



CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

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QUARTERLY REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (January - March 2005)

Note by the Executive Secretary

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. This report is prepared in keeping with decision III/24 of the Conference of the Parties which requested the Executive Secretary to prepare a quarterly report on the administration of the Convention including such matters as the staff lists, status of contributions, progress on the implementation of the medium term work programme and financial expenditures. The requirements to report on a regular basis to the Parties were further elaborated under the Administrative Arrangements between the Secretariat and UNEP, which were endorsed by the Conference of the Parties in decision IV/17.
2. The Executive Secretary has prepared this Quarterly Report, which contains a summary of key activities implementing the decisions of the Conference of the Parties and other relevant matters during the period 1 January to 31 March 2005.

II. EXECUTIVE DIRECTION AND MANAGEMENT

3. The Government of the Kingdom of Thailand hosted two major meetings in Bangkok in February 2005, namely: the tenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA-10) and the third meeting of the *Ad hoc* Open-ended Working Group on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing (ABS-3) from 7-11 February and 14-18 February 2005, respectively. The SBSTTA-10 meeting adopted 13 recommendations and further developed the draft programme of work on island biodiversity. The meeting also made progress on indicators to assess progress towards the 2010 biodiversity target and the integration of sub-targets into the thematic programmes of work on the biodiversity of inland water ecosystems and marine and coastal biodiversity.
4. Delegates to the ABS-3 meeting initiated negotiations to elaborate an international regime to promote and safeguard the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources. The meeting adopted six recommendations. On the margins of these two major meetings, the Secretariat organized a number of smaller meetings, namely: Asia and the Pacific Regional Workshop on the Clearing-house Mechanism (3-5 February), Liaison Group Meeting on Island Biodiversity (5 February), Informal Advisory Committee for the Clearing-house Mechanism (IAC/CHM) (6 February), and the Informal Advisory Committee for Communication, Education and Public Awareness (IAC/CEPA) (12 February).
5. The Secretariat participated actively in the International Scientific Conference "Biodiversity and Governance" which was held from 24-28 January 2005 in Paris, France. The Conference's objectives included the assessment of the current knowledge and needs for research and scientific expertise and the examination of public and private approaches to biodiversity preservation and management. The Conference, which was organized under the patronage of the President of the French Republic attracted a group of distinguished politicians, dignitaries, scientists and experts, and presented an opportunity to critically assess the linkages of biodiversity and livelihoods as well as those between biodiversity and governance. The Executive Secretary addressed the plenary session and the Secretariat participated in a number of important workshops on various issues, namely: biodiversity and governance, and biodiversity indicators and the 2010 target: scientific challenges. The meeting adopted the Paris Declaration on Biodiversity.
6. An exploratory mission to Montecatini, Italy, was conducted by the Secretariat in January to discuss the financial, administrative and logistical preparations related to the organization of the first meeting of the Open-ended *Ad hoc* Working Group on Protected Areas which is scheduled from 13-17 June 2005 and hosted by the Government of Italy. During the visit the Host Government Agreement (HGA) in respect of the meeting was signed.
7. In cooperation with the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs of the United Kingdom, the Brazilian Ministry of Environment, the World Conservation Union (IUCN), the Brazilian Business Council, and Insight Investment, and the CBD Secretariat organized on 20-21 January 2005, in

London, a brainstorming meeting entitled “Business and the 2010 Biodiversity Challenge”. The meeting aimed to develop ideas, which could best be pursued through the CBD or in support of its objectives, for engaging business in biodiversity issues, as a means of working towards the 2010 target to achieve a significant reduction in the current rate of biodiversity loss. This was a small brainstorming meeting that focused primarily on companies with a direct impact on biodiversity and those that impact biodiversity through their supply chains, as a first step in what is envisaged to be a broader process.

8. On 12-13 March, and following a request from the SBSTTA, at its tenth meeting, the Secretariat, in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI), convened a consultation on the cross-cutting initiative on biodiversity for food and nutrition (see decision VII/32) on the margins of the thirty-second session of the United Nations Standing Committee on Nutrition (14-18 March, 2005). The meeting was hosted by the Ministry of the Environment of Brazil and discussed options for raising awareness about, and mainstreaming, biodiversity-related issues, among practitioners in the fields of nutrition and agriculture/rural development. The report of the meeting will be made available on the CBD website.

9. Discussions are underway with the Government of Brazil in respect of preparations for COP-8 and COP/MOP-3 meetings.

10. During the first quarter of 2005, the following countries acceded/ratified the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety: Albania, Benin, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Namibia, New Zealand and Zimbabwe, bringing the total number of Parties to the Protocol to 118.

11. The Secretariat organized the following meetings/workshops during the first quarter of 2005: Meeting of Experts to develop a Users’ Manual on the CBD Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development (24-28 January, Nassau, Bahamas), Coordination Meeting for Governments and Organizations Implementing or Funding Biosafety Capacity Building Activities (26-27 January, Montreal), Liaison Group on Capacity Building for Biosafety (27-28 January, Montreal), Technical Workshop on the Development of Regional Clearing-house Mechanisms (23-25 February, Bucharest, Romania), the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Workshop on the Clearing-house Mechanism (12-13 March, Brasilia, Brazil), *Ad hoc* Expert Group on the Review of Implementation of the Programme of Work on Forest Biodiversity (14-16 March, Montreal), Compliance Committee under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (14-16 March, Montreal), and the Open-ended Technical Expert Group on Identification Requirements of Living Modified Organisms Intended for Direct Use as Food or Feed, or for Processing (Article 18.2(a)) (16-18 March, Montreal).

12. The Executive Secretary participated in the twenty-third session of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme which was held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 21-25 February 2005 where he delivered a statement at the plenary session of the meeting. On the margins of the Council Session, the Executive Secretary participated in the side event organized by UNEP/FAO/IUCN on Agriculture, Biodiversity and Eradication of Poverty and Hunger.

13. The Executive Secretary addressed the plenary session of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States which was held in Mauritius from 10-14 January 2005. On the margins of the meeting, the CBD organized a side event on the programme of work on island biodiversity.

14. Secretariat staff held consultations with their counterparts at the UNEP-WCMC in Cambridge regarding the draft outline and timeframe for the finalization of the second edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-2). The launching of the GBO-2 is scheduled to take place during COP-8.

15. In March, the CBD and IUCN, signed by exchange of letter, an annex on protected areas, to the existing Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) with the aim of facilitating collaboration with respect to the implementation of pertinent elements of the programmes of work adopted by COP decisions VII/5 and VII/28.

16. The SBSTTA, at its tenth meeting, reviewed a draft of the Biodiversity Synthesis Report of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA) and provided comments which were taken into account in preparing the final draft of the report. The Secretariat continued its work in collaboration with the MA, participating *inter alia*, in meetings of the MA Board, and its Technical Review Committee. The latter reviewed the main reports of the MA, prior to their release, scheduled for 30 March 2005. The Executive Secretary issued a press release to mark that event. The Technical Committee also reviewed and finalized the Biodiversity Synthesis Report of the MA which will be released in Montreal on 19 May 2005 as part of the celebrations to mark the International Biodiversity Day.

17. On 30 March, to mark the launching of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment report, the Executive Secretary and other relevant staff members gave a series television interviews to local and international channels.

18. On 17 March, and at the invitation of the Faculty of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, Department of Food Science and Agricultural Chemistry at McGill University, the Executive Secretary delivered a presentation on Biodiversity, Food and Nutrition.

19. In preparation for the Conference on Health and Biodiversity (COHAB) which is scheduled for 23-25 August 2005 in Galway, Ireland, and as a member of the steering committee, the Executive Secretary continued to assist the organizers of the first Conference on Biodiversity and Health with the preparations for the meeting and the associated workshop on Indicators of Biodiversity used in Food and Medicine. In this regard, the Executive Secretary and relevant Secretariat staff met on 24 March with the COHAB Director as well the co-directors. Discussions revolved around the preparation for this international conference as well as the CBD's workshop on Indicators for Food and Medicine to be organized during the Conference.

20. The Secretariat was represented at the sixth meeting of the Group on Earth Observations (GEO) which was held in Brussels, Belgium, from 14-15 February, 2005. As part of the continuing cooperation among the secretariats of the three Rio Conventions on this topic, the Secretariat of the UNFCCC represented SCBD at the ministerial-level of the Third Earth Observations Summit which was organized on 16 February. The proposal to establish a Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS) was endorsed. The GEOSS has the potential to provide a number of the data needs of the three Rio Conventions.

21. The Secretariat continued preparations for the first meeting of the Open-ended *Ad hoc* Working Group on the Review of the Implementation of the Convention. A few submissions on this topic were received from Parties. The deadline for submission was extended to 1 May 2005 to allow Parties more time to provide their submissions.

22. During the first quarter of 2005, the Secretariat was represented at the following meetings: GMO Guidelines Project Meeting (10-11 January, Zurich, Switzerland), Meeting of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) Task Force on Streamlining Forest-related Reporting (16 January, Rome, Italy), Third FAO Expert Meeting on Harmonizing Forest Related Definitions for Various Stakeholders (17-19 January, Rome, Italy), Expert International Workshop on Free, Prior and Informed Consent and Indigenous Peoples (17-19 January, New York), Clearing-house Mechanism Capacity Building Training Workshop (17-20 January, Bujumbura, Burundi), AVEDA Corporation Board Meeting (20 January, New York), First Meeting of the United Nations Oceans and Coastal Areas Network (UN-OCEANS) (25-26 January, Paris, France), the meeting of the working group on the CBD and the engagement of the private sector which was organized by the International Petroleum Industry, Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA) and the International Oil and Gas Producers (OGP) (26 January, Washington, DC, USA), FAO/Netherlands Conference on Water for Food and Ecosystems (31 Jan. – 5 Feb., The Hague, Netherlands), UNEP-GEF Training Workshop for Regional Experts (8-12 February, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia), the Global Intergovernmental and Multi-stakeholder consultation on the design of the fourth Global Environment Outlook (GEO-4) (19-20 February, Nairobi, Kenya), Sixteenth Meeting of OECD's

Working Group for Harmonization of Regulatory Oversight in Biotechnology (23-25 February, Paris, France), Dialogue on Changing Currents: Charting a Course of Action for the Future of Oceans (23-26 February, Vancouver, Canada), the US Department of Agriculture's Annual Agricultural Outlook Forum 2005 entitled "Science, Policy, Markets – What's ahead?" (24-25 February, Arlington, Virginia, USA), Fourth Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) High-level Policy Dialogue on Agricultural Biotechnology (1-2 March, Seoul, Korea), GEF Consultations/Meetings on (i) Resource Allocation Framework (RAF); (ii) Planning Meeting for the Fourth Replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund; and (iii) Consultations on the Third Overall Performance Study (OPS-3) Interim Report (2-4 March, Paris, France), Seminar at the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center (3-4 March, St. Louis, USA), Third Mediterranean Parks Fair (MEDITERRE) (3-6 March, Brindisi, Italy), UNESCO and the World Heritage Convention Contributing to Forest Conservation and Sustainable Development BERASTAGI +7 Experts Meeting (9-11 March, Nancy, France), Northern Workshop on Access and Benefit Sharing (15-17 March, Whitehorse, Canada), and the Latin American and the Caribbean regional Workshop on the Implementation of UNFCCC Article 6 (Education, Training and Public Awareness) (30 March – 1 April, Montevideo, Uruguay).

23. Recruitment is well underway to fill the current vacancies in the Secretariat in both the General Service and Professional categories.

III. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

A. Personnel Arrangements

24. During this period, there were 32 Professional staff members regularized on posts funded from the core budget. There were four vacant posts, for which recruitment/selection is in progress. Additionally, four professional staff members are regularized on posts funded from other sources.

25. There were 22 General Service staff members regularized on posts funded by the core budget and four vacant posts for which recruitment is in progress. Additionally, five staff members are regularized on posts funded from other sources.

26. For more information, please refer to the attached staff list and organigram (Annex I Appendix 1, and Annex II respectively).

B. Financial Arrangements

27. With regard to budgetary matters, as at 31 March 2005, of the total pledged contributions of US\$7,662,807 for 2005 to the General Trust Fund for the Convention on Biological Diversity (**BY Trust Fund**), the total contributions received amounted to US\$3,764,278, of which \$1,964,031 were 2005 pledges paid in 2004, and \$1,800,247 were 2005 pledges paid in 2005. Total unpaid pledges to the BY Trust Fund for 2005 and prior years amount to US\$5,182,120. Details of the BY Trust Fund are contained in Annex V.

28. Several Parties have contributed additional voluntary funds in support of approved activities under the Convention (**BE Trust Fund**). As of 31 March 2005, the total pledged for 2005 amounts to US\$1,258,887. The total collected for 2005 as at 31 March 2005 was US\$1,156,995. Total unpaid pledges for 2005 and prior years to the BE Trust Fund is US\$520,617. Details of the BE Trust Fund are contained in Annex III.

29. As at 31 March 2005, pledges totalling US\$690,211 have been made as additional voluntary contributions to facilitate the participation of Parties to the Convention Process (**BZ Trust Fund**) in 2005. To date US\$521,646 has been paid. Total unpaid pledges for 2005 and prior years to the BZ Trust Fund amount to US\$208,565. Details of the BZ Trust Fund are contained in Annex IV.

30. As at 31 March 2005, of the total pledged contributions of US\$2,192,425 for 2005 to the General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget for the Biosafety Protocol (**BG Trust Fund**), total contributions received is US\$967,830, of which US\$365,646 was received in advance of 2005 and US\$602,184 has been received in 2005 for 2005 and future years. As at 31 March 2005, total unpaid pledges to the BG Trust Fund for 2005 amounts to US\$1,224,595. Details of the BG Trust Fund are contained in Annex VI.

31. As at 31 March 2005, one Party has contributed to the Special Voluntary Trust Fund for Additional Voluntary Contributions in support of Approved Activities of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, (**BH Trust Fund**). Pledges totalling US\$28,793 have been made and received. Details of the BH Trust Fund are contained in Annex VII.

32. As at 31 March 2005, twelve Parties have pledged and/ or contributed to the Special Voluntary Trust Fund for Facilitating Participation of Developing Country Parties in the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, (**BI Trust Fund**). Pledges totalling US\$305,912 have been received in 2005. Total unpaid pledges for 2005 to the BI Trust Fund amount to US\$280,998. Details of the BI Trust Fund are contained in Annex VIII.

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

SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL MATTERS

DECISION VII/1: FOREST BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

33. In paragraph 19(c) of decision VI/22, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to compile best practices available to promote and support integrated approaches to reduce negative impacts and enhance positive impacts of other sectoral policies on forest biological diversity with a view to developing a tool kit for building capacity in integrated approaches and planning. The best practices and proposed components of the tool kit should be made available to Parties.

34. In paragraph 19(e) of decision VI/22, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with Collaborative Partnership on Forests members and relevant bodies, to develop at least two case-studies from each region, with voluntary participation by countries, on the effects on forest biological diversity of insufficient forest law enforcement.

35. In paragraph 22 of decision VI/22, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to consider the need to minimize the reporting burden on Parties by taking into account reporting under the United Nations Forum on Forests and other international mechanisms.

36. In paragraph 42 of the same decision, the Conference of the Parties, requested the Executive Secretary to establish a liaison group on non – timber forest resources, to develop, *inter alia* proposals to bring harvesting of non-timber forest products, with emphasis on bushmeat, to sustainable levels.

37. In decision VII/1, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to propose, in collaboration with the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on the Review of Implementation of the Programme of Work on Forest Biological Diversity, outcome-oriented targets to be integrated into the forest work programme.

38. In response to these decisions, the following activities were carried out:

(a) Development of a tool kit for building capacity in integrated approaches and planning

39. The work to develop the toolkit is ongoing, with the collection of a number of best practices and other relevant material finalized. The toolkit will be made available through the forest web portal.

(b) Forest law enforcement and biological diversity

40. The Secretariat is refining the study on the “effects of insufficient forest law enforcement on forest biological diversity” by searching for new case studies. In the meantime, opportunities for collaboration with relevant organizations, such as the FAO, are being explored.

(c) Reporting

41. The Secretariat participated in the fifth meeting of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests’ (CPF) Task Force on Streamlining Forest-related Reporting, held at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) headquarters in Rome on 16 January 2005. The meeting discussed the value added of the proposed, web-based CPF information framework both to the CPF member organizations collecting and analysing information, and to the countries compiling reports; and examined ways to further develop and eventually use the framework as a common way of presenting information to help improve decision-making and efficiency of reporting at the national level. The next Task Force meeting (April 2005) will include an expert consultation with selected country focal points to provide inputs to the framework.

42. The Secretariat also participated in the Third Expert Meeting on Harmonizing Forest-related Definitions for Use by Various Stakeholders organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at FAO Headquarters in Rome, from 17 to 19 January 2005. The main objective of this meeting was to contribute to improved communication and information on forest-related issues and promote unambiguous use of definitions in various international processes. In addition to the CBD, experts from various international forest fora, including ones from UNFCCC, ITTO, UNCCD and UNFF participated in the meeting. The Group addressed specific recommendations on use of terms and definitions relevant to many of these processes, including CBD. The Task Force plans to meet again in May 2005.

(b) Outcome-oriented targets

43. With financial support from the European Community, the Secretariat hosted and serviced the second meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on the Review of Implementation of the Programme of Work on Forest Biological Diversity. This meeting, which focused on developing draft outcome-oriented targets for incorporation into the programme of work on forest biological diversity, took place in Montreal, Canada, from 14 to 16 March. The draft outcome-oriented targets will be considered by the eleventh meeting of SBSTTA.

(c) Bushmeat

44. The Secretariat has started preparations for organizing an electronic forum to finalize the report on bushmeat prepared by the Liaison Group on Non-Timber Forest Resources. Funds have been secured for producing the report as part of the CBD Technical Series before the end of the year.

