

Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/3/2
14 March 2010

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

Third meeting

Nairobi, 24-28 May 2010

Item 5.2 of the provisional agenda*

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION AND THE STRATEGIC PLAN

Implementation of the Strategic Plan and progress towards the 2010 biodiversity target, and in-depth review of goals 1 and 4 of the Strategic Plan

Note by the Executive Secretary

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its seventh meeting, the Conference of the Parties established the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention to, *inter alia*, consider progress in the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan and achievements leading up to the 2010 biodiversity target, in line with the multi-year programme of work for the Conference of the Parties, to review the impacts and effectiveness of existing processes under the Convention, and to consider ways and means of identifying and overcoming obstacles to the effective implementation of the Convention (decision VII/30, paragraph 23). In decision IX/9, paragraph 2, the Conference of the Parties requested the Working Group on the Review of Implementation, at its third meeting, to undertake an in-depth review of progress towards goals 1 and 4 of the current Strategic Plan for the period 2002-2010.

2. The in-depth review, together with the in-depth review of goals 2 and 3 undertaken at the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties,¹ will provide inputs to the process of revising the Strategic Plan beyond 2010.²

3. Section II of the present note presents a summary of the in-depth review of goals 1 and 4 and an update of the earlier review of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan. Section III provides an overall assessment of progress and considers capacity-development needs. Further information is provided in an

* UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/3/1.

¹ See decision IX/8.

² See decision IX/9, paragraph 1, and decision IX/8, paragraph 23.

information note containing a on preliminary analysis of information contained in the fourth national reports,³ and in the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook.⁴

4. The main sources of information for this review are the fourth national reports and information provided by participants at the various sub-regional capacity development workshops on national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the mainstreaming of biodiversity (<http://www.cbd.int/nbsap/workshops/>). The data is based on variable numbers of national reports, depending on the number received and analysed, as indicated in the various parts of the note.

5. This review does not cover those objectives of the Strategic Plan relating to the Biosafety Protocol (strategic objectives 1.4, 2.3, 2.4, 3.2, 4.2)

II. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 1: The Convention is fulfilling its leadership role in international biodiversity issues.

6. The 2006 review considered by the Conference of the Parties and its eighth meeting summarized progress towards this goal as follows: “Progress is being made towards this goal and many of the objectives could be reached by 2010 through current or planned activities. For future progress, focused attention is needed to integrate biodiversity concerns into global and regional instruments and processes that relate to major economic sectors (such as agriculture, forestry, fisheries and trade), and in improving coherence at the national level.” Progress since then is briefly reviewed in the following paragraphs.

Objective 1.1. The Convention is setting the global biodiversity agenda.

7. There has been substantial progress in this objective since the last review in 2006. Since then, the 2010 biodiversity target has been incorporated as a new target into the Millennium Development Goals, and progress is being monitored alongside the other targets with a final review anticipated in 2015. The biodiversity target has also been supported by successive meetings of the G8 (Heiligendamm 2007; Hokkaido-Toyako 2008; Syracuse 2009).

8. The 2010 biodiversity target has been recognized and supported by the other biodiversity-related conventions, notably the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, Especially as Waterfowl Habitat and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals. The implementation of the Convention is being supported by a large number of organizations, agencies and other partners with tangible progress linked to time-bound targets set through, for example, the Convention’s programme of work on protected areas, the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and several sub-targets of the 2010 Biodiversity Target framework.

9. The 2010 International Year of Biodiversity is being used as a major opportunity to influence the global biodiversity agenda. A significant number of partners are implementing activities in support of the biodiversity agenda, and a high-level meeting on biodiversity will be held during the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly of the United Nations.

Objective 1.2. The Convention is promoting cooperation between all relevant international instruments and processes to enhance policy coherence.

10. The Convention on Biological Diversity collaborates with a wide range of partners. However, given the broad scope of biodiversity-related issues and the large number of relevant instruments and processes, this inevitably remains incomplete. Differences in membership and mandates among

³ UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/3/INF/1.

⁴ See UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/8 and <http://www.cbd.int/gbo3/>.

instruments and processes, each with their separate governing bodies relating to different ministries, provide additional constraints. These could be addressed in part through better coordination of national agencies and coherent national positions within different forums.

11. Examples of collaboration include:

(a) With the biodiversity-related conventions, including through the liaison group of biodiversity-related conventions and meetings of the chairs of biodiversity-related conventions, as well as joint implementation of programmes of work (e.g., partnership with the Ramsar Convention on inland waters and coastal ecosystems);

(b) With the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, including through the development of guidance on adaptation and mitigation through the Second Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Climate Change;

(c) With the International Plant Protection Convention and other instruments related to invasive species;

(d) With the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) and other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) on forest biodiversity issues, especially the links between biodiversity conservation and reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.

12. Less progress has been achieved in promoting collaboration and policy coherence with the economic sectors (agriculture, fisheries, trade).

Objective 1.3. Other international processes are actively supporting implementation of the Convention, in a manner consistent with their respective frameworks.

13. Several biodiversity-related and some other processes are actively supporting implementation of the Convention, at least in part, including voluntary initiatives, but many are not, especially in broader economic sectors. Obstacles include specific and limited agendas of other bodies and limited funding and human resources. An analysis on how the United Nations system can enhance its support and contribution to the implementation of the post-2010 agenda of the Convention is being carried out under the Environmental Management Group. Examples of support to implementation of the Convention by other partners include:

(a) Support from a number of international non-governmental organizations for the implementation of the programme of work on protected areas (“Friends of PoWPA”);

(b) The Global Invasive Species Programme;

(c) The Global Partnership for Plant Conservation;

(d) The 2010 Biodiversity Indicators Partnership.

Objective 1.5. Biodiversity concerns are being integrated into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies at the regional and global levels.

14. Increasingly, biodiversity is being integrated in relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies at the regional level. Examples include:

(a) Integration into the forestry programmes of the Commission of Forestry in Central Africa (COMIFAC);

- (b) Integration into the development cooperation policies of the European Union.

15. However, there remains a large potential, so far mostly unrealized, to integrate biodiversity into the main regional economic policies, including through the regional economic commissions of the United Nations. “The Economics of Biodiversity and Ecosystems” (TEEB) programme is expected to provide an enhanced rationale and give momentum to the integration of biodiversity into decision making processes at all levels.

16. At the global level, as noted above, biodiversity is integrated into many objectives (including the Millennium Development Goals) but this is rarely translated into changes in practice.

Objective 1.6. Parties are collaborating at the regional and subregional levels to implement the Convention.

17. Many regions or subregions have developed regional biodiversity strategies or action plans: these include:

- (a) EU Biodiversity Action Plan (European Union);
- (b) Central American Biodiversity Strategy (Central American Commission for Environment and Development (CCAD));
- (c) Cooperative Strategy for the Conservation of Biological Diversity in the Arctic region (Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF));
- (d) Southern Africa Biodiversity Strategy (Southern Africa Development Community (SADC));
- (e) Andean Biodiversity Strategy (Andean Community); and
- (f) Regional Action Plan for Amazonian Biodiversity (Amazon Treaty Cooperation Organization).

