WWF recommends to delete is highlighted with strike-through."

Item 16. Biodiversity and sustainable development

The following is taken from recommendation 5/8 B of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention.

Integrating biodiversity into the post 2015 United Nations Development Agenda and the sustainable development goals

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Stresses* the need for the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and sustainable development goals to support the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and to tackle ~~causes~~ **the underlying drivers of biodiversity loss** ~~of the loss of biodiversity~~ and *encourages* Parties and all relevant stakeholders, and indigenous and local communities, to engage in the discussions on the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and the sustainable development goals and to ~~appropriately reflect~~ **call for the integration of** the objectives of the Convention and its Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets and associated vision for 2050 in the **overarching chapeau, the** sustainable development goals, targets and indicators, **as well as the means of implementation**, highlighting the crucial importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services and functions for sustainable development;

1 bis. Since biodiversity and ecosystem services relate to all facets of human life and wellbeing, encourages Parties to engage in the discussions on the post-2015 agenda and ensure that this is properly reflected in all relevant goals and targets, inter alia economic, poverty, water, agriculture, fisheries, health, food security, nutrition, energy, infrastructure, disaster risk reduction, urban settlements, forests, oceans, employment, equity and governance.

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of funding and human resources:

(a) To continue the work requested by Conference of the Parties in decisions X/6 and XI/22, in the context of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets, taking into account the outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development,¹ the final report of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals to the United Nations General Assembly and the negotiations toward a post-2015 United Nations development agenda, and to report on his efforts for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting;

(b) To continue the collaboration, with key partners, to actively contribute to the discussions of the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and the sustainable development goals and follow the conclusion and relevant outcomes and to inform Parties of any major developments related to biodiversity **including where proposed goals and targets potentially undermine the ecosystem services and biodiversity and the life support systems of the planet;**

(c) To support Parties by continuing his engagement in the ongoing processes to ensure the appropriate integration of biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services in the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and sustainable development goals, targets and indicators and by continuing to assist Parties in their efforts to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services into poverty eradication and development.

The following is taken from recommendation 5/8 A of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group

¹ General Assembly resolution 66/288.

Biodiversity for poverty eradication and sustainable development

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling decision X/6 and decision XI/22,

Recalling the eight Millennium Development Goals adopted in 2000 at the Millennium Summit,² the objectives and Articles of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity,

Recalling the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”, in which, inter alia, Heads of State and Government reaffirmed the intrinsic value of biodiversity as well as its critical role in maintaining ecosystem services, recognized the severity of global biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation and emphasized that these undermine global development, and also affirmed that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development,

Recognizing the processes on the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and the sustainable development goals, **and the Outcome Document of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals in July 2014**

Noting that the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) defined “nature’s benefits to people” to refer to “all the benefits that humanity obtains from nature. Ecosystem goods and services considered separately or in bundles, are included in this category. Within other knowledge systems, nature’s gifts and similar concepts refer to the benefits of nature from which people derive a good quality of life. Aspects of nature that can be negative to people, such as pests, pathogens or predators, are also included in this broad category. All nature’s benefits have anthropocentric value, including instrumental values – the direct and indirect contributions of ecosystem services to a good quality of life, which can be conceived in terms of preference satisfaction, and relational values, which contribute to desirable relationships, such as those among people and between people and nature, as in the notion of ‘living in harmony with nature’”,³

Recognizing the need for increased capacity for mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services into poverty eradication and development processes at all levels and for all sectors and actors [, being aware of the Busan Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation from the Fourth High-level Forum on Aid Effectiveness],⁴

Taking into account that many currently poor communities have been traditionally very effective conservers of nature and its biodiversity, such as through various forms of indigenous and community conserved areas and territories (ICCAs), and have therefore been users of biodiversity and ecosystem services,

Also taking into account relevant initiatives, such as the Satoyama Initiative, consistent with decisions X/32 and XI/25, Living Well in Harmony and Balance with Mother Earth,⁵ and initiatives from indigenous and community conserved areas and territories (ICCAs) and The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB),

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Expert Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development for completing the work requested in decisions X/6 and XI/22; and *takes note* of the Dehradun/Chennai Recommendations and the Guidance⁶ developed by the Expert

² See General Assembly resolution 55/2.