(d) Other

45. Funding has been secured for reprinting CBD Technical Series No. 7 on Status and Trends of, and Major Threats to, Forest Biological Diversity.

DECISION VII/2: BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY OF DRY AND SUB-HUMID LANDS

46. In paragraph 5 of the decision VII/2 on the biological diversity of dry and sub-humid lands, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to further develop mechanisms for facilitating the synergistic implementation of the Rio conventions and other biodiversity-related conventions.

47. Furthermore, in decision V/23 SBSTTA was requested to periodically review the status and trends of biodiversity in dry and sub-humid lands to be documented and delivered in conjunction with the detailed review of the implementation of the work programme at COP8 as mandated by decision VII/31.

48. In response the following activities were carried out:

49. An initial review of the status and trends of biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands has been drafted and circulated informally to colleagues for preliminary comments. Colleagues from the UNCCD Secretariat, the World Bank, and Ecoagriculture Partners have all provided comments, which are in the process of being incorporated into the draft document.

50. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment Synthesis Report on Desertification has been reviewed considering its relevance to the dry and sub-humid lands programme of work. Comments have been submitted regarding how this reporting mechanism, which was prioritized in paragraph 8 of decision VII/2, responds to dry and sub-humid lands biodiversity assessment needs.

51. The Land Degradation Assessment in Drylands (LADA) Project is also prioritized by paragraph 8 of decision VII/2. FAO has advised that the implementation of LADA is imminent and an updated report will be provided to the CBD Secretariat regarding the contributions that LADA is expected to make to the dry and sub-humid lands programme of work assessment activities.

DECISION VII/3: AGRICULTURAL BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

52. In paragraph 7 of decision VII/31, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with FAO and IPGRI, to undertake the necessary consultations and bring forward options for consideration by the eighth meeting of the COP for a crosscutting initiative on biodiversity for food and nutrition.

53. In response to these requests and as part of the implementation of the programme of work the following activities were undertaken:

54. The options for the cross-cutting Initiative on Biodiversity for Food and Nutrition were further discussed in depth with relevant stakeholders, including the FAO and IPGRI, representatives of the Government of Brazil and individual technical experts at the 32nd Session of the Standing Committee on Nutrition in Brasilia, Brazil, from 14 to 18 March 2005.

55. The tenth meeting of SBSTTA adopted recommendation X/10 on agricultural biodiversity: further development of the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity. The recommendation was based on SBSTTA's consideration of the progress report on the status of the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/10/14).

56. The tenth meeting of SBSTTA also adopted recommendation X/11 entitled "Advice on the report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on the Genetic Use Restriction Technologies". SBSTTA's deliberations on this issue were based on the note prepared by the Executive Secretary on the report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on the Potential Impacts of Genetic Use Restriction Technologies (GURTs) on Smallholder Farmers, Indigenous and Local Communities and Farmer's Rights (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/10/15).

DECISION VII/4: BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY OF INLAND WATERS

57. In paragraph 25 of decision VII/4, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other relevant organizations, to prepare a study of the linkages between conservation and sustainable use of inland water biodiversity and poverty alleviation/sustainable livelihoods, including human health considerations, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its eighth meeting.

58. In decision VII/4, paragraph 4, the Conference of the Parties welcomes and encourages, in particular, the synergy being developed between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Ramsar Convention in implementing the programme of work and encourages further activities aimed at avoiding overlaps in the work of both conventions. Paragraph 5 requests the Executive Secretary to continue developing and strengthening collaboration with other organisations, institutions and conventions as a way to streamline many of the activities contained in the programme of work, promote synergies and avoid unnecessary duplications.

59. Decision VII/4, paragraph 12, of the Conference of the Parties, urges Parties to share information and lessons learned from the application of national and regional policies, plans and best practices, from the application of water frameworks, including specific examples of successful policy interventions to conserve and sustainably use inland waters, and requests the Executive Secretary to summarize this and related available information for the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

60. Paragraph 14(a) of decision VII/4, requests the Executive Secretary to compile, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its eighth meeting, information on mountain ecosystems and their role as water suppliers and examples of transferable technologies relevant to the implementation of the revised programme of work on inland water biodiversity also relevant to mountain ecosystems, and ensure that this information is considered in the implementation of the programme of work on mountain biological diversity and taking into account, *inter alia*, the work of the Committee on Forestry of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

61. Recommendation X/4 of SBSTTA, paragraph 3, notes the progress made on indicators by the Scientific and Technical Review Panel of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, and *invites* the Panel, for areas within its mandate and in line with the role of the Ramsar Convention established by decision III/21 as the lead implementation partner on wetlands for the Convention on Biological Diversity, to further develop the targets annexed to the present recommendation, as appropriate, through *inter alia*, their quantification and application to specific wetland types and bio-geographic regions, and to link those targets with the indicators currently being developed.

62. Decision VII/4 paragraph 29 of the Conference of the Parties invites the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention and the Scientific and Technical Review Panel of the Ramsar Convention, in collaboration with the Executive Secretary and the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, respectively, and in line with paragraph 30 of resolution VIII.10 of the Conference of the Parties to the Ramsar Convention, and with a view to achieving a more comprehensive coverage of components of biological diversity through the designation of Ramsar sites:

- (a) To further elaborate the guidelines on existing criteria for the following features:
 - (i) Wetlands supporting wild relatives of domesticated or cultivated species;
 - (ii) Wetlands that support species or communities and genomes or genes of economic, social, scientific or cultural importance;
 - (iii) Wetlands supporting species or communities that are important for research into the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity including indicators of ecosystem health and integrity; and
 - (iv) Wetlands that support important populations of taxonomic groups with wetland-dependent species, including, *inter alia*, amphibians;
- (b) To consider the development of additional criteria, including, as appropriate, quantitative criteria; and
- (c) To develop guidelines on the geographical scale at which criteria should be applied.

63. In decision VII/4 paragraph 30, the Conference of the Parties further invited the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention, in collaboration with the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, to provide guidance, based on experiences, for the interpretation and application of the Ramsar criteria at the national and regional levels.

64. In response to these decisions the following activities were carried out:

65. The Secretariat held further discussions with the FAO Regional Office for Asia-Pacific (Bangkok, 14 and 17 February, 2005), after attending SBSTTA10, to coordinate the study of the linkages between conservation and sustainable use of inland water biodiversity and poverty alleviation/sustainable livelihoods, including human health considerations.

66. The Ramsar Secretariat attended SBSTTA10 and in particular gave an introduction to the session on outcome-oriented targets for the Programme of Work on the Biological Diversity of Inland Water Ecosystems, drawing attention to the close collaboration and synergies with the activities of the Ramsar Convention. The outcome-oriented targets were adopted as part of recommendation X/4.

67. The Secretariat has undertaken a second in-depth review of the synthesis report of the Ramsar Convention on the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (Wetlands and Water: ecosystem services and human well-being, 2nd draft 25 February, 2005) and submitted this to the MA Board for further consideration.

68. Further to Decision VII/4, paragraph 12, the Executive Secretary has issued notification 2005-021 requesting relevant information.

69. Further to paragraph 14(a) of decision VII/4, the Executive Secretary has issued notification 2005-014 requesting relevant information.

70. Regarding recommendation X/4 of SBSTTA, the Executive Secretary has informed the Secretary General of the Ramsar Convention of its contents and requested that the information be forwarded to the Scientific and Technical Review Panel. In addition, a suggestion was made to explore ways of bringing related matters to the attention of Ramsar COP9 (November 2005).

71. In relation to Decision VII/4, paragraphs 29 and 30, relating to the criteria for the identification and designation of Ramsar Sites, the Secretariat has collaborated with a Ramsar STRP working group which has deliberated extensively on this subject. The outputs of the working group were considered in detail at the 12th meeting of the STRP (Gland, Switzerland, 31 January to 5 February, 2005). Further collaboration between the Secretariat and the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention has resulted in a comprehensive analysis of the relevant needs and the production of a draft document explaining the current situation for the consideration of SBSTTA11 (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA11/13). Subject to the adoption of the STRP recommendations by Ramsar COP9, all of the requirements in the relevant CBD decision will be met, although some further elaboration of the guidelines for the application of criteria is needed in some areas.

DECISION VII/5: MARINE AND COASTAL BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

72. In annex I to decision VII/3, the Conference of the Parties adopted the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity, composed of six programme elements: (i) implementation of integrated marine and coastal area management; (ii) marine and coastal living resources; (iii) marine and coastal protected areas; (iv) mariculture; (v) invasive alien species; and (vi) general. Enabling activities were also included in the elaborated programme of work. The Executive Secretary has been requested to undertake a number of specific tasks relating to the programme elements.

73. In response to this COP decision the following activities were carried out:

(a) Implementation of integrated marine and coastal area management (IMCAM)

74. The Secretariat has undertaken the following activities to prepare for the meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Implementation of IMCAM: (i) Initiation of the expert selection process based on nominations received; and (ii) commissioning of a background document which will review obstacles to implementation of IMCAM, and propose ways and means to overcome those obstacles. The meeting of the Expert Group is tentatively scheduled for 11-15 July 2005 in Montreal, Canada.

(b) Marine and coastal living resources

75. The Status of Coral Reefs of the World 2004 Report, produced by the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN), was launched at the 10th meeting of SBSTTA in a side event jointly organized by the GCRMN and the CBD Secretariat. The Coordinator of the GCRMN, also gave a short presentation to Working Group II of SBSTTA on the status of coral reefs and priority actions to be undertaken in order to reach the 2010 target.

76. The Secretariat is coordinating the work of the UN-OCEANS (The United Nations Coordination Mechanism on Oceans Issues) Task Force on Biodiversity in Marine Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction. At the present time, the member organizations of the Task Force are reviewing and providing feedback on the legal study on marine protected areas in the high seas prepared for the Ad hoc Open-ended Working Group on Protected Areas.

(c) Marine and coastal protected areas

77. The Regional Seas Programme of the United Nations Environment Programme and the CBD Secretariat are collaborating on an analysis of how regional networks of marine and coastal protected areas contribute towards the World Summit on Sustainable Development 2012 target on a representative networks, which was agreed upon in decisions VII/5 and VII/28. The Regional Seas Programme has provided an intern to work under the supervision of the Secretariat to conduct research on this issue. The final results will be used to inform SBSTTA in accordance with paragraph 39 of decision VII/5.

(d) Invasive alien species

78. The Secretariat is collaborating with the Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP) and the Regional Seas Programme on a project to develop and pilot a regionally-based training course on marine invasive alien species. In addition, the three organizations are collaborating on an initiative to develop a Joint Work Programme on marine invasive alien species with key stakeholders and organisations. The latter initiative will entail gathering information on existing activities, identifying gaps, and subsequently planning a way forward with all the stakeholders at a workshop tentatively scheduled for the end of June this year.

(e) General

79. The Secretariat participated in the meeting of the UN-OCEANS (the Coordination Mechanism for United Nations agencies on oceans issues), which took place at the offices of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO from 25 to 26 January 2005. During this meeting, the UN-OCEANS members agreed upon a number of task forces to conduct their work. These included a Task Force on Biological Diversity in Marine Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction, which will be led by the CBD Secretariat.

80. The Secretariat participated in a dialogue titled "Changing Currents: Charting a Course of Action for the Future of Oceans, which took place in Vancouver, Canada, from 23 to 26 February. This multi-stakeholder dialogue sought to find solutions to the decline in biodiversity in the oceans. The identified obstacles and possible solutions will contribute to the background documentation for the AHTEG on Implementation of IMCAM, which is exploring similar issues.

81. The 10th meeting of SBSTTA adopted recommendation X/4 on global outcome-oriented targets for the implementation of the programmes of work on the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems and marine and coastal biodiversity. The development of the targets as they relate to the programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity was undertaken in response to decisions VII/5 (Annex 1, section C) and VII/30.

DECISION VII/6: ASSESSMENT PROCESSES

82. In recommendation VI/5 the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice decided to initiate a number of pilot assessments in order to advance assessments on current priority issues, and to test a range of methods and modalities for assessments.

83. In decision VII/6, the Conference of the Parties took note of the progress of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment and the outline for the synthesis report that will be prepared for the Convention on Biological Diversity and encouraged national focal points to participate in the review of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment.

84. In response to the SBSTTA recommendation and the COP decision the following activities were carried out:

(a) Millennium Ecosystem Assessment

85. The Secretariat continued to participate in the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment process. A draft of the Summary for Decision-Makers of the biodiversity synthesis report (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/10/6) and the complete summary (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/10/INF/5) have been presented to SBSTTA-10 for review. In its recommendation X/3 SBSTTA welcomed the report and provided some comments, which have been taken on board in preparing a final draft. This, together with a number of other synthesis reports (on wetlands, desertification, health, business and industry) are now available to the MA Board for review prior to their approval at its final meeting on 22 and 23 March 2005.

(b) Review of pilot assessments

86. In accordance with recommendation VI/5, documents on “Scientific assessments: Review of methods and modalities for assessments, and pilot assessments initiated by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice” (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/10/7) and an updated list of scientific assessments relevant to the Convention (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/10/INF/3) have been considered by SBSTTA-10. In reviewing these documents in connection with its Operational Plan, SBSTTA decided to invite additional written comments and requested that the Executive Secretary take these into account in revising the Operational Plan. A notification inviting SBSTTA focal points to provide additional written comments has been prepared.

DECISION VII/7: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

87. In decision VI/7 A, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to, *inter alia*, prepare, in collaboration with relevant organizations, in particular the International Association for Impact Assessment, proposals for further development and refinement of guidelines for incorporating biodiversity-related issues into environmental-impact-assessment legislation or processes and in strategic impact assessment. In decision VII/7, COP urged Parties and other Governments that have not done so to contribute case-studies on current experiences in environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental assessment procedures that incorporate biodiversity-related issues as well as experiences in applying the guidelines contained in the annex to decision VI/7 A.

88. In response to this decision the following activities were carried out:

(a) Further development of guidelines for environmental impact assessment

89. In accordance with a contractual arrangement, the Netherlands Commission for Environmental Impact Assessment has prepared and submitted a set of generic guidelines for incorporating biodiversity-related issues into environmental-impact-assessment legislation or processes and in strategic environmental assessment. These have been prepared in collaboration with the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) and are now being reviewed by key experts.

90. The guidelines will then be presented at the 2005 Annual Conference of IAIA (Boston, May 2005) and at an International Conference on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Prague, September 2005) before being submitted to SBSTTA and COP.

(b) Capacity development in biodiversity and impact assessment

91. The Secretariat continued to serve as a member of the Steering Committee of the project on "Capacity building in biodiversity and impact assessment in developing countries" (CBBIA), and contributed to the preparations of a CBBIA training course organized at the margins of IAIA '05.

(c) EIA portal

92. A searchable database with case studies on biodiversity-related issues in environmental impact assessment (EIA) and strategic environmental assessment (SEA) has been developed as part of a web portal on EIA/SEA. Before the site is being made public, additional case studies are being invited from selected experts and the texts will be reviewed internally. It is expected that the portal will be launched at IAIA '05.

DECISION VII/8: MONITORING AND INDICATORS

93. In decision VII/8, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to continue collaborating with FAO, the OECD, the European Environment Agency, and other relevant international and regional organizations and initiatives on the further development and consolidation of indicators relevant to the 2010 target.

94. In response to this decision the following activities were carried out:

95. The GEF-funded project on Biodiversity Indicators for National Use (BINU) has come to a close and a report of the main project findings and a CD-ROM of supporting results have been made available to participants at SBSTTA-10. The experience from BINU is being made available in the context of development of national and/or regional goals, targets and indicators within the framework of decision VII/30.

DECISION VII/9: GLOBAL TAXONOMY INITIATIVE

96. In paragraph 7 (b) of decision VII/9 on the GTI, the COP requested the Executive Secretary in collaboration with the Coordination Mechanism of the GTI to develop the process and guidelines for the in-depth review, including mechanisms for monitoring progress in the implementation of the programme of work for the GTI, to be finalized during the tenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological.

97. In response to this decision, the following activities were carried out:

The process and the guidelines for the in-depth review of the GTI

98. In its recommendation X/12, SBSTTA welcomed the proposed process and guidelines for the in-depth review of the implementation of the programme of work for the GTI put forward by the Executive Secretary in collaboration with the GTI Coordination Mechanism. A consultant has been commissioned to undertake the review.

99. At the tenth meeting of SBSTTA, the Secretariat participated in the side event on "Taxonomy for Conservation: Implementing the GTI", organized by the Global Biodiversity Information Facility. Selected country experts and international organizations also participated. The Secretariat briefly introduced to the participants the relevance of the GTI for conservation purposes in general and for implementing the objectives of the Convention, and presented an overview of how the GTI would be reviewed.

DECISION VII/10: GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR PLANT CONSERVATION

100. In decision VI/9 the Conference of the Parties invited relevant international and regional organizations to endorse the strategy and to contribute to its implementation, including adopting these targets, in order to promote a common effort towards halting the loss of plant diversity.

101. In Paragraph 6, the COP further emphasized the need for capacity building, particularly in developing countries, Small Island developing States, and countries with economies in transition, in order to enable them implement the strategy. Further in Paragraph 7, the COP invited parties, other Governments, the financial mechanism, and funding organizations to provide adequate and timely support to the implementation of the strategy, especially by developing country Parties, in particular least developed countries and small island developing states among them, and Parties with economies in transition.

102. In Decision VII/10, the COP invited the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to consider how the Global Plan of Action for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture contributes to the implementation of the Strategy, in particular target 9 (“70 per cent of the genetic diversity of crops and other major socio-economically valuable plant species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained”).