18. A number of regional mechanisms such as the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and its Centre for Biodiversity (ACB), the European Union, the Central American Commission for Environment and Development (CCAD), Commission of Forestry in Central Africa (COMIFAC), Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP), the Committee of Arab Ministers Responsible for the Environment of the League of Arab States, among others, play an important role in supporting implementation of the Convention.

Overall assessment of progress towards goal 1.

19. There has been substantial progress towards goal 1 with a number of significant achievements since 2006. The declaration by the United Nations General Assembly of 2010 as the International Year of Biodiversity is testimony to the higher profile accorded to biodiversity and to the Convention. Nonetheless, the main conclusions noted in the 2006 review largely remain relevant with the greatest challenges being those related to the integration of biodiversity in the economic sectors. The increased attention given to climate change mitigation and adaptation, and the role of biodiversity in this regard and its contribution to a potential “green economy”, offers major opportunities to advance this agenda.

Goal 2: Parties have improved financial, human, scientific, technical, and technological capacity to implement the Convention.

20. The 2006 review considered by the Conference of the Parties and its eight meeting summarized progress towards this goal as follows: “The current lack of significant progress towards this goal remains a major problem for the Convention, since lack of financial, human, scientific, technical, and technological capacity constitutes a major obstacle to implementation. There is a need for increased resources to be provided from both domestic and international sources. However, these are becoming increasingly linked as more development aid is provided through general budget support to developing countries. The underlying obstacles are lack of awareness of biodiversity and its importance among donors, other key actors and society at large, and lack of political will and support.” Progress since then is briefly reviewed in the following paragraphs.

Objective 2.1. All Parties have adequate capacity for implementation of priority actions in national biodiversity strategy and action plans.

21. Most Parties (87% of 85 reports reviewed), including both developed and developing countries, continue to report that limited capacity, including financial, human and technical issues, is a major obstacle to the implementation of one or more of the three goals of the Convention.

22. At the same time, Parties report important improvements in capacity. In Pakistan, a biodiversity secretariat was established in 2005 to facilitate and coordinate the implementation of the national biodiversity action plan. In South Africa, significant progress has been made in providing ease of access to biodiversity information that contributes to policy, decision-making and awareness-raising, with much of this information being made available through the Internet. Some recently developed national biodiversity strategies and action plans (e.g., Thailand, Indonesia) place a greater emphasis on capacity-building and institutional arrangements than do earlier strategies.

23. Globally-recognized institutions such as the Smithsonian Institute, the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, and the French National Museum of Natural History provide capacity development programmes.

24. Countries also report that they benefit from the capacity-development workshops that have been held to assist countries in implementing the Convention, including the workshops on the implementation of the programme of work on protected areas, and the workshops on national biodiversity strategies and action plans and biodiversity mainstreaming.

Objective 2.2. Developing country Parties, in particular the least developed and the small island developing States amongst them, and other Parties with economies in transition, have sufficient resources available to implement the three objectives of the Convention.

25. Capacity limitations remain particularly acute in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, especially the least developed countries, other small and medium-sized, low-income countries, and small island developing States.

26. The Global Environment Facility (GEF) has provided substantial resources for the implementation of the Convention. Nearly all developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition have increased the number of national staff dedicated to biodiversity financed through national budgets. Much of this set of core staff has been financially enabled to undertake biodiversity programmes, projects and activities, in particular with respect to policy development and awareness-raising. Some countries have been able to finance biodiversity projects identified in their national biodiversity strategies and action plans. However, overall, national biodiversity staff members lack necessary skills to mobilize and manage financial resources and have no financial capability to leverage possible changes in other sectors that have impacts on biodiversity objectives. There is a general lack of awareness on the strategy

for resource mobilization at the national level, and no country has started to develop a country-specific strategy for resource mobilization in support of the achievement of the Convention's objectives at the national level, as envisaged in decision IX/11.

27. As the institutional structure operating the financial mechanism of the Convention, the GEF has been expected to provide essential resources to support the implementation of the Convention. Implementation of many provisions of the Convention and its Protocol on Biosafety has been made possible with financial resources from the GEF. Documents prepared for the fifth replenishment negotiations of the GEF Trust Fund indicated that there was no increase in real terms in the past third and fourth replenishments, and argued for a higher level of replenishment for the fifth phase of the GEF. The operational environments of the financial mechanism have also evolved rapidly during the past few years, with the introduction of resource allocation frameworks and reforms to project cycles. Some 27% of GEF-4 resources, nearly US\$ 850 million, will be carried over to GEF-5. Meanwhile, the guidance from the Conference of the Parties to the financial mechanism has become more outcome-oriented, by adopting a four-year framework of programme priorities related to utilization of GEF resources for biodiversity for the period 2010-2014. As a new strategic plan will be adopted for the next decade and beyond, it is important that the financial mechanism also develop a longer-term perspective on how it will catalyse adequate, predictable and timely financial support, coinciding with the new strategic plan of the Convention.

28. A Rio Marker for biodiversity has been introduced in the Creditor Reporting System of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, and this has enabled bilateral and multilateral donors to report their financial support to biodiversity objectives in a comparative and consistent manner. The marked aid to biodiversity in nominal terms has increased from around US\$ 1 billion in 2000 to over US\$ 3 billion in 2009. Much of the increase in marked aid to biodiversity has been driven by the overall increase in official development assistance during the same period. However, many donors have discontinued their funding programmes specifically designed for supporting biodiversity projects, and re-adjusted their overall funding priorities without adequate consideration of biodiversity objectives. The lack of longer-term perspectives by bilateral and multilateral donors and agencies in supporting biodiversity objectives will pose a major challenge to the ultimate realization of the biodiversity targets to be set out in the Convention's new Strategic Plan.

29. While trends in overseas development assistance devoted to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use have shown an increase in recent years, it is clearly not sufficient to meet the needs or expectations of developing countries.

30. Further information on the availability of financial resources is available on the Convention's website.

Objective 2.5. Technical and scientific cooperation is making a significant contribution to building capacity.

31. The absence of, or difficulties in, accessing scientific information as well as limited awareness of biodiversity issues, are identified by most (89% of 85 reports reviewed) Parties as being an obstacle to the protection of biodiversity.

32. In some cases, relevant information about a country's biodiversity and means to protect it exist, but are not practically accessible to those who need to use it.

33. While some countries have a national clearing-house mechanism (e.g., Brazil, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Singapore, Thailand), national clearing-house mechanism nodes are generally poorly developed. The role of the clearing-house

mechanism in facilitating communication among stakeholders and supporting mainstreaming is particularly limited.

34. Some countries have well developed institutions that collate, analyse and make available information, often acting as “knowledge brokers”. Examples include the Mexico National Commission for Biodiversity Knowledge and Use (CONABIO) and the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI). Other countries may be able to benefit from the experience of these in developing capacity to collect and use biodiversity-related knowledge.