³ Report of the Second Session of the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, held in Antalya, Turkey, 9-14 December 2013 (IPBES/2/17, p. 44).

⁴ See www.aideffectiveness.org/busanhlf4/images/stories/hlf4/OUTCOME_DOCUMENT-FINAL_EN.pdf.

⁵ <http://ucordillera.edu.bo/descarga/livingwell.pdf>.

⁶ UNEP/CBD/WGRI/5/6, annex I and II.

Group on Biodiversity for Poverty Eradication and Development, from which the Working Group at its fifth meeting has extracted and revised elements;

2. *Encourages* Parties to integrate biodiversity and nature's benefits to people, including ecosystem services and functions, into poverty eradication and development strategies, initiatives and processes at all levels; and vice versa poverty eradication and development concerns and priorities into national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) and other appropriate plans, policies and programmes for the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the achievement of its Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and to monitor, evaluate and report, through appropriate indicators and tools, and include this information, inter alia, in their national report to the Convention;

2 bis: Encourages Parties to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem services into national poverty eradication strategies and national development, accounting and planning processes in order to capture the value of biodiversity in national development planning across all sectors and to identify financial and human resources needed for the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

3. *Encourages* Parties to develop approaches to build resilience of ecosystem services and functions from climate change risks and natural hazards, and adaptation to environmental stress, and other anthropogenic pressures for consideration in strategies and national development/sectoral plans, among others;

4. *Encourages* Parties, other Governments, international organizations, multilateral and regional development banks and the private sector to recognize and take into account the diverse and holistic, intrinsic values of biodiversity, including its spiritual and cultural values, and to use appropriate and effective non-market-based, market-based and rights-based approaches, taking into account national circumstances, visions and approaches, such as Living- Well in Harmony and Balance with Mother Earth, and the construction of a resource-efficient society, in the efforts mentioned above;

5. *Encourages* Parties, other Governments, international organizations and relevant stakeholders to ensure that, in their efforts to integrate biodiversity into poverty eradication and development strategies, initiatives and processes, they identify and promote policies, activities, projects and mechanisms on biodiversity and development that empower, indigenous and local communities, the poor, marginalized and vulnerable, who depend directly on biodiversity and ecosystem services and functions for their livelihoods, recognizing their role of collective action in the conservation of biodiversity and the sustainable use of its components;

6. *Encourages* Parties, other Governments, international organizations and relevant stakeholders to support indigenous and community conserved areas and territories, community-based management, customary sustainable use and community governance of biodiversity, and ensure their full and effective participation in decision-making processes, including through a rights-based approach, taking into account international instruments and law related to human rights in accordance with national legislation;

7. *Encourages* Parties, other Governments, international organizations, and other relevant stakeholders, and indigenous and local communities to identify best practices and lessons learned, on integrating biodiversity, poverty eradication, and development, that can contribute to advancing poverty eradication and development, and to share this information using the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention and, as appropriate, other relevant ways;

8. *Encourages* Parties, other Governments, international organizations, relevant stakeholders and indigenous and local communities to take steps to identify and overcome barriers to the implementation of decisions of the Conference of the Parties, such as lack of cross-sector coordination, resources and political prioritization, in order to effectively integrate biodiversity, poverty eradication and development, and to share lessons learned and the approaches or methods used to overcome barriers using the clearing-house mechanism;

9. *Calls upon* Parties and others, as appropriate, to develop or strengthen the enabling environment and the capacity of Parties, communities, organizations and individuals, to effectively integrate the interlinkages between biodiversity and poverty eradication and development, and relevant cross-cutting issues by providing the necessary technical, scientific support and financial resources;

10. *Welcomes* the work of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention at its fifth meeting, in producing the Chennai Guidance for Implementation of the Integration of Biodiversity and Poverty Eradication, contained in the annex hereto, recommends its application by Parties and organizations engaged in the issues of biodiversity and poverty eradication and development, as appropriate, in accordance with national circumstances and priorities; and recommends that it be taken into account in their related plans, policies and actions, and in the implementation of related programmes;

11. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of funding and human resources:

(a) To continue the work requested by Conference of the Parties in decisions X/6 and XI/22, for the effective integration of biodiversity for poverty eradication and development, including the related decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting;

(b) To assist Parties in implementing the Chennai Guidance for Implementation of the Integration of Biodiversity and Poverty Eradication contained in the annex hereto.

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