103. In response to these decisions the following activities were carried out

104. In order to raise awareness of the GSPC, a poster on the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation (GPPC) has been produced. The Poster was exhibited at the 10th meeting of SBSSTA in Bangkok. A website for the Partnership (www.plants2010.org) has been developed.

105. As a means towards developing a toolkit for the national implementation of the Strategy, the Secretariat is working closely with the FAO and the Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI) to plan for a Liaison Group Meeting to be held in October 2005, back to back with a GPPC meeting. Tentative funding for the participation of national GSPC focal points has been raised from the BGCI HSBC-Investing in Nature Funding, while the members of the Partnership will provide in kind support. A planning meeting is scheduled from 16 to 17 May 2005 at FAO, Rome.

DECISION VII/11: ECOSYSTEM APPROACH

106. In decision VII/11, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the relevant international and regional organizations, to:

(a) Undertake an analysis of the range of existing tools and approaches, that are consistent with the Convention’s ecosystem approach, but operate on different levels and belong to a variety of sectors/communities, and are applied in programmes of work of the Convention on Biological Diversity, in order to learn from their experiences and build upon their approaches, and identify any gaps in the coverage of such tools;

(b) Where needed, facilitate development of new tools and techniques to enable the implementation of the ecosystem approach, and in collaboration with appropriate regional and international organization develop tools specific to each sector and biome;

(c) Continue collection of case-studies at national, sub-regional, regional and international level on the implementation of the ecosystem approach, and develop, in cooperation with the clearing-house mechanism, a database of case-studies, searchable by biome/ecoregion and sector;

(d) Make the above widely available to Parties through the development of a web-based “sourcebook” for the ecosystem approach, accessible through the clearing-house mechanism. This sourcebook should be non-prescriptive and allow adaptation to differing regional, national and local needs. It should be prepared in a language that is brief, non-technical and simple, ensuring its

accessibility to practitioners working to implement the ecosystem approach on the ground. A supporting summary explanation of the ecosystem approach will also be prepared. It should be developed in collaboration with other relevant organizations, peer-reviewed and field tested as appropriate, and made available through the clearing-house mechanism, in hard copy and on CD-Rom, and periodically revised;

107. The Executive Secretary was also requested to collaborate with the Coordinator and Head of the United Nations Forum on Forests Secretariat and the Collaborative Partnership on Forests in order to further integrate the concepts of the ecosystem approach and sustainable forest management.

108. In response to this decision, the following activities were carried out:

(a) Analysis of the range of existing tools and approaches

109. The Secretariat has conducted a preliminary analysis of the range of existing tools and approaches consistent with the ecosystem approach, but also related to sustainable forest management, and identified some relevant case studies. Once reviewed, these tools and approaches will be incorporated into the ecosystem approach sourcebook.

(b) Database of case studies

110. The Secretariat, in collaboration with the Government of the UK, held a side event at SBSTTA 10 to present the case study database as well as the other components of the ecosystem approach sourcebook. The purpose of this side event was to seek feedback and case studies from Parties prior to making the draft sourcebook publicly available. Based on the positive response of the participants in the side event, the sourcebook can now be made available on the CBD website.

DECISION VII/13: ALIEN SPECIES THAT THREATEN ECOSYSTEMS, HABITATS OR SPECIES

111. In decision VII/13, the COP noted that specific gaps in the international regulatory frameworks at global, regional and national levels persist, notably in relation to species that are invasive and requested the SBSTTA to establish an ad hoc technical expert group (AHTEG) to address gaps and inconsistencies in the international regulatory frameworks at global, and regional levels, in particular the specific gaps identified in paragraph 7 of decision VII/13, and, on the basis of the work of the expert group, to make recommendations to SBSTTA prior to the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties for the full and effective implementation of Article 8(h) of the Convention.

112. In response to this decision, the following activities were carried out:

AHTEG to address gaps and inconsistencies in the international regulatory frameworks

113. The selection of experts for the AHTEG to address gaps and inconsistencies in the international regulatory frameworks has been concluded. A notification listing the experts was issued on 18 February 2005.

DECISION VII/15: BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

114. In decision VII/15 the Conference of the Parties requested the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to develop advice or guidance for promoting synergy among activities to address climate change at the national, regional and international level where appropriate, including activities to combat desertification and land degradation, and activities for biodiversity conservation.

115. In response to this decision, and following the decision by the tenth meeting of SBSTTA to establish an Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Climate Change (recommendation X/13), the Secretariat has carried out the following activities: (i) sent notifications to Parties and relevant organizations for nomination of experts; (ii) finalized the contract for a consultant to prepare background documentation for consideration by the Group; and (iii) sent a letter to the Government of Finland

proposing to hold the Group's meeting during the first week of September. The host country agreement is being drafted.

DECISION VII/26: COOPERATION WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, INITIATIVES AND CONVENTIONS

116. In decision VI/20 the Conference of the Parties requested SBSTTA and the Executive Secretary to:

continue to cooperate with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), including its Kyoto Protocol, and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) with a view to maximizing synergies between these processes;

continue cooperation as member of the joint liaison group consisting of the UNFCCC, UNCCD and CBD. The COP also urged the joint liaison group to become fully operational in order to facilitate cooperation between the conventions both at national and international levels; and

take the actions elaborated in the third joint work plan (2002-2006) between the CBD and the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar) into full consideration in furthering the respective programmes of work for these areas.

117. In decision VII/26, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, in close collaboration with relevant conventions, organizations and bodies, to examine options for a flexible framework in order to enhance implementation through improved cooperation.

118. In response to these decisions, the following activities were carried out by the Secretariat:

119. The Secretariat participated in the International Conference on "Biodiversity: Science and Governance" (Paris Conference), which took place from 24 to 28 January 2005 at the headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), in Paris, France. The Conference, organized by the French Government and sponsored by UNESCO, was attended by over 1000 participants representing governments, inter-governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, as well as academia and the private sector, and aimed to contribute towards reaching the 2010 target on reducing the rate of biodiversity loss. The Conference produced two documents: the Paris Declaration on Biodiversity, an appeal by scientists on biodiversity; and a Conference Statement, which recalls governments' commitments to the 2010 target and supports the launch of an international multi-stakeholder consultative process to assess scientific information and policy options for decision making. In the context of this Conference, the Secretariat gave presentations relating to the work of the Convention and the 2010 target, and co-organized a workshop on global indicators to assess progress towards the 2010 target.

120. The Secretariat has produced a written contribution for the published outputs (training materials) for the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) training workshop series on Series on Biodiversity: Wetlands, biodiversity and water: new tools for the ecosystem management, held in Kushiro, Japan, 29 November to 3 December 2004. The contribution focuses on the role of multi-lateral agreements in wetland management.

121. The Secretariat has collaborated with the producers of the draft Strategic Plan for Eco-Agriculture Partners, actively participated in the development of the outline for the Comprehensive Assessment of Water Management in Agriculture (CGIAR) and continues to liaise with the Ramsar STRP working group on the Ramsar Convention and Agriculture. Enhancements of all these initiatives have included drawing attention to: (i) the impacts of agriculture on other ecosystems (or components of the wider ecosystem), in particular, the impacts of agriculture on water resources and the need to sustain inland water ecosystems and the broader services they provide; (ii) added emphasis on the biodiversity aspects of agriculture and in particular the relationships between biodiversity food and nutrition; (iii) improved attention to soil biodiversity; (iv) increased attention to how agriculture is currently doing a considerable

amount to sustain biodiversity (and how it might do better); and, (v) added prominence to the importance of perverse incentives, particularly regarding water use.

122. The Secretariat attended the Conference on Water for Food and Ecosystems (The Hague, The Netherlands, 31 January to 5 February, 2005), organised by the FAO and the Government of the Netherlands. A presentation to this important meeting was made on behalf of the Executive Secretary. The presentation focused on the relevance of the CBD (and in particular the Programmes of Work on the Biological Diversity of Inland Water Ecosystems and Agricultural Biodiversity) to the subject matter and objectives of the conference. Note was made that the topics being discussed at the conference represented an excellent and comprehensive example of the implementation of these Programmes of Work at the sector and field levels.

DECISION VII/27: MOUNTAIN BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

123. In decision VII/27 the Conference of Parties adopted the programme of work on mountain biological diversity and requested the Executive Secretary to undertake supporting activities geared to facilitating its implementation.

124. In response to this decision, the following activities were carried out:

125. The Secretariat liaised with the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), the International Human Dimensions Programme on Global Environmental Change, the Sustainable Mountain Partnership and the Global Mountain Biodiversity assessment of DIVERSITAS on the implementation of the programme of work on mountain biological diversity.

126. The Secretariat interacted with the above organisations and individual experts seeking inputs to the preparation of global outcome-oriented targets for the programme of work on mountain biological diversity, which will be considered by the eleventh meeting of SBSTTA.

127. The Secretariat is compiling, collating and synthesizing information on the role of mountain ecosystems in producing and maintaining fresh water resources.

128. The Secretariat prepared draft proposals for the consideration of the EU, seeking assistance for the implementation of the programme of work on mountain biological diversity.

DECISION VII/28: PROTECTED AREAS

129. In decision VII/28 the Conference of Parties adopted the programme of work on protected areas (annex to the decision) and requested the Executive Secretary to undertake supporting activities aimed at facilitating its implementation. In paragraph 25 of the decision, COP established an *ad hoc* open-ended working group on protected areas to support and review implementation of the programme of work and requested the Executive Secretary to make arrangements to hold one meeting prior to COP 8.

130. In response to this decision, the following activities were carried out:

131. The Secretariat has initiated a consultancy to prepare case studies on main characteristics of ecological networks, corridors and buffer zones in different regions, and their contribution to poverty alleviation and the 2010 biodiversity target. These case studies will potentially be used to produce information documents for the Ad hoc Open-ended Working Group on Protected Areas.

132. The Secretariat has undertaken the following activities in preparation for the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Working Group on Protected Areas, which will take place in Montecatini, Italy from 13 to 17 June 2005: (i) Finalization of the host country agreement with the Government of Italy; (ii) issuance of invitation letters to Parties, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and UN bodies; and (iii) consultations with the COP Bureau on the provisional agenda and the annotated provisional agenda. The Secretariat is also in the process of finalising the background documents for this meeting, including a proposal for the review of the implementation of the programme of work on

protected areas, which will be submitted for consideration at the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Protected Areas scheduled in June 2005.

133. The Secretariat participated in the Mediterre – Parks Fair organized by the Government of Italy in Brindisi from 3 to 6 March 2005, and made a presentation entitled “The Programme of Work on Protected Areas and the Convention on Biological Diversity”

134. The Secretariat participated in a Workshop entitled “World Heritage Forests – Leveraging Conservation at Landscape Level”, organized by the World Heritage Centre in Nancy, France from 9 to 11 March 2005, and made a presentation on the programme of work on protected areas and the elaborated programme of work on forest biological diversity.

135. The publication on the programme of work on protected areas was finalized and will be made available as part of the CBD programmes of work series.

136. In addition to the above, the Secretariat, in collaboration with IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (IUCN-WCPA) and The Nature Conservancy, finalized a guide on the protected areas programme of work. The guide will be presented at the first meeting of the open-ended ad hoc working group on protected areas in 2005.

137. Discussions were held with protected area officials of the Governments of Italy and India, as well as representatives of WWF, The Nature Conservancy, Conservation International, and the United Nations Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP), on the implementation of the programme of work on protected areas.

138. The Secretariat also held discussions with the Chair of IUCN-WCPA, and other officials of the IUCN in order to finalize the annex to the Memorandum of Cooperation with the IUCN on the implementation of decisions VII/5 (marine and coastal biological diversity) and VII/28 (protected areas).

DECISION VII/30: STRATEGIC PLAN: FUTURE EVALUATION OF PROGRESS

139. In decision VII/30, the Conference of the Parties adopted a framework to enhance the evaluation of achievements and progress in the implementation of the Strategic Plan. The framework includes (i) focal areas, (ii) goals and sub-targets to facilitate coherence among the programmes of work, and to provide a flexible framework for national targets and (iii) indicators for assessing progress towards, and communicating, the 2010 target at the global level.

140. In response to this decision the following activities were carried out:

(a) Indicators

141. SBSTTA-10 considered a document on “Indicators for assessing progress towards, and communicating, the 2010 target at the global level” (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/10/9) and the report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators for Assessing Progress towards the 2010 Biodiversity Target (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/10/INF/7). SBSTTA also had before it documents UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/10/INF/10 to 22 containing background documents on the thirteen indicators, which the AHTEG considered ready for immediate testing and use.

142. On the basis of these documents, SBSTTA, in its recommendation X/5, considered a total of 14 indicators ready for immediate testing and reporting through the Global Biodiversity Outlook and requested, *inter alia*, the development of a delivery plan for the indicators, a detailed characterization of the technical aspects of the indicators and an information strategy (see also item (c) on the Global Biodiversity Outlook).

(b) Outcome-oriented targets

143. The tenth meeting of SBSTTA adopted recommendation X/4 on global outcome-oriented targets for the implementation of the programmes of work on the biological diversity of inland water ecosystems

and marine and coastal biodiversity. Similar targets, conforming to the framework adopted in decision VII/30, are under development for the other thematic programmes of work.

(c) Preparation of the Global Biodiversity Outlook

144. The tenth meeting of SBSTTA adopted recommendation X/6 on the Second Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO). In this recommendation, SBSTTA welcomed the draft outline of the second edition of the GBO and provided additional guidance for its format and content.

145. On the basis of this recommendation, the Secretariat revised the draft outline of the second GBO and developed a comprehensive production schedule, which included detailed tasks to be implemented, key partners, their respective roles and responsibilities, time frames and a budget for the identified activities. The drafting of the chapters is expected to commence at the beginning of April, and the first full draft of the report will be available for peer review by the end of August 2005. A revised version will then be reviewed by SBSTTA-11 in November 2005.

146. A document related to national reporting is being prepared for the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Review of Implementation scheduled in September 2005.

**DECISION VII/31: THE MULTI-YEAR PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE
CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES UP TO 2010**

Island Biodiversity

147. The Secretariat attended the Mauritius International Meeting (MIM), which was mandated to review the implementation of the programme of Action for the sustainable development of SIDS, also called Barbados Programme of Action, held in Port Louis, Mauritius, from 6 to 15 January 2005. At the MIM, the Executive Secretary delivered a statement during the Plenary on 10 January 2005. The statement underlined the vulnerable nature of island ecosystems, the particular challenges faced by SIDS in the conservation and sustainable use of their biodiversity and the opportunities offered by the programme of work on island biodiversity. The CBD Secretariat also organized, in collaboration with the Government of the Bahamas, a side event on 11 January 2005 to present the draft programme of work on island biodiversity. The side event was well attended and included a number of high level speakers, a presentation from the Secretariat and a question/answer session with those experts who participated in the AHTEG on island biodiversity and that were attending the MIM.

148. In response to Decision VII/31, para 8 (a), the Secretariat organized a meeting of the liaison group on island biodiversity prior to the tenth meeting of the SBSTTA in Bangkok, on 5 February 2005. Participants included members of the AHTEG who attended the MIM. The liaison group considered the outcome of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in light of the draft programme of work on island biodiversity prepared in December 2004 by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Island Biodiversity. On the basis of this review, the group identified elements from the Mauritius International Meeting that SBSTTA decided to address at its tenth meeting in its consideration of the draft programme of work on island biodiversity and discussed proposals developed during the MIM on ways to improve the draft programme of work on island biodiversity. The results of the liaison group were presented to the Subsidiary Body as an information document (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/10/INF/26).

149. SBSTTA-10 decided to endorse the programme of work on island biodiversity, adopting it as recommendation IX/1, and will forward the matter for consideration at the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to be held in Brazil in May 2006.

150. The Secretariat is developing a web portal for island biodiversity issues aimed at facilitating the input from the widest possible range of Parties, countries, and relevant organizations, stakeholders and indigenous and local communities, particularly from small island developing States.

DECISION VII/32: MILLENIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

151. During the reporting period under consideration, there has been no new updates with respect to paragraphs 2(a), 5 and 6 of decision VII/32 primarily because the specific activities to respond directly to the requests contained in these paragraphs were all planned for implementation and follow-up towards the end of the first quarter of 2005 (details of these activities and their respective outcomes were highlighted in the quarterly report for the third quarter of 2004). In this respect, the update on progress in the implementation of the responses to the decision will be made available in the quarterly report for the second quarter of 2005.

SOCIAL ECONOMIC AND LEGAL MATTERS

DECISION VII/12 ON SUSTAINABLE USE AS A CROSS-CUTTING ISSUE

152. Pursuant to paragraph 5 of decision VII/12, and with financial assistance from the Government of the Netherlands, the Secretariat is organizing the regional workshop on sustainable use for the Central and Eastern European region which is tentatively scheduled to be held in the Russian Federation from 30 May to 1 June 2005. The workshop will provide a forum for government officials and practitioners to enhance their awareness and understanding of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity and other CBD guidelines and promote the use of these guidelines in an integrated manner, as a contribution to facilitating the achievement of the 2010 target, sustainable development and poverty alleviation. The Central and Eastern Europe Workshop will focus on ecosystem services assessments; financial costs and benefits associated with conservation of biodiversity; and sustainable use of biological resources.

153. The Secretariat issued Notification 2005-023 inviting Central and Eastern European governments, Parties to the Convention, to nominate an expert to participate in the regional workshop at their earliest convenience, but no later than 31 March 2005. A consultant is currently working on a manual, which will be the basis for the training workshop.

154. Pursuant to decision VII/12, the Secretariat continues to maintain an electronic forum in order to gather further comments and proposals on issues pertaining to use of terms for sustainable use, adaptive management, monitoring and indicators. In this regard, the Secretariat issued Notification 2004-072 inviting interested experts to comment and formulate proposals. Comments received will be compiled by the Secretariat and integrated in a revised document for consideration at SBSTTA-11. The restricted website as well as instructions on how to participate in the forum are available at: <http://www.biodiv.org/doc/subd-forum.asp>.