Overall assessment of progress towards goal 2

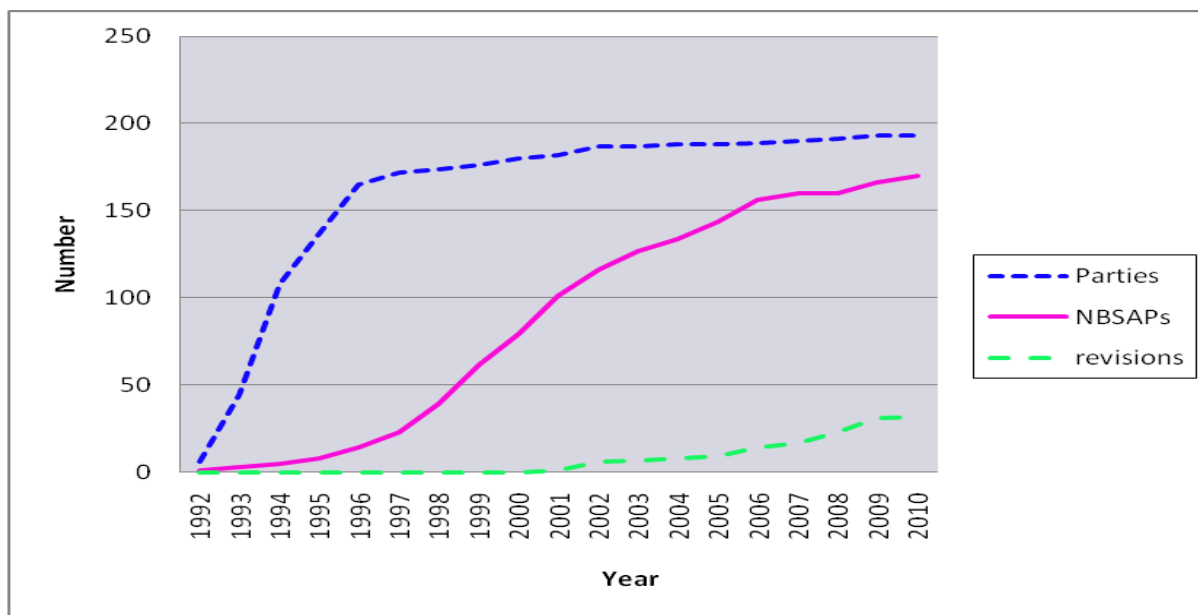
35. Most (87%) Parties continue to report that limited capacity, including financial, human and technical issues, is a major obstacle to the implementation of one or more of the three goals of the Convention. Both developed and developing countries have indicated that limited capacity is an issue. Overall it seems that, while there have been some important programmes for capacity development and institutional strengthening, progress towards this goal remains generally poor. There remains a major need to increase support for capacity development and knowledge management, especially for the least developed countries, other small and medium-sized low-income countries, and small island developing states.

Goal 3: National biodiversity strategies and action plans and the integration of biodiversity concerns into relevant sectors serve as an effective framework for the implementation of the objectives of the Convention

36. The 2006 review considered by the Conference of the Parties and its eight meeting summarized progress towards this goal as follows: “Progress towards this goal remains poor. While some 100 Parties have developed national biodiversity strategies and action plans, this represents little over half of all Parties—12 years after the entry into force of the Convention. Satisfactory implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans is presumably limited to even fewer countries. However, there is a paucity of good information available to gauge this, because of the low compliance rate in preparing national reports and the limited usefulness of the information contained therein. This lack of information limits the potential for improvement through either exchange of good practices among Parties or through feedback to inform further guidance to Conference of the Parties.” Progress since then is briefly reviewed in the following paragraphs.

Objective 3.1. Every Party has effective national strategies, plans and programmes in place to provide a national framework for implementing the three objectives of the Convention and to set clear national priorities

37. One hundred and seventy Parties (88% of the total) have finalized their national biodiversity strategies and action plans or equivalent instruments. In addition, fourteen Parties have informed the Secretariat that they are preparing their national biodiversity strategy and action plan. Two Parties, that have acceded to the Convention in the last two years, and seven others, have not prepared a national biodiversity strategy and action plan or initiated the process to do so, or have not informed the Secretariat that they have done so (see figure 1 and the annex to the present note). At least 48 Parties have revised national biodiversity strategies and action plans, or are in the process of doing so. Revisions are designed to identify and meet new challenges and to respond to recent guidance from the Conference of the Parties. Some Parties are developing biodiversity strategies and/or action plans at the sub-national level.

Figure 1: Growth in the number of Parties (----), NBSAPs (—), and revised NBSAPs (- -)

38. Information obtained recently from the capacity development workshops on national biodiversity strategies and action plans and biodiversity mainstreaming and from the fourth national reports indicate that the quantity and quality of national biodiversity strategies and action plans was underestimated in the 2006 review (see, for example, figure 1). Nonetheless, the data also show significant progress since that time.

39. Recently developed and updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans tend to be more strategic than the first generation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and have a stronger emphasis on biodiversity mainstreaming (see objective 3.3 below). Thus, there appears to have been an evolution in the scope and strategic focus of national biodiversity strategies and action plans; while many early national biodiversity strategies and action plans included lists of activities and of (largely unfunded) project proposals, more recent ones place emphasis on the key policy and institutional changes required for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.

40. While many countries already had conservation-oriented laws and programmes before the Convention on Biological Diversity came into force, most have found that national biodiversity strategies and action plans provide a useful framework for a broader range of actions corresponding to the three objectives of the Convention. In many countries, national biodiversity strategies and action plans have promoted the development of additional laws and programmes, and have catalysed action in a broader range of issues such as: invasive alien species (beyond those already addressed through plant protection services in the agricultural and forest sectors); sustainable use; incentive measures; protection of traditional knowledge; access and benefit sharing; biosafety; and agricultural biodiversity.

41. In their fourth national reports, most Parties (86% of 85 reports examined) indicated that they have developed new legislation related to biodiversity since their third national reports were submitted (see UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/3/INF/1, table 1). Few Parties provided information on the impact of this new legislation.

42. Some newer national biodiversity strategies and action plans contain goals and targets, (e.g., Indonesia, Philippines, China). However, national biodiversity strategies and action plans with quantitative targets or targets that are closely linked to the 2010 biodiversity target (e.g., Brazil, South

Africa) are still in a minority. Document UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/3/INF/7 provides a list of targets included in fourth national reports for 2010 and beyond 2010.

Objective 3.3. Biodiversity concerns are being integrated into relevant national sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies.

43. In their fourth national reports, most countries (86% of the 85 reports examined) indicate that they are taking actions towards mainstreaming. However, very few countries elaborate on mechanisms to make mainstreaming happen and even fewer on how mainstreaming has generated outcomes.

44. Mainstreaming needs to take place at various levels: integration into cross-sectoral policies and strategies (finance, national development, poverty eradication); integration of biodiversity into economic sectors (including through different government ministries); and integration into spatial planning, at all levels of government, especially at provincial/state and municipal levels.