155. In response to decision VII/12, the Secretariat also continues to compile information on success stories, best practices and lessons learned in the application of the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines, which will be submitted for the consideration of the SBSTTA at its eleventh meeting (Notification 2004-072).

DECISION VII/14 ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND TOURISM

156. In accordance with decision VII/14, the Secretariat, with the financial support from the Government of Germany, organized a meeting of Experts to develop a Users' Manual on the CBD Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development in the Bahamas from 24 to 28 January 2005. The

development of a user's manual was based on practical advice, examples and case studies to facilitate the implementation of the guidelines. To this end, a number of experts were requested to prepare papers covering the management steps of the guidelines. The meeting reviewed those papers and prepared a first draft of the manual.

157. The experts' group decided that there was a need to include additional case studies and explanatory text in the manual. The group therefore, agreed to continue the revision through electronic means and to submit the necessary information to the Secretariat by the end of March 2005. This revised draft will then be circulated among National Focal Points, relevant international organizations and non-governmental organizations and local and indigenous community organizations in order to elicit comments and further inputs. In addition, given the different formats and structures of the papers, it was agreed that prior to the broader internet consultation, the Secretariat will harmonize the formatting and structure of the papers. The final version of the manual is expected to be submitted to the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention.

158. The Secretariat continues to assist and collaborate with international organizations and Parties in the implementation of the CBD Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development. In order to assess the adaptability of the guidelines, test their effectiveness and identify constraints to their implementation, the Secretariat is also collecting and analyzing the case-studies on the implementation of the guidelines.

DECISION VII/16 ON ARTICLE 8(J) AND RELATED PROVISIONS

159. Composite Report: The Secretariat has recruited consultants to prepare phase II of the composite report. A draft programme of action to retain traditional knowledge, which in turn will include possible indicators for traditional knowledge retention, will complement this report. The consultants are also attending important events in their various regions with the objective of obtaining the views of indigenous and local community representatives and ensuring that their views are adequately reflected in the report.

160. In particular, a representative of the Arctic consultant has traveled to the North American Arctic (March) to consult with indigenous and local communities and will travel to the Russian Federation in April to work with RAIPON and an assembly of indigenous representatives from the Russian Arctic. Planning has also been finalized for regional consultations in Asia (Philippines 28-30 April, 2005) and the Pacific (Suva, Fiji, 9-10 June 2005). Preparations are also advanced for regional consultations for Latin America and Africa.

161. Advisory/Steering Committee: The Secretariat is preparing a meeting of the advisory group, which will serve as a peer review mechanism for the regional reports currently under preparation and will provide advice to the Secretariat on various issues to be examined by the WG on article 8 (j) at its fourth meeting, in January 2006. The meeting is currently planned to be held in August/September 2005.

162. Workshop based on the "Akwé Kon Guidelines". The Workshop on cultural, environmental and social impact assessments based on the Akwé: Kon Guidelines and aimed at further strengthening of the link between environment and cultural diversity, will be held in Tokyo, Japan, from 30 May to 02 June 2005, in partnership with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations University (UNU), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues as part of World Expo. The workshop will be held in connection with a broader Symposium being organized on the theme "Conserving Cultural and Biological Diversity: the Role of Sacred Natural Sites and Cultural Landscapes." Interested parties and governments have been invited to submit the names of indigenous and local community representatives who could participate.

163. UNPFII Workshop on Free, Prior and Informed Consent, 17-19 January 2005: In January the Secretariat participated in the UNPFII workshop on free, prior and informed consent. A diverse audience was informed on the subject of prior and informed consent as it related to the work of the CBD. The

workshop developed possible elements of a PIC process and advanced a common understanding of PIC across the international system.

164. Follow-up of the third session and preparation of the fourth Session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (PFII): “Millennium Development Goals and Indigenous Peoples”, New York, May 09-20, 2005: In preparation for the CBD participation in Fourth Session of the UNPFII, the Secretariat has provided a background paper to the UNPFII on action undertaken or planned, to follow-up recommendations of the Permanent Forum and to draw attention to the upcoming work of the CBD as relevant to indigenous peoples.

165. Northern Workshop on ABS and Traditional Knowledge/ Sub-regional consultation for Arctic Report, Whitehorse March 15 to 17: The Secretariat and a representative of the Arctic Consultants participated in this event. The meeting including capacity building on Access and Benefits Sharing and Traditional Knowledge issues and a consultation with indigenous participants concerning obstacles at local and national levels to the retention and use of Traditional Knowledge.

166. Follow-up to collaboration with the WIPO. In preparation for the next WIPO IGC meeting the Secretariat has provided comments to the WIPO on documents WIPO/GRTKF/IC/7/3 (The Protection Of Traditional Cultural Expressions/Expressions Of Folklore: Overview Of Policy Objectives And Core Principles) and WIPO/GRTKF/IC/7/5 (Protection Of Traditional Knowledge: Overview Of Policy Objectives And Core Principles).

DECISION VII/17 ON LIABILITY AND REDRESS

167. In response to decision VII/17, a proposal was prepared and submitted to the European Commission (EC) regarding funding for the organization of the Meeting of the Group of Legal and Technical Experts on Liability and Redress under Article 14(2) of the Convention. The EC has responded to this request and committed the necessary funds for this meeting. The meeting is tentatively scheduled to take place in Montreal, from 17 to 19 January 2006.

168. Pursuant to decision VI/11, paragraph 2, work continued on updating documentation prepared for the Meeting of the Group of Legal and Technical Experts on Liability and Redress under Article 14(2) of the Convention.

DECISION VII/18 ON INCENTIVE MEASURES

169. The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at its tenth meeting, discussed the further refinement and consideration of the proposals for the application of ways and means to remove or mitigate perverse incentives. The SBSTTA further considered these proposals and adopted recommendation X/8 for further consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its eighth meeting.

170. The Secretariat finalized the publication of a study entitled “The Impact of Trade Liberalization on Agricultural Biodiversity. Domestic support measures and their effects on agricultural biological diversity” as CBD Technical Series Document No. 16. Prepared upon request by the Conference of the Parties, this study was initially distributed as an information document at the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (UNEP/CBD/COP/7/INF/14). It was released at the tenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.

171. The Secretariat continued the preparation of documentation for the eleventh meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.

DECISION VII/19 ON ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING AS RELATED TO GENETIC RESOURCES

171. Final preparations for the third meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing were carried out including logistical arrangements and preparations of speaking notes, statements and introductory notes.
173. The Secretariat serviced the Working Group held from 14 to 18 February 2005. Following the meeting, the report was finalized, approved by the Rapporteur and is now available on the CBD website.
174. Draft notifications by the Executive Secretary were prepared for Parties, Governments, international organizations, indigenous and local communities and relevant stakeholders to invite them to provide submissions in preparation for the fourth meeting of the Working Group on ABS, to be held in the first quarter of 2006.
175. The CBD webpages related to ABS were updated to reflect developments at the third meeting of the Working Group on ABS.
176. The Secretariat completed work on the consolidation and retirement of COP decisions related to ABS in preparation for COP 8.

DECISION VII/33 ON OPERATIONS OF THE CONVENTION

177. The Secretariat continued to review COP decisions with a view to making proposals regarding their retirement or consolidation of decisions pursuant to paragraphs 3 and 4 of decision VII/33.
178. The Secretariat is continuing to review the administrative arrangements between UNEP and the SCBD with a view to proposing changes for the consideration of the Executive Director UNEP.

DECISION VII/29: TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY AND TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION

179. The Secretariat launched an electronic forum for the consultations of the expert group on technology transfer and scientific and technical cooperation as requested by decision VII/29.
180. The Secretariat started to prepare a compilation and synthesis of information as well as guidance on institutional, administrative, legislative and policy frameworks that facilitate access to and adaptation of technologies in the public domain and to proprietary technologies, as requested by the programme of work on technology transfer and scientific and technical cooperation (contained in the annex to decision VII/29). This document will be considered and reviewed by the expert group on technology transfer and scientific and technical cooperation.

BIOSAFETY

DECISIONS OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

The Biosafety Protocol

181. During the reporting period, the Secretariat organized the following meetings: Coordination Meeting for governments and organizations implementing or funding biosafety capacity building activities (26-27 January 2005 in Montreal); meeting of the Liaison Group on capacity building for biosafety (27-28 January 2005 in Montreal); the first meeting of the Compliance Committee under the Biosafety Protocol (14-16 March 2005 in Montreal); and the Open-ended meeting of the Technical Expert Group on identification requirements of living modified organisms intended for direct use as food, feed,

or for processing (16-18 March 2005 in Montreal). The reports and recommendations of these meetings will be available to the second meeting of COP-MOP for consideration.

182. The open-ended meeting of the Technical Expert Group on identification requirements for LMOs-FFP was attended by 161 experts from 66 Parties to the Protocol, other States and a number of relevant organizations and other stakeholders. The participation of experts from developing countries and countries with economies in transition Parties to the Protocol was made possible by the generous financial contribution provided by the following Parties and other Governments: Austria, Canada, Denmark, the European Community, Finland, France, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

183. As of 31 March 2005, 119 Parties to the CBD had acceded to or ratified the Protocol. The list of these Parties is available on the website of the Secretariat and is updated each time the Secretariat is notified by the Depositary of a new deposit of instrument of ratification/accession.

184. The Secretariat is currently finalizing preparations for the first meeting of the open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group of Legal and Technical Experts on Liability and Redress in the context of the Biosafety Protocol, and the second meeting of the COP-MOP. These meetings will take place back-to-back from 25 to 27 May 2005 and 30 May to 3 June 2005, respectively, in Montreal. Most of the pre-sessional documentation for both meetings is available on the Secretariat website.

IMPLEMENTATION AND OUTREACH

DECISION VII/21: ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES

National funding measures

185. The Secretariat has compiled the document on financial measures for supporting national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and began to analyze the status and trends of biodiversity finance by region.

186. The Secretariat has begun to assess the status and trends of biodiversity finance in Africa in order to prepare for COP-8. Similar assessments will be conducted for other regions.

Funding enquires

187. The Secretariat responded to requests concerning funding/information from the following countries:

Austria: financing biodiversity of algae in freshwaters (mainly streams of the La Gamba Reserve) and in the Golfo Dulce

Ghana: request for sponsorship

India: financing for international, social, voluntary, charitable Organisation

India: funding VIKASANA

Pacific: support for CERAD

UK: assistance for conservation company

Info-bulletin and outreach

188. The Interactive Info-bulletin on Financing for Biological Diversity is updated regularly.

189. The Secretariat assessed funding provisions contained in various decisions, and considered the need to establish an informal consultative expert group on financing for biodiversity. As a first step, an Internet Group will be established as the basis of finance community-building.

Sources of funding

190. The Secretariat continued developing the electronic directory of funding sources. A single compilation of funding sources is being prepared.

Guide to donors

191. The Secretariat developed a donor guide to the Convention on Biological Diversity. Based upon the earlier version of an Introduction for Donors, the current guide contains brief reference information for all thematic areas and crosscutting issues of the Convention.

192. Capacity building measures of all the decisions taken by the Conference of the Parties is being compiled. Once edited, the compilation will be made available on the Convention website. The Secretariat has also prepared a compilation of technical cooperation and assistance provisions from the decisions of the Conference of the Parties.

UNEP Finance Initiatives

193. Information has been received from the UNEP Finance Initiative on the following activities: Water Work Programme at Kobe World Conference on Disaster Reduction (17-21 January 2005); UNEP DTIE Annual Industry Association meeting (8-10 October 2004); UNEP FI Annual General Meeting (20-22 October 2004); fourth UNEP FI – GRI Working Group Meeting (25-26 October 2004).

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

194. OECD invited the Secretariat to attend its workshop on multilateral environment agreements and private investment on 16-17 June 2005 in Helsinki, Finland. The OECD Environment Directorate has undertaken a project examining the linkages between multilateral environment agreements and private investment, which is part of its Investment and Environment activity. In 2004, it produced a report on this topic.

European Task Force on Banking, Business and Biodiversity

195. The Secretariat received a copy of the Biodiversity Technical Assistance Facility scoping study prepared by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. The document will be discussed at the next meeting of the Task Force.

DECISION VII/20: FURTHER GUIDANCE TO THE FINANCIAL MECHANISM DECISION VII/22: ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE THIRD REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE FINANCIAL MECHANISM

Replenishment

196. The GEF Secretariat and the GEF Trustee organized a planning meeting for the fourth replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund On Thursday, March 3, 2005. The CBD Secretariat attended the meeting as observers.

National reporting

197. Financial support to third national reports. The CBD and GEF Secretariats circulated a joint letter to advise Governments of availability of funds for the third national report. The letter noted that: eligible country Parties may request GEF assistance up to US\$20,000 for preparing their third national report

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through their current enabling activities in the area of biological diversity; a letter from the GEF focal points to request such an assistance should be sent to the Implementing Agency which is helping or has helped the country's enabling activity project in the area of biological diversity; the resources will be channeled through existing enabling activities. For those countries which have completed their enabling activities, the GEF Implementing Agencies will prepare a medium-sized project for the GEF to disburse the resources based on the requests received from eligible countries. Bahrain, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, Eritrea, Estonia, Indonesia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Madagascar, Nepal, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Romania, South Africa, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkmenistan and Yemen responded to the letter.

198. On 2 February 2005, the Secretariat had a teleconference with UNDP/GEF in respect of its plan of support to the third national report. UNDP has put together a MSP for submission to GEF to secure funds which 50 countries could access very quickly to assist with the preparation of the 3rd national report. As part of the MSP, UNDP would like to incorporate a component to produce guidance to assist Parties in the preparation of the third national report.

199. The Secretariat organized a side event on financial support for the third national report on the margin of the tenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technological and Technical Advice on 9 February 2005 in Bangkok, Thailand. Partners from the GEF system interacted with developing country delegates to promote better information for accessing GEF funds for the third national reports. Two global medium-sized projects were also developed to support preparation of the third national reports.

Biosafety Protocol

200. The Secretariat received a letter from the Government of Chad to demonstrate its political commitment to become a Party to the Protocol. Seven countries notified the Secretariat of their biosafety projects. The Secretariat prepared the document "Matters related to the financial mechanism and resources" (UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/2/5), and received comments from the GEF Secretariat.

201. The GEF Monitoring and Evaluation Office prepared the terms of reference for the Evaluation of GEF's Support for the Biosafety Protocol, and the CBD Secretariat provided detailed comments.

Inter-secretariat consultation

202. On 9 February 2005, the GEF and CBD Secretariat met to discuss GEF support to the 2010 target and the Global Biodiversity Outlook process. GEF proposed a possible contribution to the 2010 process by assisting in the development of an indicator on protected area effectiveness – to complement protected area coverage in the suite of 2010 indicators. This is in follow up to discussions between GEF and WCMC and would be in line with an indicator which GEF is already using for its projects. GEF agreed on the principle of widening the scope beyond protected areas, given the prominence of the 2010 target in the work of the Convention. The suggested approach was for immediate development of a PDF B for submission in early April, to enable preparation in time of GBO-2. This would be followed by a full project over a longer period. The aim of the PDF B project would be to develop a trial mechanism for ensuring the regular compilation and publication of the indicators for assessing progress in achieving the 2010 target. This would lead to a full project to implement this programme over the five years until 2010.

203. The Secretariat received the following notifications, including the GEF pipeline in February and March 2005: note on resources allocation framework for discussion; note of the main points addressed during the GEF Council Consultations on the Resource Allocation Framework which were held in Paris on March 2-3, 2005; GEF Talking Points (Volume 5, No. 1); new dates of the Council meeting on November 16-18, 2005 (to be preceded by the NGO consultation and other informal meetings from

November 14 and 15) and the proposed date of the replenishment meeting on November 10-11, 2005; Ms. Yolanda Kakabadse as the new Chair of STAP.

GEF Council

204. At its November 2004 meeting, the GEF Council agreed to defer consideration of agenda item 10 on land degradation, and agenda item 15 on the process for selecting the CEO/Chairman of the Facility. In so doing, the Council requested the GEF Secretariat to post the documents prepared for those items (Scope and Coherence of the Land Degradation Activities in the GEF, document GEF/C.24/6, and Process for Selecting the CEO/Chairman of the Facility, document GEF/C.24/11) on the GEF web site in order to provide an opportunity for Council Members to comment on the papers prior to the next Council meeting in June 2005. Accordingly, the GEF Secretariat posted the two documents on its web site.

Executive GEFOP

205. The Secretariat participated in the GEFOP Executive meeting on 23 February 2005 to discuss the proposed February 2005 Work Programme and review general portfolio issues. Seven biodiversity projects were included in the intersessional work programme in the amount of \$48 million.