- *Integration into cross-sectoral policies and strategies*

45. To be effective, NBSAPs must reflect broader national development and environment objectives. For example, the Namibian NBSAP is positioned as a contribution to national development and Vision 2030, and the Madagascan NBSAP was updated to align with the priorities of the Madagascan Action Plan which sets out the overall vision of the Government. Rwanda has integrated biodiversity issues into its Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy.

46. A number of recently developed or updated NBSAPs are closely linked with the cycle of national planning processes such as five-year plans (e.g., Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand), poverty reduction plans (Cambodia, Madagascar, Viet Nam), the framework for achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (Cambodia) and development plans (Namibia, Philippines). In Indonesia, the planning authority (BAPPENAS) led the development of the NBSAP which facilitated the later incorporation of the NBSAP into the Medium-Term Development Plan.

47. Many (69%) Parties report that they are undertaking activities related to climate change adaptation, some (31%) report that they are taking actions related to climate change mitigation and some (36%) report that they have undertaken vulnerability assessments.

- *Integration into ministries and economic sectors*

48. Many countries report the integration of biodiversity into the tourism, forestry and agricultural sectors. The integration of biodiversity into other sectors is less common. For example, France has developed sectoral action plans to implement the NBSAP through various ministries. Rwanda reports that it has successfully mainstreamed biodiversity in other sectors besides the environment, such as agriculture, education, health, rural development, forestry, mining, tourism, finance, trade and industry.

- *Integration into spatial planning and at various levels of government.*

49. Recently developed national biodiversity strategies and action plans tend to give greater emphasis to biodiversity planning at the sub-national level (state/provincial and local/district). Many Parties (61% of 85 reports reviewed) report that sub-national policies are contributing to the conservation and/or sustainable use of biodiversity. In some countries, this is in line with programmes of decentralization and/or increased regional autonomy (e.g., Indonesia, China, Pakistan). Some federal countries have promoted the development of state or provincial biodiversity strategies and action plans (e.g., India, which has 71 strategies and action plans representing local, state, ecoregional and thematic levels); Mexico, where state biodiversity strategies have been adopted by Michoacán and Morales and are in preparation in another 8 states). Additionally, Peru has developed 17 “regional biodiversity strategies” as

biodiversity planning instruments. The United Kingdom has a large number of local biodiversity action plans.

50. Few Parties (21% of 85 reports reviewed) report that they are integrating biodiversity into spatial planning and there would appear to be much potential to promote this. Brazil has promoted Ecological-Economical Zoning processes at multiple scales (federal, state, Acre municipal, river basin). South Africa has carried out a national spatial assessment of biodiversity and is integrating biodiversity into spatial planning and economic development in North West and Western Cape Provinces.

- *Tools for mainstreaming*

51. Nearly all Parties (92% of 85 reports reviewed) have mechanisms in place for environmental impact assessment and some (38%) reported having mechanisms related to strategic environmental impact assessment. Both figures represent an increase from the situation in the third national reports.

52. The use of economic instruments is seen as an important—but under-used—approach to mainstream biodiversity. Some countries such as Mexico are integrating biodiversity-related issues into national accounts.

Objective 3.4: The priorities in national biodiversity strategies and action plans are being actively implemented, as a means to achieve national implementation of the Convention, and as a significant contribution towards the global biodiversity agenda

53. The fourth national reports provide many examples of activities being implemented by countries (see UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/3/INF/1, section II B).

54. Few reports provide detailed assessments concerning the extent to which activities in their NBSAPs have been implemented or what outcomes have been achieved. France reports that 32% of actions identified in the NBSAP have been completed, an additional 54% have been initiated, while 14% have yet to be launched. Four other reports indicate similar proportions of activities or elements of the NBSAP that have been implemented: Djibouti -- 30% of the projects; Kyrgyzstan -- 30% of the strategic components; Togo -- 40% of the 119 priority actions; Turkmenistan -- 49% of the objectives and activities. While there are only five such quantitative assessments, they are remarkably similar in their results with implementation levels ranging from 30 to 50%. They are also broadly consistent with the overall perception that NBSAP implementation remains low, but not insignificant.

55. Few countries have provided analysis of the outcomes or impacts that NBSAP implementation has generated. However, many provide examples of activities that contribute to the goals and sub-targets of the 2010 Biodiversity Target (see UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/3/INF/1, table 2.)

56. All the countries report on challenges encountered in NBSAP implementation or the implementation of the Convention as a whole. For example, India has assessed challenges and constraints for implementation of each of the objectives identified in its NBSAP while highlighting progress and achievements made. Main obstacles to implementation reported include: limited financial, technical and human resources and capacities, limited information, low political will, lack of coordination between ministries, poverty, low awareness level of biodiversity issues and limited incentives for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.

Overall assessment of progress towards goal 3.

57. There has been substantial progress in national implementation of the Convention. Nearly 90% of Parties have developed national biodiversity strategies and actions plans and are in the process of implementing them. New legislation has been developed, institutions strengthened and many activities for

biodiversity conservation and use carried out. There have also been major advances in the mainstreaming of biodiversity especially in some sectors (forestry, tourism) and, in some cases, in national strategies for poverty reduction and sustainable development. Major challenges remain however, particularly in reaching the most economically important sectors.

Goal 4: There is a better understanding of the importance of biodiversity and of the Convention, and this has led to broader engagement across society in implementation

58. The 2006 review considered by the Conference of the Parties and its eight meeting summarized progress towards this goal as follows: “Progress towards this goal is mixed. Indigenous and local community representatives and some stakeholders (such as many civil-society organizations) are well engaged with the Convention, although the involvement of indigenous and local communities at the national level is often limited. There is very little engagement of the private sector at any level, despite their significant impacts on biodiversity. Current communication, education and public awareness programmes are not sufficient to address the widespread lack of awareness and understanding of biodiversity.” Progress since then is briefly reviewed in the following paragraphs.

Objective 4.1. All Parties are implementing a communication, education, and public awareness strategy and promoting public participation in support of the Convention.

59. Nearly all Parties (96% of 103 reports reviewed) report that they are undertaking actions related to education and public awareness. While some of these actions are part of strategic communication, education and public awareness campaigns, others are more general. Several Parties note the important role of non-governmental organizations in awareness-raising activities, particularly in developing countries.

60. Despite this widespread recognition of the importance of CEPA, only 14% of Parties (of 103 reports reviewed) report in their fourth national reports that they have implemented a strategy for the CEPA programme of work. Three Parties (Finland, Kenya, Sao Tome and Principe) report that they have developed a stand-alone CEPA strategy while one (Cuba) has incorporated a section for CEPA activities within its revised national biodiversity strategy and action plan. Most other Parties have included CEPA actions for biodiversity within the frameworks of their national education strategies for the environment, sustainable development or nature protection. A few Parties have reported being aware that other ministries, NGOs and actors in their countries have developed their own strategy in support of the CEPA programme of work, or incorporated biodiversity activities into their sectoral strategies.

61. In general, constraints to implementation of a CEPA strategy comprised a lack of human, technical and financial resources.

62. Seventy-four per cent of Parties (of 103 reports reviewed) are promoting CEPA activities at various sectoral and cross-sectoral levels, to a greater or lesser extent. Activities are primarily being promoted within the forestry and agricultural sectors, with a noteworthy amount of activities also being conducted in the tourism sector. Less activity is being undertaken in the fisheries sector and only a few countries reported that activities were being promoted in the mining and energy sector, health sector, private sector and at the decision-making levels of government administrations. Details on the level of implementation within the education/research, information management and communications sectors, are provided further on in this report. Examples include:

(a) Although Benin has not developed an overall CEPA strategy, most ministries, NGOs and other actors have developed their respective CEPA plan to promote the rational use of resources.

(b) In France, the Institute of Environmental Training has organized a series of biodiversity conferences to raise awareness among the major players in the water resources, agriculture, tourism, urban, health and industrial sectors.

(c) Australia has a communication strategy in place for marine planning and marine protected areas, which includes evaluation of the success of communication tools.

(d) In South Africa, the Southern African Sustainable Seafood Initiative (SASSI) was developed by WWF-SA to inform and educate all participants in the seafood trade (i.e. wholesalers, retailers, restaurateurs, caterers, consumers) with the objectives to promote voluntary compliance with the law through education and awareness, shift consumer demand away from overexploited species to more sustainable alternatives, and create awareness of marine conservation issues.

(e) In Uganda, the National Environmental Management Authority has produced and is widely distributing a series of handbooks under the following themes: Biodiversity and Poverty Eradication, Biodiversity and Tourism, Biodiversity and Climate Change, Biodiversity and Food Security, Biodiversity and Health and Biodiversity and Culture.

63. The fourth national reports also provide examples of CEPA being promoted within several processes related to issues such as climate change, desertification, biosafety, biotechnology, protected areas, transboundary cooperation, biological corridors, taxonomy, poverty reduction, invasive alien species, environmental impact, ecosystem services, biodiversity valuation, biodiversity monitoring, traditional knowledge and practices, access to genetic resources, urban planning and culture.

64. Seventy-five per cent of Parties (of 103 reports reviewed) are promoting biodiversity considerations in academic and educational activities to a greater or lesser extent. Collaboration between the ministries of environment and education is increasing, as is the integration of issues related to biodiversity and sustainable development in the formal curricula of educational programmes at primary, secondary and tertiary levels. For example, in Benin, different schools have been created to provide biodiversity training for specialists at the university and professional levels. In Cameroon, a Department of Biodiversity has been created at the University of Yaoundé. However, most biodiversity courses are part of broader environmental and/or science programmes. In Chile, a new National Policy for Education in Sustainable Development was recently adopted, containing specific provisions for biodiversity among other related issues.

65. Ninety-one per cent of Parties (of 103 reports reviewed) provide examples of having targeted specific groups for CEPA implementation. For example:

(a) In Azerbaijan, a number of non-governmental organizations, and the private sector (notably oil companies), have run biodiversity awareness projects focusing specifically on the environmental education of children.

(b) In Denmark, Greenland's "Tulak campaign" involved hunters along the coast in the dialogue on and improvement of the sustainable use of living resources.

(c) In Ethiopia, in the Yangudi-Rasa National Park (Gewane, Afar region), awareness raising was carried out for the military, as it was reported that military personnel assigned close to protected wildlife areas were involved in the illegal hunting of bush meat and cutting trees for fire wood.

(d) In Kenya, some biodiversity programs have been developed and implemented that cater to gender concerns and focus on mainstreaming women and youths in the activities.

(e) In Norway, the Ministry of the Environment in 2008 sent, on behalf of the Environment Minister, a postcard to each of the 430 municipal mayors in Norway, challenging them to protect the county's biological diversity, in general, as well as a particular threatened species. Good media coverage was arranged.

66. Eighty-eight per cent of Parties (of 103 reports reviewed) are using various media in support of activities for the CEPA programme of work. For example:

(a) In Algeria, an "Environmental Train" is being used to raise public awareness. The train is a travelling exhibition open to the public and stops at all national train stations.

(b) In Guinea, awareness is being raised through radio, televisions, NGOs, playwrights, painters and opinion leaders.

(c) In Niue, workshops and awareness programs are organized on the radio for various stakeholders and assist in developing mechanisms for dialogue on access to and protection of traditional knowledge.

(d) The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) "Breathing Spaces" initiative aims, through television, radio and other media, to get one million more people actively engaged in activities to conserve wildlife. Schools are being encouraged to participate. More information is available at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/breathingplaces/>.

Objective 4.3. Indigenous and local communities are effectively involved in implementation and in the processes of the Convention, at national, regional and international levels.

67. Based on a review of 77 fourth national reports,⁵ over half of the Parties have undertaken assessments of the knowledge, innovations and practices of farmers and/or indigenous and local communities. Some developed countries, including Belgium, Spain and Sweden, have reported on funding projects related to traditional knowledge in the developing world. A number of countries have supported studies (ethno-botany) on traditional knowledge related to medicinal plants and some other species in whose conservation traditional knowledge and practices of indigenous and local communities plays an important role. A few countries are taking steps to document traditional knowledge, innovations and practices related to biodiversity conservation and sustainable use. India, for example, has actively promoted its traditional knowledge digital library as a useful model for recording and protecting traditional knowledge. Mexico reports 35 projects aimed at making known and promoting work developed by indigenous peoples on the conservation and use of their natural resources, in various states across the country.

68. Many Parties reported that some measures are in place to involve indigenous or local communities in decision-making processes, depending upon the national circumstance. A few Parties have put comprehensive measures in place. For example, India's Biodiversity Act 2002 provides for mandatory consultation on all issues relating to access to biological resources and associated traditional knowledge, thereby ensuring involvement of local communities in the decision-making process. Norway has established procedures for consultation between governmental authorities and the Sami Parliament, which are used whenever new regulations or activities directly affect the Sami interests. Some Parties have not undertaken any measures or are considering taking some measures. These Parties have noted a lack of capacity at the local level as an obstacle to local involvement.

⁵ This section is a summary of the note by the Executive Secretary on progress in the implementation of Article 8(j) and related provisions and its integration into the thematic areas of the Convention, prepared for the sixth meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity (UNEP/CBD/WG8J/6/2).

69. Some countries have undertaken specific activities to strengthen the capacities of indigenous and local communities. For example, Brazil has undertaken a number of projects to disseminate information to indigenous communities for better understanding of related national and international legislations and to protect intellectual rights over traditional knowledge of biodiversity in the Amazon region. Nepal is implementing people's empowerment programmes to enhance and strengthen the capacity of local communities.

70. Some countries report that measures or activities had been undertaken to raise local communities' awareness or involve them in the related international processes. Only a few Parties have organized regional meetings for indigenous and local community organizations to discuss the outcomes of the decisions of the Conference of the Parties. For example, in Botswana, local communities under village development committees, resource user committees, wetlands committees and conservation committees hold meetings where some decisions of the Convention are discussed. A few countries mention that some NGOs organize such meetings for indigenous and local communities to make them aware of relevant outcomes of meetings of the Conference of the Parties. Sweden and Germany have provided support through their international development cooperation to indigenous and local communities in a number of developing countries to allow them to participate in the relevant processes and meetings under the Convention.