Enabling activity

206. The Secretariat received and reviewed/commented on the following enabling activity proposals:
Bahrain: National Capacity Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management (NCSA)
Barbados: Assessment of Capacity Building Needs and Country Specific Priorities in the Conservation of Biodiversity, Participation in the National Clearing House Mechanism and Third National Report
Fiji: National Capacity Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management (NCSA)
Iran: National Capacity Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management (NCSA)
Kiribati: National Capacity Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management (NCSA)
Mexico: National Capacity Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management (NCSA)
Palau: National Capacity Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management (NCSA)
Turkey: Consultation for National Reporting, Participation in the National Clearing House Mechanism and further development of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP)
United Arab Emirates: National Capacity Self-Assessment for Global Environmental Management (NCSA)

Project development facility (PDF/pipelines)

207. The Secretariat received and reviewed/comments on the following PDF proposals or pipeline entry:

Armenia: Developing Institutional and Legal Capacity to Optimize Information and Monitoring System for Global Environmental Management in Armenia (PDF A)
Bolivia: Conserving Biodiversity and Promoting Sustainable Resource Use within Original Community Territories (TCOs) in the Amboro-Madidi Biological Corridor (PDF A)
Bosnia and Herzegovina: Biodiversity Conservation in Livanjsko Polje (PDF A)
Brazil: Strengthening the effective conservation and sustainable use of mangrove ecosystems in Brazil through its National System of Conservation Units (SNUC) (pipeline 19)
Bulgaria: Conservation of globally important biodiversity in the grasslands of the Ponor Mountains through support for the traditional local economy (PDF A)
Bulgaria: Conservation of globally important migratory species along the Bulgarian Black Sea Coast through mainstreaming conservation practices into key areas of economic activity (PDF A)
Bulgaria: Integration of Rio Conventions in the national and regional development policies (PDF A)
Chile: Sustainable Land Management (PDF B)

Cuba: Mainstreaming and Sustaining Biodiversity Conservation in three Productive Sectors of the Sabana Camaguey Ecosystem (PDF B)
Global: Institutionalizing payments for ecosystem services (pipeline 19)
Global: Whole Forest Observatories: An International Network for Monitoring Canopy Biodiversity and Global Climate Change (PDF A)
Guatemala: Improvement of management effectiveness in the Maya Biosphere Reserve (MBR) (pipeline 19)
Latin America: Biosafety in Centers of Biodiversity: Building Technical Capacity in Latin America for Safe Deployment of Transgenic Crops (pipeline 19 and PDF B)
Latin America: Integrated Ecosystem Management of the Gulf of Fonseca (pipeline 19)
Latin America: Integrated Management of the Montecristo Trinational Protected Area (pipeline 19)
Latin America: Regional Conservation and Sustainable Use of Neotropical Wild Relatives of Crops (PDF B)
Morocco: Restoring the environmental functions, ecological integrity and socio-economic services of forest landscapes in the Middle Atlas (Morocco) (PDF A)
Nicaragua: Strengthening and Catalyzing the Sustainability of Nicaragua's System of Protected Areas (pipeline 19)
Paraguay: Improving the conservation of biodiversity in Atlantic forest of eastern Paraguay (pipeline 19)
Peru: Strengthening Biodiversity Conservation through the National Protected Areas Program (pipeline 19)
Regional: Botanical and Zoological Taxonomic Networks in Eastern Africa: Linking Conservation to Taxonomy (BOZONET) (PDF B)
Russian Federation: Conservation of Virgin Forest Biodiversity in the Pechora River Headwaters Region, Republic of Komi (pipeline 19)
Yemen: Development of Integrated Marine and Coastal Resources (pipeline 19)

Medium-sized projects (MSPs)

208. The Secretariat received and reviewed/commented on the following medium-sized project proposals:

Argentina: In-situ Conservation of Andean Crops and Their Wild Relatives in the Humahuaca Valley, the Southernmost Extension of the Central Andes (An Ancient Center of Crop Origin and Domestication)
Chile: Biodiversity Conservation in Altos de Cantillana, Chile
Global: Development Marketplace
Global: National Reporting to the CBD: Supporting countries to prepare the Third National Report on Biodiversity
Global: UNEP Support to CBD Parties for Preparation of 3rd National Reports to the CoP of CBD
Latin America: Southern Cone Development Marketplace--(Environment Window)
Regional (CEE): Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity Through Sound Tourism Development in Biosphere Reserves in Central and Eastern Europe

Full projects (FP)

209. The Secretariat received and reviewed/commented on the following proposals for the February 2005 Intersessional Work Programme. The approval of the intersessional work programme was extended to April 4, 2005.

Africa: Removing Barriers to Invasive Plant Management in Africa
Azerbaijan: Rural Environment Project (Formerly Shakh Dag Rural Environment Project)
El Salvador: Environmental Services Project
Latin America: Central American Markets for Biodiversity (CAMBio): Mainstreaming biodiversity conservation and sustainable use within micro-, small, and medium-sized enterprise development and financing
Namibia: Namib Coast Biodiversity Conservation and Management (NACOMA)
Tanzania: Marine and Coastal Environment Management Project (MACEMP)

210. The Secretariat also received and reviewed/commented on the following proposals for the June 2005 Work Programme:

Brazil: Integrated Management of Aquatic Resources in the Amazon (AquaBio)

Gabon: Program for Forest and Environment

Latin America: Conservation of the Biodiversity of the Paramo in the Northern and Central Andes

Latin America: Corazon Biosphere Project

Namibia: Strengthening the Protected Area Network (SPAN)

Panama: Second Rural Poverty and Natural Resources Management Project

Rwanda: Strengthening Biodiversity Conservation Capacity in the Forest Protected Area System of Rwanda

South Africa: Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity on the South African Wild Coast

Monitoring and evaluation

211. The GEF Monitoring and Evaluation Office visited the Secretariat on 18 January 2005. The meeting discussed the proposed biosafety evaluation project, in particular, with respect to neutrality and quality of UNEP technical guidelines and toolkits, dealing with the outcomes of existing reviews, cost effectiveness etc. The Secretariat briefed the GEF team on the development of biodiversity indicators and 2010 targets.

212. The Secretariat received the study: "Indigenous Peoples and the Global Environment Facility (GEF): indigenous peoples' experiences of GEF-funded biodiversity conservation – a critical study" (financed by the Ford Foundation, Finland, the Moriah Fund, and the Swedish International Biodiversity Programme) which proposed eleven recommendations to improve the effectiveness of the financial mechanism.

213. The Office of Monitoring and Evaluation and the OPS3 team held consultations on the OPS3 interim report on 3 March 2005 in Paris. The Secretariat attended the consultation.

214. In response to a request, the Secretariat had an interview with ICF Consulting with respect to the third overall performance study (OPS 3) on 23 March 2005. The interview was designed to cover: impacts and results of the GEF's biodiversity programme; Responsiveness of GEF's policies and programmes to the objectives of the CBD; key factors contributing to the achievement of global environmental benefits in the biodiversity focal area; extent to which desired global environmental benefits continue following completion of GEF biodiversity projects; defining the GEF's "point of entry" for intervention in biodiversity protection to maximize their ability to support biodiversity preservation while managing expectations of the GEF's cumulative impact in this area; challenges of setting strategic priorities based on the evolving science of biodiversity; improving GEF's capacity to measure the quantitative impacts of biodiversity projects; prioritizing the enabling activities that ensure biodiversity project success; integrating GEF biodiversity projects with external sectors; link between local benefits and global benefits in biodiversity projects; global obstacles to successful implementation of biodiversity projects; other key strategic issues in the biodiversity field.

Review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism

215. On 21 March 2005 the Secretariat sent a fourth reminder concerning voluntary contributions for purposes of the third review. Given the requirements (methodology, criteria and procedures) contained in decision VII/22 that need to be implemented by an experienced independent evaluator in conducting the third review of the financial mechanism, Governments were advised that in the event that no funds are received before the end of April 2005, it will be impossible for any evaluator to effectively carry out the review in a reasonably adequate manner and provide a timely report to the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Consolidation of decisions

216 The Secretariat has prepared a final draft on the draft consolidation decision on the guidance to the financial mechanism as per decision VII/33, paragraph 4.

Resource allocation framework

217. The Secretariat attended the technical consultations on the Resource Allocation Framework on 2 March 2005 in Paris. The consultation sought to consolidate three motions tabled at the previous GEF Council meeting. A GEF team planned to visit the Secretariat on 11 April 2005 in order to conduct in-depth technical discussions.

GEF-related enquiries and outreach

218. Bhutan requested detailed information on least developed countries (LDCs) obligations and others related to capacity building issues and obligations for the GEF-funded Project “National Capacity Self Assessment project (NCSA)”. The Secretariat is also assisting the World Conservation Monitoring Centre in the development of a medium-sized project to monitor implementation of the 2010 target and indicators. The Secretariat received updates on National capacity self-assessment for global environment management from Kyrgyzstan and updates from Papua New Guinea.

219. The Secretariat prepared the second edition of the e-Handbook of the Financial Mechanism. It has one main volume and two companions, including operations of the Global Environment Facility and the Biodiversity projects financed by the financial mechanism.

DECISION VII/23 SCIENTIFIC TECHNICAL COOPERATION AND THE CLEARING HOUSE MECHANISM

Clearing-house Mechanism

220. At its seventh meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopted decision VII/23 on scientific and technical cooperation and the Clearing-House Mechanism.

221. In paragraph 7(a) of that decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to update the strategic plan of the clearing-house mechanism to 2009, in collaboration with the informal advisory committee, for consideration by the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. In response to this decision, a restricted website was created to allow members from the informal advisory committee to discuss and collaborate in the updating of the strategic plan. In addition, in response to advice received from the informal advisory committee, the Executive Secretary issued a notification (ref.: SCBD/I&O/CHM/MS/47450) to Parties soliciting feedback and comments on issues held to be of significance prior to the drafting of the new strategic plan of the Clearing-House Mechanism.

222. In paragraph 7(b) of the same decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to convene, subject to the availability of financial resources, regional workshops as a catalysing mechanism to allow for the interaction of international thematic focal points with the national focal points to further enhance the scientific and technical cooperation goal of the clearing-house mechanism and to build capacities at the national level with regard to use of and access to new information technologies. Three workshops were organized in response to this decision: The Asia and Pacific regional meeting on the Clearing-House Mechanism, held in Bangkok, Thailand from 3 to 5 February 2005, the Technical Workshop on the development of regional Clearing-House Mechanisms, held in Bucharest, Romania from 23 to 25 February 2005, and the Latin America and Caribbean regional meeting on the Clearing-House Mechanism, held in Brasilia, Brazil from 9 to 11 March 2005.

223. In support of paragraph 7(e) in which the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to Advise on ways the clearing-house mechanism can assist to make relevant information interoperable among the three Rio conventions for review at the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the Clearing-House Mechanism submitted the first draft of interoperability specifications to relevant partners.

224. The Executive Secretary convened a meeting of the informal advisory committee of the Clearing-House Mechanism in Bangkok, Thailand on 6 February 2005, to advise on issues related to paragraph 6 of decision VII/23 which requested the Executive Secretary to use the clearing-house mechanism, in collaboration with the informal advisory committee, to continue to strengthen collaboration with international partners and organizations for review at the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and to report on that collaboration, including an elaboration of the relative roles of the clearing-house mechanism and information facilities dealing in particular with taxonomic databases including, IABIN (Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network) hubs, BioNet LOOPs (Locally Owned and Operated Partnerships), NatureServe CDCs (Centres for Data Conservation), nodes of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility and Species 2000 and the Integrated Taxonomic Information System's Catalogue of Life. The meeting also discussed elements in paragraph 8 of same decision which called on the Informal Advisory Committee to assess the results of the independent review of the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity (UNEP/CBD/COP/7/INF/12) and assist the Executive Secretary on measures and actions to be undertaken to strengthen the clearing-house mechanism's role in promoting technical and scientific cooperation, including its role in facilitating the transfer of technology and know-how and capacity-building to support implementation of the Convention at the national level. Additionally, in support of the Secretariat's corporate communication strategy, established pursuant to paragraph 4(4) of decision VI/19, the Executive Secretary requested the Clearing-House Mechanism to develop a CBD Daily Press service where headlines on articles related to biodiversity are selected from major newspapers and made available on the Convention's website and sent to subscribers via email.

225. Finally, the Clearing-House Mechanism completed work on the development of an Ecosystems Sourcebook as requested by the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (decision VII/11, paragraph 9). In its current version, the sourcebook contains a case study database, information about the ecosystem approach, and the various tools and techniques that can be used to implement it.

VII/24 COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS

226. In response to paragraph 4 (a) (ii) of decision VII/24, the Executive Secretary convened the first meeting of the CEPA Informal Advisory Committee (CEPA-IAC) on 12 February 2005 on the margins of the tenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice. Nine IAC members and 2 observers representing governments attended the meeting. The meeting was chaired by the Executive Secretary and co-chaired by the outgoing SBSTTA-10 president who is also one of the two government nominated IAC members representing the Africa region.

227. The meeting was convened specifically to review a draft version of the revised programme of work on CEPA. The meeting felt that decision VII/24 calling for further development of the CEPA work programme for in-depth consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its eighth meeting, did not specifically request a revision of the existing programme of work and in this regard, the meeting recommended that the Secretariat with the support of the IAC should instead focus on prioritisation of the activities outlined in the existing programme of work. The list of priorities with details of implementation modalities should then be submitted for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its eighth meeting.

228. In response to this recommendation, the Secretariat will complete the prioritisation exercise by September 2005 and thereafter submit for COP-8 consideration, a report summarising the actions taken

and possible options and recommendations taken to further develop the CEPA work programme. The IAC will provide substantial advice and guidance to the Secretariat during the process of compiling a list of priority activities for further development. The CEPA IAC portal will be the main forum for the exchange of ideas and information and the submission of relevant comments, advice and guidance concerning the further development of the CEPA programme of work.

229. Preparations for the International Day for Biological Diversity (IBD) in 2005 are on course with the release of the IBD theme in October 2004 (*Biodiversity - A life insurance for our changing world*). The main highlights of the day will be coordinated with the launch of the Millennium Assessment Biodiversity Synthesis report in Montreal, Canada on 19 May 2005. The event will also be marked worldwide with the creation and distribution of a poster to reflect the chosen theme for the year. Details of these and other related arrangements for celebrating the day will be posted on the CBD website when these arrangements are completed. These details will also be mailed to the Parties to guide them in their own planning to mark the International Day for Biodiversity in their respective countries.

230. As part of the school outreach programme, the Secretariat has sent out letters to a number of schools in and around the Montreal area requesting their participation in the celebrations for the International Day for Biological Diversity for 2005, to help raise awareness about biodiversity issues and the work of the Convention among younger audiences. Support to the school outreach effort entails making presentations to the schools on various biodiversity topics of interest to the schools, supplemented by the screening of a video "*The Worldwide Web of Life*" describing biodiversity in general terms, threats and causes of biodiversity loss, and key elements of the Convention's work to provide solutions to biodiversity challenges. The IBD poster for the year will also be distributed to the schools as part of the presentations.

Publications

231. The Secretariat began its publishing activities in 2005 with the release of a number of important publications. The third edition of the Handbook of the Convention was distributed at the tenth meeting of SBSTTA, in Bangkok. The edition is updated to include the decisions of the Conference of the Parties up to and including the seventh meeting, as well as the decisions issued by the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity serving as the meeting of the parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. The Handbook was also sent to National Focal Points and to the national libraries of all the Parties to the Convention. SBSTTA 10 was also the occasion upon which two new volumes in the CBD Technical Series were issued. Volume 16, entitled: "The Impact of Trade Liberalization on Agricultural Biological Diversity," addressed domestic support measures and their effects on agricultural biological diversity. Volume 17 encompassed the abstracts of poster presentations at SBSTTA 10 with the theme: "Working together for Biodiversity: Regional and International Initiatives Contributing to Achieving and Measuring Progress towards the 2010 Target."

232. The Secretariat also published a special commemorative edition of the CBD News, reviewing the development of the Convention, from its conception to the latest phase of implementation. The special edition included written contributions from a variety of persons involved in the various stages of the Convention process, as well as a detailed timeline, which provides a graphic representation of the development of the institutions, programmes and issues of the Convention and the Protocol. The publication was sent to National Focal Points.

233. Preparations for the International Day for Biological Diversity (IBD) continued, with the preparation of a poster for the event, and the finalizing of arrangements for the publication of a variety of editorial pieces on this year's theme (*Biodiversity: Life Insurance for our Changing World*). Parties to the Convention also began to make preparations including, among others, a poster competition and a number of scientific seminars. In cooperation with McGill University and the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, the day will be celebrated in Montreal with a press conference and scientific seminar on 19

May 2005 at McGill University. The event will not only mark IBD but also the release of the Biodiversity Synthesis report of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment.

234. The Secretariat also continued its work on the contribution to the latest edition of the UN yearbook. Planning also began with UNFCCC to explore the possibility of hosting joint media and communication activities in Montreal during the month of December 2005 at which time the CBD will hold the eleventh meeting of SBSTTA and UNFCCC will concurrently hold the first meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol in Montreal in conjunction with the eleventh session of the Conference of the Parties to the Climate Change Convention.

DECISION VII/25 NATIONAL REPORTING

235. In order to facilitate the funding for the preparation of the third national report, the Secretariat promoted the development of a fast-track and package approach working together with the Global Environment Facility as well as UNEP and UNDP. Medium-sized project proposals designed to provide funds to about 100 eligible countries for preparing their third national reports have been presented respectively by UNEP and UNDP for consideration and approval by the Global Environment Facility.

236. A side event was jointly organized by the Secretariats of the CBD and the GEF on the margins of SBSTTA 10 to facilitate the preparation of the third national report. A total of 65 country delegates and some representatives of international organizations participated in the side event.

237. Responses were provided to a number of inquiries about the funding for the preparation of the third national report since a joint letter was issued by the Secretariats of CBD and the GEF in December 2004.

238. Responses were also provided to a number of inquiries concerning technical support needed to prepare the third national report.

239. The Secretariat is developing an analytical tool for the third national report, which is expected to be ready by June 2005 for analyzing the incoming third national reports.

240. By the end of March 2005, the Secretariat had received 111 second national reports. The Secretariat had also received 46 thematic reports on forest ecosystems, 16 thematic reports on access and benefit-sharing, 59 thematic reports on alien invasive species, 55 thematic reports on protected areas, 39 thematic reports on mountain ecosystems and 26 thematic reports on technology transfer and cooperation. In addition, the Secretariat had received a total of 140 first national reports, 19 voluntary reports on the implementation of the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity and 34 reports on the implementation of the programme of work for the Global Taxonomy Initiative.