Objective 4.4. Key actors and stakeholders, including the private sector, are engaged in partnership to implement the Convention and are integrating biodiversity concerns into their relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies.

- *Engagement of the private sector (including private landowners) and other business and industry.*

71. The fourth national reports mark the first time that Parties have reported on the engagement of the private sector as partners in implementation of the Convention. Seventy-five per cent of Parties (of 103 reports reviewed) indicate that the private sector is engaged to some degree in the implementation of the Convention. Reported activities can be grouped under several themes: implementation of voluntary certification programmes, eco-labelling, environmental management systems, and good practice guidelines; private conservation area establishment and management; implementation of payments for environmental services schemes; development of environmental technologies, services and research; participation in communications, public awareness and education activities. Further information on global level initiatives to promote business engagement is provided in an addendum to the present note (UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/3/2/Add.2).

72. The private sector has in many cases been involved in workshops and other consultation forums on the development of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and fourth national reports.

73. There is a variety of voluntary initiatives being undertaken by the private sector in order to integrate biodiversity into their policies, plans, and operations. These include, for example, certification programmes (e.g., South Africa, Canada, Finland), eco-labelling (e.g., Sweden), environmental management systems (e.g., South Africa) and good practice guidelines (e.g., Swaziland). These initiatives cover a range of different economic sectors (e.g., tourism, forestry, agriculture, mining).

74. In South Africa, the wine industry and biodiversity sector formed a partnership in the Biodiversity and Wine Initiative (BWI), which developed biodiversity guidelines for the industry. The BWI aims to prevent further loss of habitat in critical sites and increase the area of natural habitat in contractual protected areas. Farmers are assisted with assessing the biodiversity value of their land, implementing biodiversity guidelines and identifying unique marketing elements. Farming practices that enhance the suitability of vineyards and surrounding areas to biodiversity are promoted.

75. Protected areas are being established and managed with private sector support. In Mozambique, partnership models between government and private sector/foundations have been developed in order to co-manage and co-finance some conservation areas (e.g., Niassa Reserve and Gorongosa National Park). In Dominica, there has been an increase in the number of private holdings that have been designated by the owners or community operations as protected areas.

76. Payments for environmental services (PES) schemes for private landowners (e.g., farmers, private woodlot owners) are reported by many parties in the European region (e.g., Denmark, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Lithuania, Sweden). In Switzerland, proprietors of fens commit themselves by private legal contracts to manage fens in accordance with the established objectives of conservation. In exchange, they receive subsidies from the Confederation and the cantons. In Lithuania, a forest PES scheme is in place to compensate forest owners who voluntarily take a commitment not to carry out final forest cutting in "woodland key habitats", or to employ non-clear cutting practices. In Sweden, 4.4 billion SEK was paid to landowners for voluntary restoration and management activities between 2002 and 2006. This has had a profound positive effect on the amount of species-rich habitat managed by the remaining farms.

77. The private sector is playing an important role in developing environmental technologies, services and research. In Norway, the company Innovation Norway has developed a range of environmental technologies, goods and services in the field of energy and the environment and cooperates with many existing company networks in the field of environmental technology. In Azerbaijan, the private sector contributes to monitoring and research on biodiversity.

78. The private sector is also participating in communications, public awareness and education activities.

79. Successful engagement of the private sector in Convention processes is often facilitated by partnerships with NGOs. In Australia, the NGO Industry Environmental Forum provides a mechanism for conservation NGOs and the Chamber of Mineral and Energy of Western Australia member companies to identify strategic environmental issues related to the resources sector with a view to achieving mutually agreed tangible outcomes. In Fiji, the Mamanuca Environment Society was set up in 2002 by some major hotels in the Mamanuca Group supported by the Coral Cay Conservation, with the objective to address environmental issues related to the protection and betterment of the region's marine and terrestrial environment. In Finland, the Connect2earth initiative by WWF, IUCN and Nokia was launched in early 2008 and aims to reach out to young people by making nature and biodiversity known through a new portal and by raising awareness of nature.

80. Some countries report minimal involvement of the private sector in biodiversity conservation and sustainable use. Slovakia, for example, reports that the private sector is usually involved in very specific issues (e.g., commercially provided recultivation services on sites polluted by oil substances) or in fulfilling the requirements under the environmental impact assessment process.

81. The private sector has also become engaged in the IUCN Countdown 2010 Initiative. Countdown 2010 is a network of partners working together towards the 2010 biodiversity target. Each partner commits to specific efforts to tackle the causes of biodiversity loss. As of 12 March 2010, 86 of the 1,025 Countdown 2010 partners are businesses.

- *Engagement of non-governmental organizations, community groups, children and youth, and women, and other actors in implementation of the Convention.*

82. The vast majority of Parties (91% of 103 reports reviewed) report on activities of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and community-based organizations in support of the Convention. There is a broad range of reported activities, including protected area establishment and

management, community-based natural resource management, biodiversity research and monitoring, and communications and outreach.

83. Environmental non-governmental organizations have in many cases been involved in workshops and other consultation forums on the development of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and fourth national reports, and have attended meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention.

84. Non-governmental organizations are active in all regions in either protected area establishment and/or management. In Denmark, for example, there are a number of organisations that are major actors in nature protection through land purchase and management (e.g., the Danish Bird Protection Foundation with more than 850 ha in 18 bird sanctuaries). In Lebanon, non-governmental organizations are involved in the overall supervision of protected areas management through their representatives in the Appointed Protected Areas Committees under the supervision of the Ministry of Environment. The protected areas in Jordan are managed by a national NGO (Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN)) in accordance with an agreement with the Ministry of Environment. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, NGOs and volunteers are active in cross-border protected area management projects.

85. Community-based natural resource management schemes appear most frequently in the African region and are run by local communities and stakeholder groups, often with the support of government agencies and non-governmental organizations. The United Republic of Tanzania has been practising community-based natural resource management by encouraging participatory forestry and wildlife management through wildlife management areas and community forest reserves. In Zambia's Lukusuzi National Park, the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) have been implementing community-based integrated land use schemes to manage wildlife and forestry resources. In Lesotho, woodlot ownership is 80% community-based and 20% government. Swaziland has used the Community Based Natural Resource Management (CBNRM) system as a mechanism to involve the private sector and indigenous/local communities in biodiversity conservation.

86. Local communities and non-governmental organizations are also contributing to biodiversity-related research and monitoring. In Sudan, a national partial waterfowl census is conducted every January and June in identified sites along the Nile Flyway by the NGO Sudanese Wildlife Society and the Wildlife General Administration, with the support of volunteer bird watchers. In Ethiopia, research was undertaken by local communities to prepare an inventory of medicinal plants for some parts of the country. In the Czech Republic, the NGO Czech Union for Nature Conservation has carried out a project to assess the status of invasive alien species, possible risks to biodiversity and the development of management strategies. In Canada, there are several community-based ecosystem and species monitoring programs raising public awareness on biodiversity issues by enlisting the help of Canadians in the collection of scientific data. Wormwatch, Frogwatch, Icewatch and Plantwatch are all programs under the Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Network that involve Canadians in citizen science and stewardship. The United Kingdom reports a substantial increase in volunteer time devoted to conservation.

87. Children and youth are engaged in biodiversity conservation education primarily through school-based programming, as well as programming offered by a variety of other institutions, such as botanical gardens, protected areas and nature education centres. Seventy-five per cent of Parties (of 103 reports reviewed) report on the engagement of children and youth in the delivery of CEPA programmes and activities. Many Parties report on the active participation of non-governmental organizations in CEPA-related programming. The United Kingdom's "Great Plant Hunt", developed by the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew and commissioned and funded by the Wellcome Trust, encourages children to explore the natural world and join other schools in the biggest ever school science project. Italy's "Work for the Environment" project has engaged young people in promoting tourism, habitat restoration, environmental education and local marketing of marine protected areas in southern Italy. The "Green Wave" Initiative is promoting the engagement of youth in many countries. For example, in Algeria, school children are

participating in the initiative which is promoted by the Ministry of Land Management, the Environment and Tourism

88. There are very few cases reported of the engagement of women and women's groups in Convention processes. In Kenya, some biodiversity programs have been developed that focus on mainstreaming women and youth in activities. For example, through the Constituency Development Fund, National Youth Fund and the Women Development Fund, communities are able to plan and implement projects that are ecologically-friendly and that also provide alternative means of income and subsistence for women. In Morocco, members of the Oualidia Women's clam harvesting association are granted, at a preferential cost, a parcel (2 ha) of the Oualidia lagoon for commercial clam production. Earnings from this activity allow association members to support the needs of their families.

- *Engagement of cities and local authorities*

89. In recent years, there has been an increase in the involvement of cities and local authorities in activities supporting implementation of the Convention.

90. The cities of Curitiba and Sao Paulo, both members of the ICLEI Local Action for Biodiversity (LAB) Project, are leaders in promoting biodiversity at the local level. Curitiba is a global reference in urban planning and has recently launched the Biocity Project, which will double its green cover and create more than 100 new urban parks. Sao Paulo, the largest city in South America and through which 70% of the Amazon's timber is commercialized, collaborates with Greenpeace to curb illegal logging.

91. To affirm the importance of the involvement of cities in biodiversity implementation, and to further expand local efforts, the Aichi Prefecture and the City of Nagoya will host the 2010 City Biodiversity Summit (24-26 October 2010) in association with the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The outcomes of the summit will be consolidated in a declaration to be presented to the High-Level Segment of the tenth meeting.

Overall assessment of progress towards goal 4

92. While there have been many advances in communication, education and public awareness, a strategic approach to communication is lacking. Though most countries have implemented a number of CEPA-related activities, few report that they have a strategy. Over recent years, there have been important steps forward in engaging indigenous and local communities and stakeholders, including the private sector.

III. OVERALL ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN AND TOWARDS THE 2010 BIODIVERSITY TARGET AND FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF NEEDS FOR CAPACITY-BUILDING

93. Overall there has been progress towards all the goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan, though none have been fully met and progress towards goal 2 and its objectives appears to lag behind the other goals.

94. The fourth national reports provide numerous examples of activities and tangible progress towards the goals and sub-targets of the 2010 biodiversity target (see UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/3/INF/1, table 2). Most encouraging in achieving the 2010 target is the increase in protected areas, terrestrial and marine, though the latter is still far below the target. Overall, actions to implement the Convention have not been carried out on a scale that is sufficient to achieve a significant reduction in the rate of biodiversity loss, particularly in view of the continuing pressures on biodiversity and their underlying causes (see the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook to be released on 10 May 2010). In fact,

no country reports having met the 2010 target and some Parties (19% of 85 reports reviewed) unequivocally state that they have not met the 2010 target.

95. Areas of particular progress include:

(a) The 2010 biodiversity target is widely supported, integrated into the framework for the Millennium Development Goals and has promoted action at multiple levels;

(b) Nearly 90% of Parties have developed national biodiversity strategies and action plans and more recently developed national biodiversity strategies and action plans show improvements over earlier ones, in that they are more strategic and more focussed on mainstreaming;

(c) A wide range of CEPA activities are promoted;

(d) Increased engagement of the private sector and of cities and local authorities;

(e) Increased linkages to development cooperation agencies (see also UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/3/INF/2).

96. However, major gaps and challenges still remain, particularly in relation to:

(a) Insufficient mainstreaming of biodiversity concerns into major economic sectors and planning processes at global, regional and national levels.

(b) Lack of a strategic approach to communication.

97. However, the greatest challenges concern goal 2. Major needs remain with regard to:

(a) Capacity development;

(b) Knowledge management (including access to and use of information for implementation, monitoring and reporting);

(c) Financial resources.

98. These gaps are addressed in the proposed recommendation and in the proposed Strategic Plan for the period 2011-2020.

SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATION

99. The Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention at its third meeting may wish to recommend that the Conference of the Parties adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties

Taking note of the report on progress in the implementation of the Strategic Plan contained in the present note,

Welcoming the substantial progress made by Parties towards some of the goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan, in particular with regard to the development of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, the engagement of stakeholders, and the widespread recognition of the 2010 Biodiversity Target,

Expressing concern over the continuing limitations in capacity to fully implement the Convention,

Recalling its earlier decisions related to capacity development, in particular decisions VIII/8 and IX/8,

1. *Emphasizes* the need for increased support to Parties, especially developing countries and economies in transitions, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing states, to strengthen capacity for the implementation of the Convention, in line with the updated Strategic Plan of the Convention 2011-2020, including:

(a) Support for the updating of NBSAPs as effective instruments to promote the implementation of the Strategic Plan and mainstreaming of biodiversity at the national level;

(b) Human resource development, including training on technical topics and communication skills and stakeholder involvement;

(c) Strengthening of national institutions to ensure the effective exchange and use of information, to coordinate and promote implementation across sectors and to provide monitoring of implementation;

(d) Enhanced knowledge management to facilitate improved access to and effective use of relevant knowledge, information and technologies, through a strengthened central clearing-house mechanism and national clearing-house mechanism nodes.

2. *Requests* the operational entity of the financial mechanism to provide adequate and timely financial support for the updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and related enabling activities, and requests the Global Environment Facility and its implementing agencies to ensure that procedures are in place to ensure an expeditious disbursement of funds;

3. *Requests* other donors, Governments and multilateral and bilateral agencies to provide financial and technical support to developing countries, particularly least developed countries and small island developing states, to strengthen their capacities to implement the Convention;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme and other partners, to continue facilitating the provision of support to countries for capacity development activities, including through regional and/or subregional workshops on updating and revising national biodiversity strategies and action plans, the mainstreaming of biodiversity and the enhancement of the clearing-house mechanism.