241. The Secretariat had also received a total of 114 national biodiversity strategies and action plans as well as 2 follow-up reports on the implementation of NBSAPs.

ANNEX I

STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREED ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

I Personnel Arrangements

1. During the reporting period, the Secretariat had 32 regularized Professional staff members and 22 regularized General Service staff members funded from the core budget. There were 8 vacant posts, (4 professional and 4 general service) for which recruitment/selection is in progress. Additionally, 5 professional posts and 5 General Service posts were funded from other sources. For more information, please refer to the attached staff list and organigram (Appendix 1 and Annex II respectively).

2. During the period under review there were three Interns: Mr. Marc-André Lafrance from Canada, working on Access and Benefit Sharing, both with the Social, Economic and Legal Affairs Division, Mr. Hao-Kun Seav from Canada, working on the Impact Assessment Portal with the Scientific, Technical and Technological Matters Division (STTM), and Ms. Pierina Yupanqui-Huerto from Peru, working on mountain biodiversity and inland waters of mountain ecosystems (STTM).

II Contributions and Funds

3. During the first quarter of 2005, four new pledges of additional voluntary funds in support of approved activities under the Convention (**BE Trust Fund**) were made. A pledge of US\$537,403 was received from the Government of Italy as part of the Host Government Agreement for the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Protected Areas, scheduled for Italy 13-17 June 2005; The Government of Sweden pledged US\$101,892 towards the Article 8(j) meeting scheduled to take place in Spain in 2006; The Government of Thailand pledged \$262,167 for SBSTTA-10 and \$357,425 for the ABS-4 meeting that took place in Bangkok in February 2005.

4. For 2005 a total of US\$1,258,887 has been pledged to the BE Trust Fund, of which US\$1,156,995 or 92% has been collected as at 31 March 2005. Full details of the pledges and contributions to the BE Trust Fund are reflected in Annex III.

5. The total amount pledged for the BY Trust Fund in 2005 is US\$7,662,807. Of this amount, US\$3,764,278 or 49% has been received. Additionally, US\$835,000 has been pledged and US\$400,000 collected as additional contributions to the BY Trust Fund in 2005. US\$395,638 has also been collected in 2005 for prior years. Total unpaid pledges to the BY Trust Fund for 2005 amounts to US\$3,898,529. Total unpaid pledges for 2005 and prior years amounts to US\$5,182,120. Full details of the pledges and contributions to the BY Trust Fund are reflected in Annex V.

6. As at 31 March 2005 a total of US\$690,211 was pledged for 2005 as additional voluntary contributions to facilitate the Participation of Parties in the Convention process (**BZ Trust Fund**). This sum consists of pledges from Finland (\$45,862); Italy (\$331,784); Sweden (\$72,780); Thailand (\$113,000); the United Kingdom (\$95,785) and the Christensen Foundation (\$31,000).

7. As at 31 March 2005, contributions to the BZ Trust Fund in 2005 amounted to US\$521,646 or 76% of the total pledged for 2005. Additionally, \$153,468 was collected for prior years. A total of US\$208,565 remains outstanding for the BZ Trust Fund for 2005 and prior years. Full details of the pledges and contributions to the BZ Trust Fund are reflected in Annex IV.

8. As at 31 March 2005, a total of twenty-nine (29) countries have contributed US\$967,830 or 44% to the General Trust Fund for the Core Programme Budget of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (**BG Trust Fund**), for 2005 and future years. Unpaid contributions for 2005 amount to \$1,224,595. Full details of the pledges and contributions to the BG Trust Fund are reflected in Annex VI.

9. As at 31 March 2005, the Government of Sweden has contributed a total of US\$28,793 to the Special Voluntary Trust Fund for Additional voluntary Contributions in Support of Approved Activities of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, (**BH Trust Fund**). Full details of the pledges and contributions to the BH Trust Fund are reflected in Annex VII.

10. As at 31 March 2005, the Governments of Austria, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Slovenia, Sweden and Switzerland have contributed a total of US\$305,912 to the Special Voluntary Trust Fund for Facilitating Participation of Developing Country Parties in the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, (**BI Trust Fund**). Full details of the pledges and contributions to the BI Trust Fund are reflected in Annex VIII.

III Accounting and Reporting

Status of Expenditure

11. COP-7 approved a budget of US\$10,497,800 for the BY Trust Fund for 2005. As at 31 March 2005, a total of US\$3,264,036 has so far been spent or committed. This represents 31% of the approved amount.

Reimbursement for Services provided to the Secretariat

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

Appendix 1
STAFFING TABLE of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
1 January - 31 March 2005

Post #	Level	Title	PROFESSIONAL STAFF
1101	ASG	Executive Secretary	Mr. H. Zedan (Regularized)
1102	D1	Principal Officer (SEL)	Mr. O. Jalbert (Regularized)
1103	D1	Principal Officer (STTM)	Mr. K. Mulongoy (Regularized)
1104	P5	Senior Programme Officer (Biosafety)	Ms. C. Sendashonga (Regularized)
1105	D1	Principal Officer (I&O)	Mr. A. Nogueira (Regularized)
1106	P4	Chief, Fund & Admin. (RMCS)	Ms. M. Rattray-Huish– (Regularized) (Post funded by UNEP)
1107	P4	Financial Resources & Instruments. PO (I&O)	Mr. Y. Xiang (Regularized)
1108	P4	PO Legal Advice and Support (SEL)	Mr. D.Ogolla (Regularized)
1109	P4	Economist (SEL)	Mr. M. Lehmann (Regularized)
1110	P4	PO Conservation Ecology (STTM)	Mr. M. Guariguata (Regularized)
1113	P4	PO, Clearing House Mechanism (I&O)	Mr. M. Silva (Regularized)
1114	P4	Special Assistant to the ES. (EDM)	Ms. M. Soliman (Regularized)
1115	P4	PO, Indigenous Knowledge (SEL)	Mr. J. Scott (Regularized)
1116	P5	PO. Reports & Reviews (I&O)	Mr. K. Kakuyo (Regularized)
1117	P3	Documentation Officer (I&O)	Vacant (Post advertised)
1118	P3	Meetings Services Officer (RMCS)	Mr. A. Yesli (Regularized)
1119	P3	Information Officer (I&O)	Vacant (Post Advertised)
1120	P3	Internet & Elect. Communications (I&O)	Mr. O. De Munck (Regularized)
1121	P4	PO, Jakarta Mandate (STTM)	Ms. M. Vierros (Regularized)
1122	P3	PO, Website Officer (I&O)	Mr. D. Ainsworth (Regularized)
1124	P3	Administrative Officer (RMCS)	Ms. R. Muruthi-Mureithi (Regularized) (Post funded by UNEP)
1126	P3	Environmental Affairs Officer (Biosafety)	Mr. E. Tamale (Regularized)
1127	P3	Legal Affairs Officer (Biosafety)	Mr. W. Damena (Regularized)
1128	P2	Associate Computer Systems Officer (I&O)	Mr. Q. Nguyen (Regularized)
1131	P4	PO, Inland Waters (STTM)	Mr. D. Coates (Regularized)
1132	P4	PO, Scientific & Technical Assessments (STTM)	Mr. R. Hoft (Regularized)
1133	P3	PO, Access & Benefit Sharing (SEL)	Ms. V. Normand (Regularized)

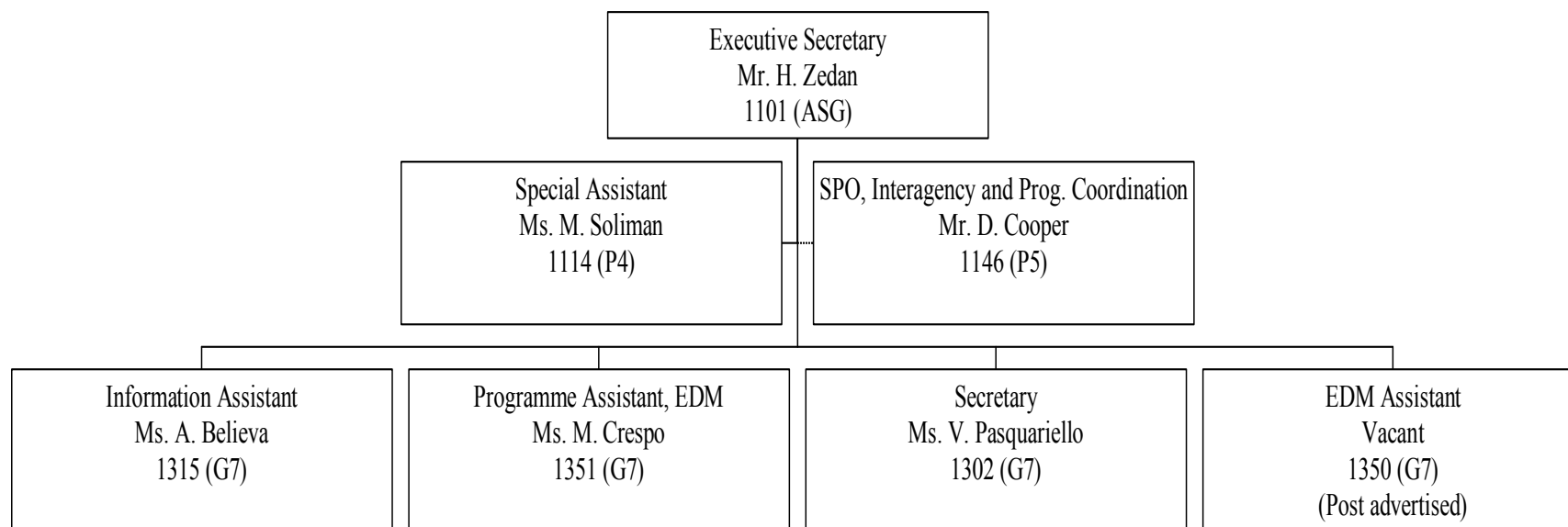
Post #	Level	Title	PROFESSIONAL STAFF
1134	P3	PO, Scientific, Technical Information (Biosafety)	Ms. K. Galloway-McLean (Regularized)
1135	P5	Editor (RMCS)	Mr. J. Fry (Regularized)
1136	P2	Associate Finance Officer (RMCS)	Ms. T.C. Fon Sing (Regularized) (Post funded by UNEP)
1137	P4	Taxonomy, PO (STTM)	Vacant (Post advertised)
1139	L2	JPO, Forest (STTM)	Ms. C. Morosi (Regularized) (Post funded by Government of Italy)
1141	P4	PO, Dry and Sub-humid lands (STTM)	Vacant (Post advertised)
1142	P3	PO, Reports (I&O)	Mr. L. Cai (Regularized)
1143	P3	PO, Sustainable Use and Tourism (SEL)	Ms. P. Deda (Regularized)
1144	P4	PO, Legal & Policy Affairs (Biosafety)	Ms. X. Wang (Regularized)
1145	P3	PO, Scientific Assessments (Biosafety)	Mr. R. Hill (Regularized)
1146	P5	SPO, Interagency & Programme Coordination (EDM)	Mr. D. Cooper (Regularized)
1148	P4	PO, <i>In-situ</i> and <i>ex-situ</i> conservation (STTM)	Mr. V. Gidda (Regularized)
1149	P3	Computer Information Systems Officer, (I&O)	Mr. P. LeBlond (Regularized)

Post #	Level	Title	GENERAL SERVICE STAFF
1301	G8	Finance Assistant (RMCS)	Mr. M. Reyes (Regularized) (Post funded by UNEP)
1302	G7	Senior Secretary to the Executive Secretary (EDM)	Ms. V. Pasquariello (Regularized)
1303	G6	Secretary (SEL)	Ms. F. Velarde (Regularized)
1304	G7	Programme Assistant - (STTM)	Mr. D. Hamel (Regularized)
1305	G7	Programme Assistant - (STTM)	Vacant (Post advertised)
1306	G7	Programme Assistant - (I&O)	Ms. S. Meehan (Regularized)
1307	G7	Programme Assistant - (Biosafety)	Ms. D. Stepic (Regularized)
1308	G7	Programme Assistant - (I&O)	Ms. M. Chiasson (Regularized)
1309	G7	Programme Assistant - (SEL)	Ms. S. Gutierrez (Regularized)
1310	G7	Administrative Assistant - (RMCS)	Ms. C. Risch (Regularized). Post funded by UNEP
1311	G7	Travel Assistant - (RMCS)	Ms. R. Rabbath (Regularized)
1312	G7	Personnel Assistant (RMCS)	Ms. J. Martinez (Regularized) (post funded by UNEP)

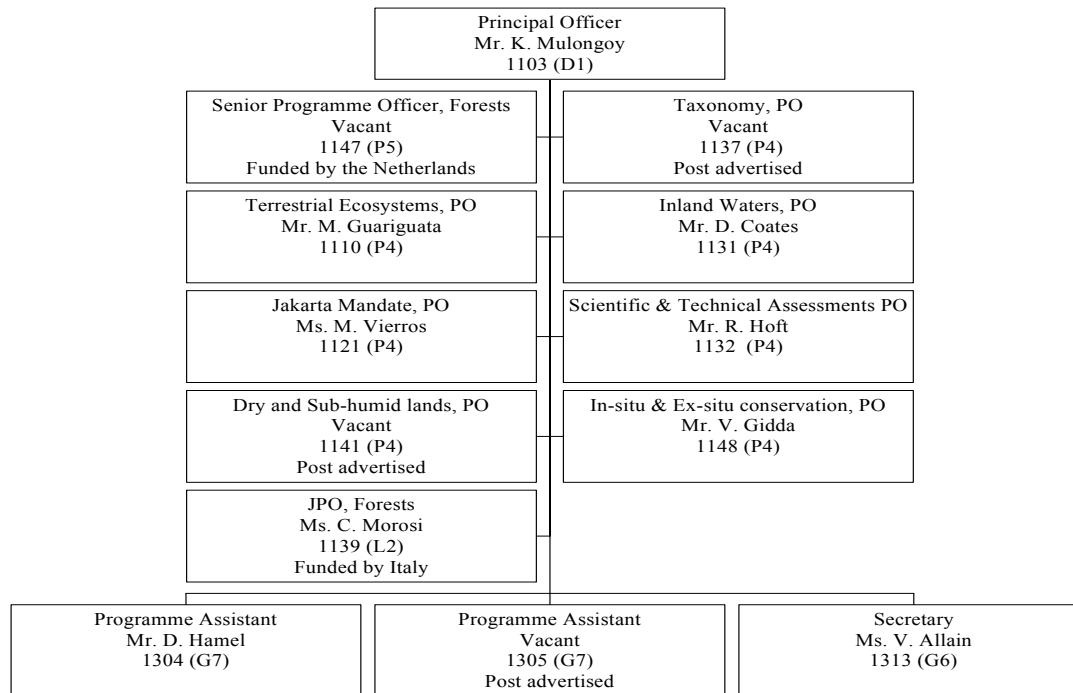
Post #	Level	Title	GENERAL SERVICE STAFF
1313	G6	Secretary - (STTM)	Ms. V. Allain (Regularized)
1314	G6	Secretary - (I&O)	Ms. A. Vincent (Regularized)
1315	G7	Information Assistant (EDM)	Ms. A. Beliaeva (Regularized)
1316	G7	Computer Operations Assistant (I&O)	Mr. V. Gopez (Regularized)
1317	G5	Receptionist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

Annex II

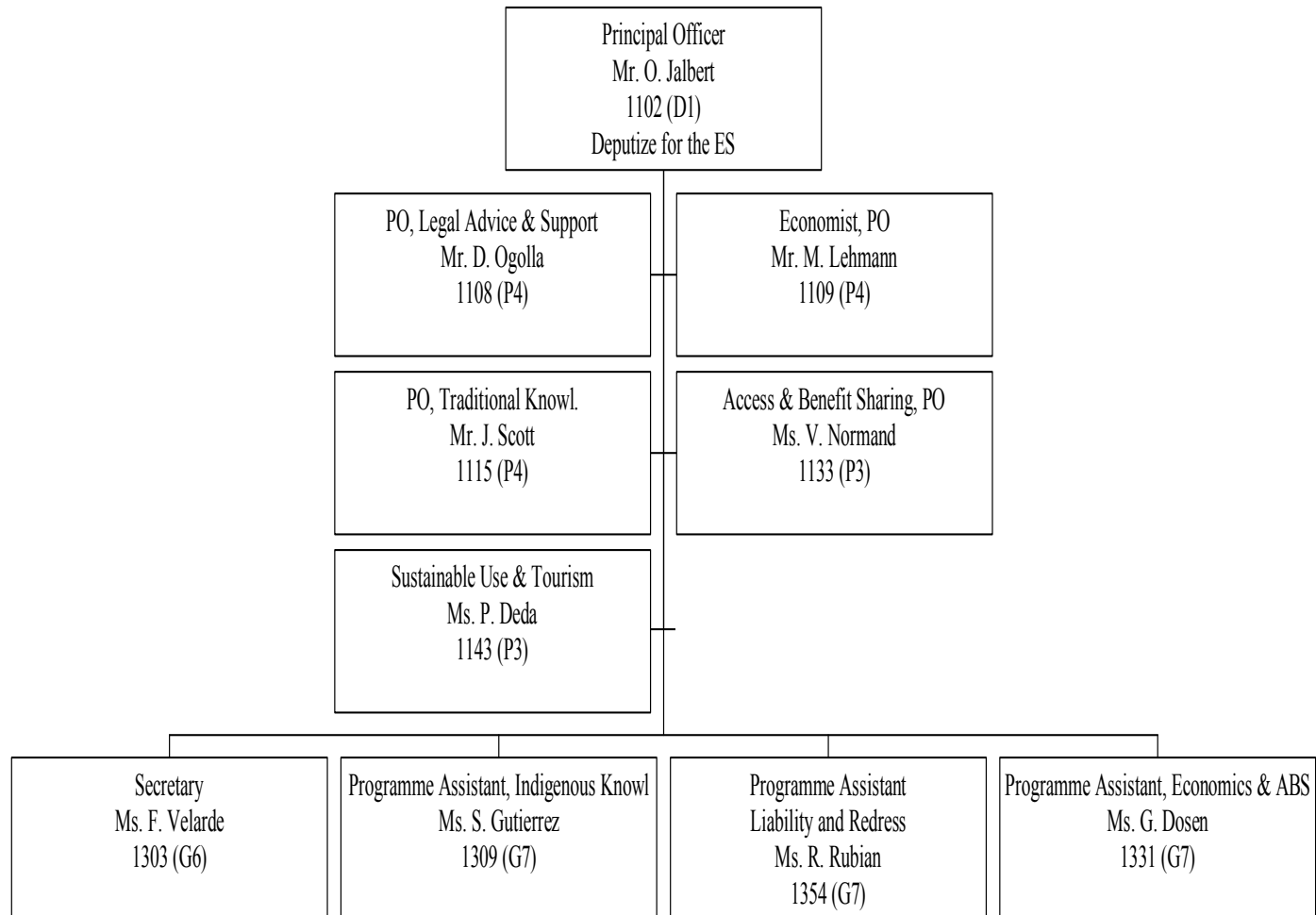
Executive Direction, Management & Inter-governmental Affairs