*Annex I***STATUS OF DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS OR EQUIVALENT INSTRUMENTS (NBSAPs)**

(as of 12 March 2010, according to information received by the Secretariat)

A. Parties that have revised NBSAPs

(year of completion indicated where year of adoption is unknown)

1. Australia (1996, 2009)
2. Austria (1998, 2005)
3. Bhutan (1997, 2002)
4. Botswana (2005, 2007)
5. Brazil (2002, 2006)
6. Croatia (1999, 2008)
7. Cuba (1997, 2006)
8. Democratic Republic of Congo (2000, 2002)
9. European Union (1998, 2006)
10. Finland (1997, 2006)
11. France (2004, 2009) *Strategy adopted in 2004; Sectoral Action Plans adopted 2006-2008; Sectoral Action Plans revised in 2009
12. Guyana (1999, 2007) * Action Plan only
13. India (1999, 2009)
14. Indonesia (1993, 2003)
15. Japan (1995, 2002, 2008)
16. Kyrgyzstan (1998, 2002)
17. Latvia (2000, 2003) *Action Plan revised
18. Madagascar (2000, 2007)
19. Morocco (2002, 2004)
20. Mozambique (2001, 2003)
21. Netherlands (1995, 2001, 2008)
22. Norway (2001, 2004, 2006)
23. Philippines (1997, 2002)
24. Poland (2003, 2007)
25. Romania (1996, 2001)
26. Singapore (1992, 2002)
27. Slovakia (1998, 2002) *Action Plan updated only
28. Sweden (1995, 2006)
29. Thailand (1997, 2002)
30. Turkey (2001, 2007)
31. United Kingdom (1994, 2006)
32. Vietnam (1994, 2007)

B. Parties with NBSAPs under revision

(year of completion indicated where year of adoption is unknown)

1. Bahamas (1999)
2. Cameroon (1999)
3. China (1993)
4. Egypt (1998)
5. Estonia (1999)
6. Guinea (2001)
7. Ireland (2002)
8. Lebanon (1998)
9. New Zealand (2000)

10. Niue (2001) *Strategy being updated, Action Plan still in development
11. Niger (2000)
12. Qatar (2004)
13. Saint Lucia (2000)
14. Spain (1999) *Strategy only
15. Tunisia (1998)
16. Turkmenistan (2002)

C. Other Parties with completed NBSAPs

(year of completion indicated where year of adoption is unknown)

1. Albania (1999)
2. Algeria (2005)
3. Angola (2006)
4. Argentina (2003)
5. Armenia (1999)
6. Azerbaijan (2004)
7. Bahrain (2007)
8. Bangladesh (2006)
9. Barbados (2002)
10. Belarus (1997)
11. Belize (1998)
12. Belgium (2007)
13. Benin (2002)
14. Bolivia (2001)
15. Bosnia and Herzegovina (2008)
16. Burkina Faso (1998)
17. Bulgaria (2000)
18. Burundi (2000)
19. Cambodia (2002)
20. Canada (1996)
21. Cape Verde (1999)
22. Central African Republic (2003)
23. Chad (1999)
24. Chile (2003)
25. Colombia (2005)
26. Comoros (2000)
27. Congo (2001)
28. Cook Islands (2001)
29. Costa Rica (1999)
30. Côte d'Ivoire (2002) *Strategy only
31. Czech Republic (2005)
32. DPR Korea (1998)
33. Denmark (1996)
34. Djibouti (2001)
35. Dominica (2002)
36. Ecuador (2001)
37. El Salvador (1999)
38. Equatorial Guinea
39. Eritrea (2000)
40. Ethiopia (2006)

41. Fiji (1997)
 42. Gabon (1999)
 43. Gambia (1999)
 44. Georgia (2005)
 45. Germany (2007)
 46. Ghana (2002) *Strategy only
 47. Grenada (2000)
 48. Guatemala (1999)
 49. Guinea-Bissau (2006)
 50. Honduras (2001)
 51. Hungary (2004)
 52. Iran (2006)
 53. Israel (2009)
 54. Jamaica (2003)
 55. Jordan (2001)
 56. Kazakhstan (1999)
 57. Kenya (1999)
 58. Kiribati (2006)
 59. Kuwait (completed 1997, not adopted)
 60. Lao PDR (2004)
 61. Lesotho (2000)
 62. Liberia (2003)
 63. Lithuania (1996)
 64. Luxembourg (2007)
 65. Malawi (2006)
 66. Malaysia (1998)
 67. Maldives (2002)
 68. Mali (2001)
 69. Marshall Islands (2000)
 70. Mauritania (1999)
 71. Mauritius (2006)
 72. Mexico (2000)
 73. Micronesia, Federated States of (2002)
 74. Mongolia (1996)
 75. Namibia (2002)
 76. Nepal (2002)
 77. Nicaragua (2001)
 78. Nigeria (2006)
 79. Oman (2001)
 80. Pakistan (1999)
 81. Palau (2005)
 82. Panama (2000)
 83. Papua New Guinea (2007)
 84. Paraguay (2003)
 85. Peru (2001)
 86. Portugal (2001)
 87. Republic of Korea (1997)
 88. Republic of Moldova (2000)
 89. Russian Federation (2001)
 90. Rwanda (2003)
 91. Saint Kitts and Nevis
 92. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (year to be confirmed)
 93. Samoa (2001)
 94. Sao Tome and Principe (2005)
 95. Saudi Arabia
 96. Senegal (1998)
 97. Seychelles (1997)
 98. Sierra Leone (2003)
 99. Slovenia (2001) * Strategy only
 100. Solomon Islands (year to be confirmed)
 101. South Africa (2005)
 102. Sri Lanka (1998)
 103. Sudan (2000)
 104. Suriname (2006) *Strategy only
 105. Swaziland (2001)
 106. Switzerland (2006)
 107. Syrian Arab Republic (2002)
 108. Tajikistan (2003)
 109. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, (2005)
 110. Togo (2003)
 111. Tonga (2006)
 112. Trinidad and Tobago (2001)
 113. Uganda (2002)
 114. Ukraine (1998) *Strategy only
 115. United Republic of Tanzania (2004)
 116. Uruguay (1999)
 117. Uzbekistan (1998)
 118. Vanuatu (1999)
 119. Venezuela (2001)
 120. Yemen (2005)
 121. Zambia (2003)
 122. Zimbabwe (2000)
- D. Parties with first NBSAP under development**
1. Brunei Darussalam (Party as of 27 July 2008)
 2. Montenegro (Party as of 3 June 2006)
 3. Dominican Republic
 4. Haiti
 5. Italy
 6. Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
 7. Liechtenstein
 8. Malta
 9. Monaco
 10. Myanmar
 11. Nauru
 12. Serbia
 13. Timor-Leste (Party as of 1 August, 2007)
 14. Tuvalu
- E. Parties for which there is no recent information about the status of NBSAPs**
1. Afghanistan
 2. Antigua and Barbuda
 3. Cyprus
 4. Greece
 5. Iceland
 6. Iraq (Party as of 26 October 2009)
 7. San Marino
 8. Somalia (Party as of 10 December 2009)
 9. United Arab Emirates