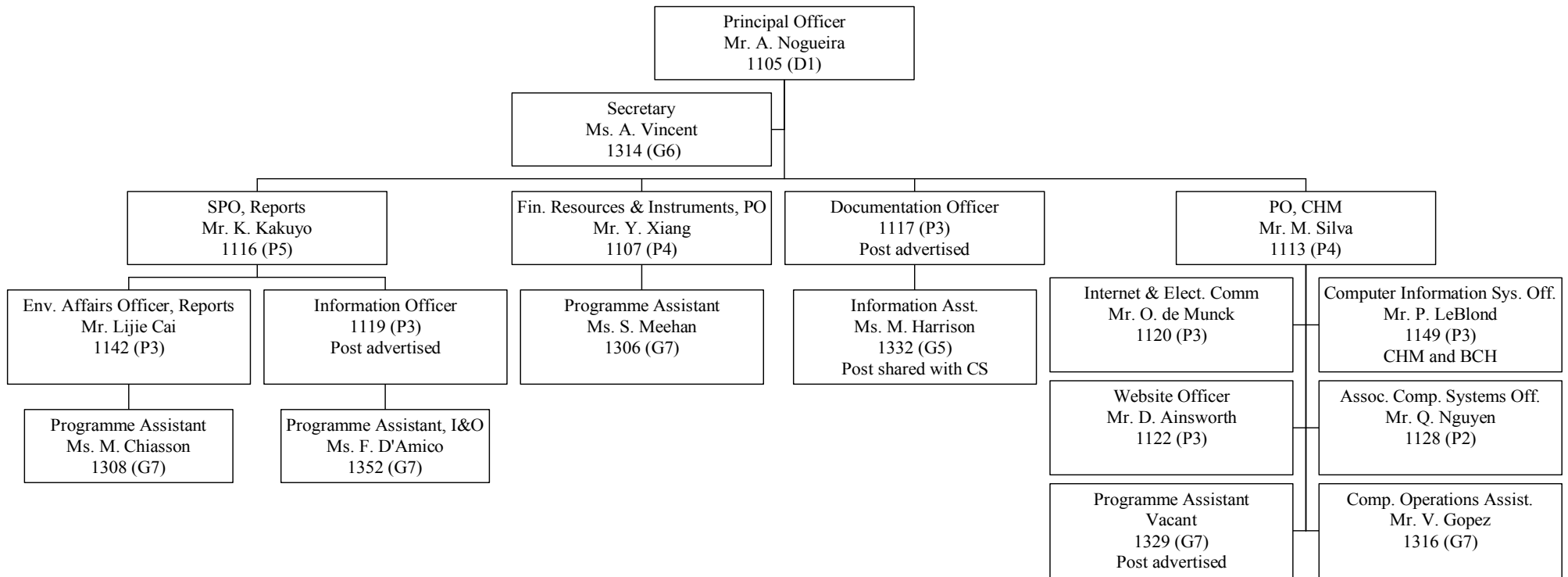
Scientific, Technical & Technological Matters



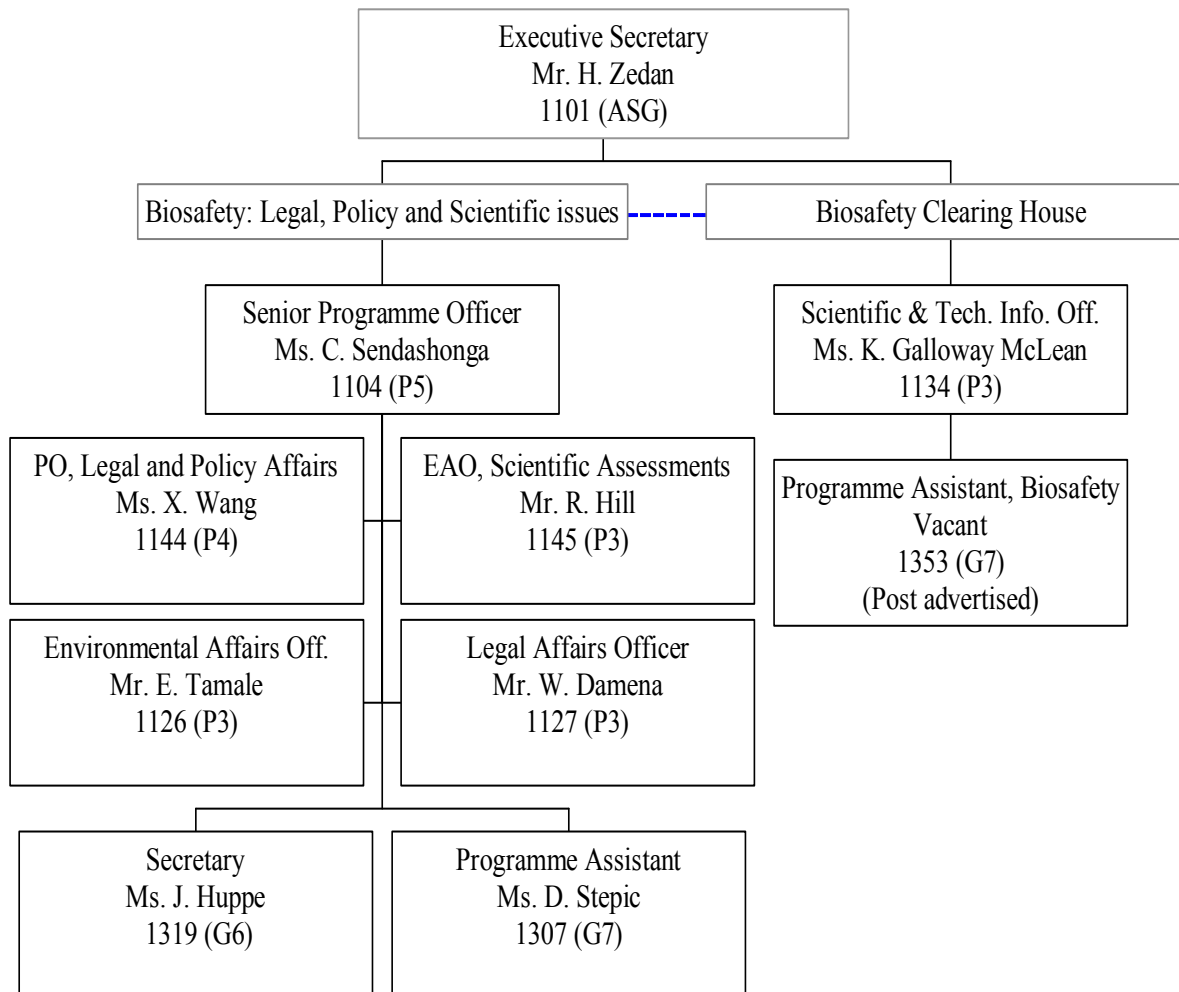
Social, Economic and Legal Matters



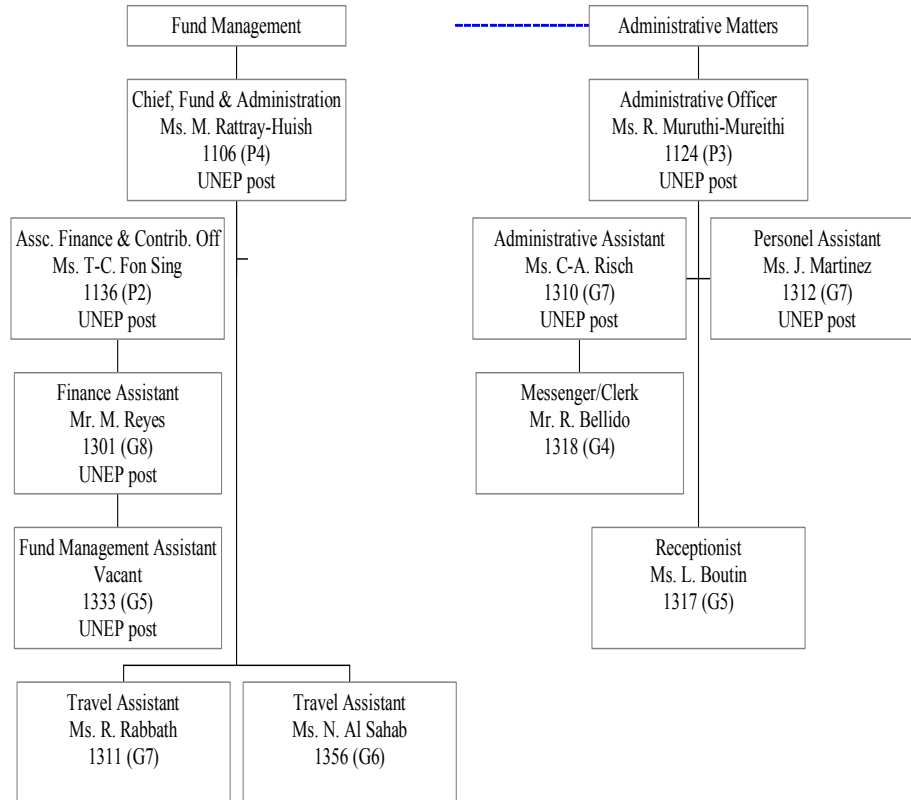
Implementation & Outreach



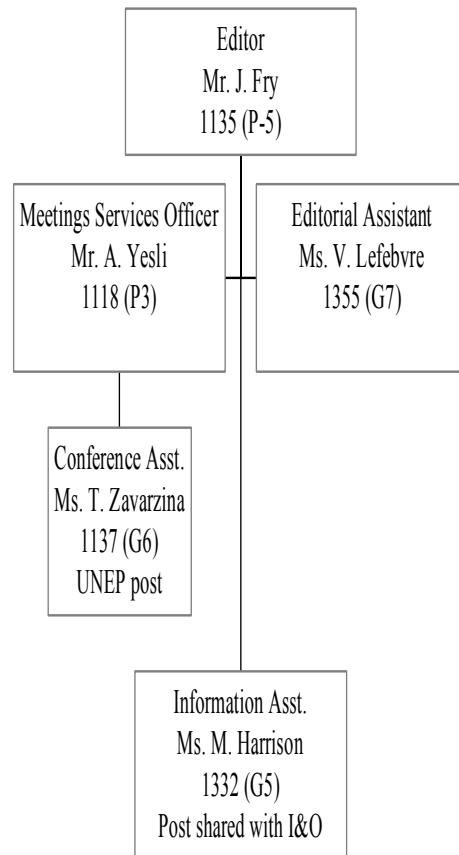
Biosafety Protocol



Resource Management



Conference Services



ANNEX III

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

Status of Contribution as at 31 March 2005 (in United States dollars)

COUNTRIES	Unpaid Pledges as at 31.12.04	Adjustments	Pledges for 2005		Collections in 2005 for prior years	Collections in 2005 for 2005 & future yrs	Unpaid pledges for 2005 & prior years
Canada	21,592			1/			21,592
Canada	78,137			6/	78,137		0
Finland	60,000			7/			60,000
Italy			537,403	11/		537,403	0
Netherlands	251,676			4/			251,676
Spain	25,000			2/			25,000
Spain	85,417			5/	85,417		0
Sweden	13,287			3/			13,287
Sweden			101,892	12/			101,892
Thailand			262,167	9/		262,167	0
Thailand			357,425	10/		357,425	0
UK	47,170			8/			47,170
Total	582,279		- 1,258,887		163,554	1,156,995	520,617

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

2/Spain pledged US\$ 25,000 for Capacity Building Experts Meeting on the Biosafety Protocol, Havana, Cuba, 11-13 July 2001

3/Sweden pledged SEK 450,000 towards the cost of a Programme Officer for the Global Taxonomy Initiative in 2002

4/Netherlands pledged Euros 400,000 regarding the Letter of Intent for the period 2004

5/Spain pledged EUR 66,000 for the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Island Biodiversity, Canary Islands, Spain, 6-10 September 2004

6/Canada pledged US\$ 100,000 towards the Workshop on Capacity Building as related to para. 2 of Art. 18 of the Biosafety Protocol, Bonn, Germany, 1-3 November 2004

7/ Finland pledged US\$ 60,000 towards the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Climate Change and Biodiversity in 2005

8/UK pledged GBP 25,000 towards the Business and the 2010 Biodiversity Challenge Meeting, London, U.K, 20-21 January 2005

9/Thailand pledged US\$ 262,167 towards the conference servicing costs of SBSTTA 10 , Bangkok, Thailand 7-11 February 2005

10/Thailand pledged US\$ 357,425 towards the conference servicing costs of ABS 3 Meeting, Bangkok, Thailand 14-18 February 2005

11/Italy pledged US\$ 537,403 for the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Protected Areas, Montecatini, Italy, 13-17 June 2005

12/Sweden pledged SEK 700,000 towards the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8(j), Spain, 2006

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

Status as at 31 March 2005 (in United States dollars)

COUNTRIES	Unpaid Pledges as at 31.12.04	Adjustments	Pledges for 2005	Collections in 2005 for prior years	Collections in 2005 for 2005 & future yrs	Unpaid pledges for 2005 & prior years
Christensen Fund			8/ 31,000		31,000	0
Denmark	40,000		1/			40,000
Finland			6/ 45,862		45,862	0
Ireland	25,936		2/	25,936		0
Italy			7/ 331,784		331,784	0
Spain	37,532		9/	37,532		0
Sweden			10/ 72,780			72,780
Switzerland	40,000		3/	40,000		0
Switzerland	50,000		4/	50,000		0
Thailand			5/ 113,000		113,000	0
U.K			11/ 95,785			95,785
Total	193,468	0	690,211	153,468	521,646	208,565

1/Denmark pledged for the support of participants from Central and Eastern European countries to CBD meetings

2/Ireland pledged EUR 20,000 towards SBSTTA-10 and the Third Ad Hoc Open-Ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-Sharing, Bangkok, Thailand, February 2005

3/Switzerland pledged US\$ 40,000 for the SBSTTA-10 Meeting, Bangkok, Thailand, 7-11 February 2005

4/Switzerland pledged US\$ 50,000 for the Third Ad Hoc Open-Ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-Sharing, Bangkok, Thailand, 14-18 February 2005

5/Thailand pledged US\$ 113,000 towards the participant costs for the SBSTTA-10 Meeting, Bangkok, Thailand, 7-11 February 2005

6/Finland pledged EUR 20,000 for the SBSTTA-10 Meeting and EUR 15,000 for the Expert Meeting on Synergies between CBD & UNFCCC

7/Italy pledged US\$ 331,784 towards the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Working Group on Protected Areas, Montecatini, Italy, 13-17 June 2005

8/Christensen pledged US\$ 31,000 towards the participation costs of Indigenous Representatives at the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Working Group Meeting on Access & Benefit Sharing, Bangkok, Thailand, 14-18 February 2005

9/Spain pledged EUR 29,000 towards the Article 8(j) Meeting in 2003

10/Sweden pledged SEK 500,000 towards the Article 8(j) Meeting, Spain in 2006

11/UK pledged GBP 50,000 towards the 2nd Ad Hoc Open-Ended Working Group on Protected Areas, Montreal, Canada December 2005

ANNEX V

**GENERAL TRUST FUND FOR THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (BY)
as at 31 March 2005**

Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/04	Pledges for 2005	Collections in 2004 for 2005	Collections in 2005 for prior yrs	Collections During 2005 for 2005 & future yrs	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2005	Unpaid Pledges for 2005 & Prior years
	US \$	US \$	US \$	US \$	US \$	US \$	US \$	US \$
Afghanistan	1,724	198				1,724	198	1,922
Albania	295	495				295	495	790
Algeria	0	7,520				0	7,520	7,520
Angola		99	1,417			0	(1,318)	(1,318)
Antigua & Barbuda		297	610			0	(313)	(313)
Argentina	282,724	94,589				282,724	94,589	377,313
Armenia	14,499	198				14,499	198	14,697
Australia		157,517	157,517			0	0	0
Austria		84,992	84,992			0	0	0
Azerbaijan	2,731	495				2,731	495	3,226
Bahamas		1,286	1,286			0	0	0
Bahrain	0	2,968			6,099	0	(3,131)	(3,131)
Bangladesh	905	766		905	19	(0)	747	747
Barbados		989	989		1,044	0	(1,044)	(1,044)
Belarus	62,381	1,781				62,381	1,781	64,162
Belgium	156,148	105,770		156,148		0	105,770	105,770
Belize		99	203			0	(104)	(104)
Benin	192	198				192	198	390
Bhutan		99	63		140	0	(104)	(104)
Bolivia	788	890				788	890	1,678
Bosnia & Herzegovina	0	297				0	297	297
Botswana		1,187	2,440			0	(1,253)	(1,253)
Brazil	281,210	150,690				281,210	150,690	431,900
Bulgaria	24	1,682				24	1,682	1,706

Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/04	Pledges for 2005	Collections in 2004 for 2005	Collections in 2005 for prior yrs	Collections During 2005 for 2005 & future yrs	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2005	Unpaid Pledges for 2005 & Prior years
Burkina Faso	528	198				528	198	726
Burundi	588	99				588	99	687
Cambodia	0	198			382	0	(184)	(184)
Cameroon		792	2,976			0	(2,184)	(2,184)
Canada	0	278,326			278,326	0	0	0
Cape Verde	3,438	99				3,438	99	3,537
Central African Rep.	98	99				98	99	197
Chad	2,696	99				2,696	99	2,795
Chile	4,034	22,064				4,034	22,064	26,098
China	0	203,130				0	203,130	203,130
Colombia		15,336	801			0	14,535	14,535
Comoros	2,696	99				2,696	99	2,795
Congo	146	99				146	99	245
Congo Dem.Rep	4,882	297				4,882	297	5,179
Cook Islands	0	99				0	99	99
Costa Rica	3,188	2,968				3,188	2,968	6,156
Cote d'Ivoire	1,631	989				1,631	989	2,620
Croatia	0	3,661			3,661	0	0	0
Cuba	20,622	4,255				20,622	4,255	24,877
Cyprus	0	3,859			3,859	0	0	0
Czech Republic		18,107	18,107			0	0	0
Denmark	73,775	71,041		73,775	71,041	0	0	0
Djibouti	98	99				98	99	197
Dominica	31	99				31	99	130
Dominica Rep.	10,426	3,463				10,426	3,463	13,889
Ecuador	0	1,880			2,300	0	(420)	(420)
EEC		191,570	196,893			0	(5,323)	(5,323)
Egypt	7,978	11,873				7,978	11,873	19,851
El Salvador	0	2,177				0	2,177	2,177
Equatorial Guinea	2,696	198				2,696	198	2,894
Eritrea	190	99				190	99	289
Estonia		1,187	1,187		1,253	0	(1,253)	(1,253)
Ethiopia		396	814			0	(418)	(418)
Fiji	0	396				0	396	396

Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/04	Pledges for 2005	Collections in 2004 for 2005	Collections in 2005 for prior yrs	Collections During 2005 for 2005 & future yrs	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2005	Unpaid Pledges for 2005 & Prior years
Finland		52,737	52,737			0	0	0
France		596,626	596,626			0	0	0
Gabon		890	8,821			0	(7,931)	(7,931)
Gambia		99	99			0	0	0
Georgia	42,145	297				42,145	297	42,442
Germany	0	857,044			857,044	0	0	0
Ghana	954	396				954	396	1,350
Greece	53,083	52,440		53,083		0	52,440	52,440
Grenada	0	99				0	99	99
Guatemala	0	2,968				0	2,968	2,968
Guinea	295	297				295	297	592
Guinea-Bissau	2,217	99				2,217	99	2,316
Guyana	98	99				98	99	197
Haiti	1,857	297				1,857	297	2,154
Honduras	2,066	495				2,066	495	2,561
Hungary	20	12,467				20	12,467	12,487
Iceland	0	3,364			3,364	0	0	0
India	0	41,655				0	41,655	41,655
Indonesia		14,050	20,000			0	(5,950)	(5,950)
Iran	0	15,534				0	15,534	15,534
Ireland	0	34,630			34,630	0	0	0
Israel	40,877	46,206		40,877	40,206	0	6,000	6,000
Italy	0	483,336				0	483,336	483,336
Jamaica	0	792				0	792	792
Japan	0	1,685,816				0	1,685,816	1,685,816
Jordan	0	1,088				0	1,088	1,088
Kazakhstan	2,758	2,474		2,758	2,242	0	232	232
Kenya	(0)	890			1,808	(0)	(918)	(918)
Kiribati	15	99		15	178	(0)	(79)	(79)
Korea, Dem. People's Rep.	20	989				20	989	1,009
Korea, Rep. of	90,488	177,701				90,488	177,701	268,189
Kuwait	0	16,029			16,029	0	0	0

Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/04	Pledges for 2005	Collections in 2004 for 2005	Collections in 2005 for prior yrs	Collections During 2005 for 2005 & future yrs	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2005	Unpaid Pledges for 2005 & Prior years
Kyrgyzstan	98	99				98	99	197
Lao PDR	0	99			188	0	(89)	(89)
Latvia	66	1,484		66	1,500	0	(16)	(16)
Lebanon	2,292	2,375				2,292	2,375	4,667
Lesotho	25	99				25	99	124
Liberia	533	99				533	99	632
Libya	19,875	13,060				19,875	13,060	32,935
Liechtenstein		495	495			0	0	0
Lithuania		2,375	2,355			0	20	20
Luxembourg	0	7,619			7,619	0	0	0
Macedonia	591	594				591	594	1,185
Madagascar	0	297				0	297	297
Malawi	740	99				740	99	839
Malaysia	0	20,085			20,085	0	0	0
Maldives		99	59			0	40	40
Mali		198	134			0	64	64
Malta	1,477	1,385		1,477	1,385	0	0	0
Marshall Island	0	99				0	99	99
Mauritania	1,527	99				1,527	99	1,626
Mauritius		1,088	1,088			0	0	0
Mexico	55,604	186,310		55,604	185,714	(0)	596	596
Micronesia, Fed. States		99	202			0	(103)	(103)
Moldova, Rep. of	11,110	99				11,110	99	11,209
Monaco	0	297			907	0	(610)	(610)
Mongolia	0	99				0	99	99
Morocco	12,141	4,650				12,141	4,650	16,791
Mozambique	281	99				281	99	380
Myanmar	985	766				985	766	1,751
Namibia		594	1,220			0	(626)	(626)
Nauru	2,816	99				2,816	99	2,915
Nepal		396	903			0	(507)	(507)
Netherlands	171,208	167,214				171,208	167,214	338,422
New Zealand	0	21,866				0	21,866	21,866
Nicaragua		99	203			0	(104)	(104)

Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/04	Pledges for 2005	Collections in 2004 for 2005	Collections in 2005 for prior yrs	Collections During 2005 for 2005 & future yrs	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2005	Unpaid Pledges for 2005 & Prior years
Niger	2,552	99				2,552	99	2,651
Nigeria	7,930	4,156				7,930	4,156	12,086
Niue	0	99				0	99	99
Norway		67,182	187		66,995	0	0	0
Oman		6,926	6,926			0	0	0
Pakistan	262	5,442				262	5,442	5,704
Palau		99	410			0	(311)	(311)
Panama	698	1,880				698	1,880	2,578
Papua New Guinea	591	297				591	297	888
Paraguay	9,078	1,187				9,078	1,187	10,265
Peru	48,171	9,103				48,171	9,103	57,274
Philippines	8,442	9,400		4,623		3,819	9,400	13,219
Poland	0	45,613				0	45,613	45,613
Portugal	44,480	46,503				44,480	46,503	90,983
Qatar		6,332	3,144			0	3,188	3,188
Romania	0	5,937				0	5,937	5,937
Russian Federation	0	108,837				0	108,837	108,837
Rwanda		99	191			0	(92)	(92)
St. Kitts & Nevis	0	99				0	99	99
St. Lucia		198	191			0	7	7
Saint Vincent & Grenadines	1,867	99				1,867	99	1,966
Samoa	0	99				0	99	99
San Marino	0	297				0	297	297
Sao Tome Principe	369	99				369	99	468
Saudi Arabia	0	70,546				0	70,546	70,546
Senegal		495	4,517			0	(4,022)	(4,022)
Seychelles		198	903			0	(705)	(705)
Sierra Leone	94	99				94	99	193
Singapore		38,390	38,390			0	0	0
Slovak		5,046	5,046		5,323	0	(5,323)	(5,323)
Slovenia	0	8,113			8,113	0	0	0
Solomon Is.	2,217	99				2,217	99	2,316

Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/04	Pledges for 2005	Collections in 2004 for 2005	Collections in 2005 for prior yrs	Collections During 2005 for 2005 & future yrs	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2005	Unpaid Pledges for 2005 & Prior years
South Africa	0	28,891			59,369	0	(30,478)	(30,478)
Spain	0	249,336				0	249,336	249,336
Sri Lanka	3,016	1,682				3,016	1,682	4,698
Sudan	5,179	766				5,179	766	5,945
Suriname	1,719	99				1,719	99	1,818
Swaziland		198	407			0	(209)	(209)
Sweden	0	98,745			98,745	0	0	0
Switzerland		118,435	118,435			0	0	0
Syria	0	3,760				0	3,760	3,760
Tajikistan	190	99				190	99	289
Thailand	6,307	20,679		6,307	20,679	0	0	0
Togo	97	99				97	99	196
Tonga		99	301			0	(202)	(202)
Trinidad & Tobago		2,177	4,132			0	(1,955)	(1,955)
Tunisia	0	3,166				0	3,166	3,166
Tuvalu	190	99				190	99	289
Turkey	0	36,807				0	36,807	36,807
Turkmenistan	572	495				572	495	1,067
Uganda	83	594				83	594	677
Ukraine	5,220	3,859				5,220	3,859	9,079
U. K.		606,223	606,223			0	0	0
United Arab Emirates	0	23,252				0	23,252	23,252
Un.Rep. of Tanzania		594	19,339			0	(18,745)	(18,745)
Uruguay	27,707	4,749				27,707	4,749	32,456
Uzbekistan	11,987	1,385				11,987	1,385	13,372
Vanuatu	96	99				96	99	195
Venezuela	20,488	16,919				20,488	16,919	37,407
Viet Nam	200	2,078				200	2,078	2,278
Yemen	5,832	594				5,832	594	6,426
Yugoslavia	1,970	1,880				1,970	1,880	3,850
Zambia		198	52			0	146	146
Zimbabwe	0	693				0	693	693

Countries	Unpaid Pledges as at 31/12/04	Pledges for 2005	Collections in 2004 for 2005	Collections in 2005 for prior yrs	Collections During 2005 for 2005 & future yrs	Unpaid Pledges for Prior Years	Unpaid Pledges for 2005	Unpaid Pledges for 2005 & Prior years
Sub Total	1,679,229	7,662,807	1,964,031	395,638	1,800,247	1,283,590	3,898,529	5,182,120
Additional Contributions								
Canada	800,000	635,000		400,000		400,000	635,000	1,035,000
USA	0	0				0	0	0
Quebec	20	200,000	199,999			20	1	21
Grand Total	2,479,249	8,497,807	2,164,030	795,638	1,800,247	1,683,610	4,533,530	6,217,141

ANNEX VI**GENERAL TRUST FUND FOR THE CORE BUDGET OF THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY
as at 31 March 2005**

Countries	Pledges for 2005	Collections in 2004 for 2005	Collections During 2005 for 2005 & future yrs	Unpaid Pledges for 2005
	US \$	US\$	US \$	US \$
Albania	110			110
Algeria	2,611		2,611	0
Antigua and Barbuda	103	191		(88)
Armenia	69			69
Austria	29,515	29,515		0
Bahamas	447		447	0
Bangladesh	200			200
Barbados	344	344		0
Belarus	618			618
Belgium	36,731			36,731
Belize	34			34
Benin	39			39
Bhutan	34			34
Bolivia	309			309
Botswana	412	765		(353)
Brazil	52,330			52,330
Bulgaria	584			584
Burkina Faso	69			69
Cambodia	69		128	(59)
Cameroon	275			275
Canada	165,000			165,000
Colombia	5,326			5,326
Croatia	1,271			1,271
Cuba	1,477			1,477
Cyprus	1,340		1,340	0
Czech Republic	6,288			6,288
Dem. Rep. of Congo	54			54

Countries	Pledges for 2005	Collections in 2004 for 2005	Collections During 2005 for 2005 & future yrs	Unpaid Pledges for 2005
Denmark	24,670		45,793	(21,123)
Djibouti	34			34
Dominica	34			34
Ecuador	653			653
Egypt	412			412
El Salvador	756			756
Eritrea	19			19
Estonia	412	412		0
Ethiopia	137	255		(118)
European Community	50,038	40,765		9,273
Fiji	137			137
Finland	18,314	18,314		0
France	207,190		207,190	0
Gambia	34			34
Germany	297,626			297,626
Ghana	137			137
Greece	18,211			18,211
Grenada	34			34
Guatemala	949			949
Hungary	4,329			4,329
India	14,466			14,466
Indonesia	4,005			4,005
Iran	5,395			5,395
Ireland	12,026		12,026	0
Italy	167,848		311,561	(143,713)
Japan	440,330			440,330
Jordan	378			378
Kenya	309			309
Kiribati	34			34
Korea, Democratic Republic	344			344
Lao People's Dem. Rep.	200		371	(171)
Latvia	515	515	572	(572)
Lesotho	34			34

Countries	Pledges for 2005	Collections in 2004 for 2005	Collections During 2005 for 2005 & future yrs	Unpaid Pledges for 2005
Liberia	34			34
Lithuania	825		1,531	(706)
Luxembourg	2,646			2,646
Madagascar	103			103
Malaysia	6,975		6,975	0
Maldives	34			34
Mali	69			69
Marshall Islands	34			34
Mauritius	378			378
Mexico	64,700			64,700
Mongolia	34			34
Mozambique	34			34
Namibia	131			131
Nauru	34			34
New Zealand	4,508		10,883	(6,375)
Netherlands	58,068			58,068
Nicaragua	34			34
Nigeria	1,443			1,443
Niue	34			34
Norway	23,330			23,330
Oman	2,405	2,405		0
Palau	34			34
Panama	653			653
Paraguay	412			412
Peru	3,161			3,161
Poland	15,840	15,840		0
Portugal	15,978			15,978
Republic of Moldova	34			34
Romania	2,062			2,062
Rwanda	34			34
Saint Kitts and Nevis	34			34
Saint Vincent & Gren.	34			34
Samoa	34			34
Senegal	172			172

Countries	Pledges for 2005	Collections in 2004 for 2005	Collections During 2005 for 2005 & future yrs	Unpaid Pledges for 2005
Seychelles	69			69
Slovakia	1,752	1,752		0
Slovenia	2,818	2,818		0
Solomon Islands	34			34
South Africa	10,033			10,033
Spain	86,587			86,587
Sri Lanka	584			584
Sweden	34,291			34,291
Switzerland	41,129	41,129		0
Syria	1,306			1,306
Tajikistan	34			34
Togo	34			34
Tonga	34			34
Trinidad and Tobago	756		756	0
Tunisia	1,100			1,100
Turkey	12,782			12,782
Uganda	200			200
Ukraine	1,340			1,340
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	210,523	210,523		0
United Republic of Tanzania	206			206
Venezuela	5,876			5,876
Viet Nam	722			722
Zambia	69	103		(34)
Zimbabwe	142			142
Grand Total	2,192,425	365,646	602,184	1,224,595

ANNEX VII**SPECIAL VOLUNTARY TRUST FUND FOR ADDITIONAL VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS IN SUPPORT OF APPROVED
ACTIVITIES OF THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY (BH)**

Status as at 31 March 2005 (in United States dollars)

COUNTRIES	Pledges for 2004-2005		Collections in 2005	Collections in 2004 for 2005 & future yrs	Unpaid pledges for 2005 & prior years
Sweden	28,793	1/		28,793	0
Total	28,793		0	28,793	0

1/ Pledge for Ad Hoc Open-ended meeting on Liability and Redress under the Biosafety Protocol, Montreal. 25-27 May 2005

ANNEX VIII

SPECIAL VOLUNTARY TRUST FUND FOR ADDITIONAL VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO FACILITATE THE PARTICIPATION OF PARTIES IN THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY (BI)

Status as at 31 March 2005 (in United States dollars)

COUNTRIES	Unpaid Pledges as at 31.12.04	Adjustments	Pledges for 2005		Collections in 2005 for prior years	Collections in 2005 for 2005 & future yrs	Unpaid pledges for 2005 & prior years
Austria			25,925	4/		25,925	0
Canada			74,038	10/		74,038	0
Denmark			17,709	9/		17,709	0
Denmark			24,872	14/		24,872	0
Finland			26,203	2/		26,203	0
France			26,420	12/			26,420
Ireland			13,072	5/			13,072
Netherlands			130,719	6/			130,719
Norway			16,447	3/			16,447
Slovenia			3,874	11/		3,874	0
Sweden			43,291	8/		43,291	0
Switzerland	40,000			1/	40,000		0
Switzerland			50,000	13/		50,000	0
UK			94,340	7/			94,340
Total	40,000	0	546,910		40,000	265,912	280,998

- 1/Switzerland pledged US\$ 40,000 toward the First Meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Working Group on Liability and Redress under the Biosafety Protocol under the Biosafety Protocol, Montreal, Canada, 25-27 May 2005
- 2/Finland pledged EUR 10,000 for COP/MOP 2 Meeting and EUR 10,000 for the Open-Ended Expert Group on GMOs in 2005
- 3/Norway pledged NOK 100,000 towards the Open-Ended Expert Group on Identification Requirements of Living Modified Organisms Intended for Direct Use as Food or Feed or for Processing (Art. 18.2(a)), Montreal, Canada, 16-18 March 2005
- 4/Austria pledged EUR 20,000 towards the Ad-Hoc Open-Ended Technical Expert Group on Art. 18.2 (a) of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, Montreal, Canada, 16-18 March 2005
- 5/Ireland pledged EUR 10,000 towards the Ad-Hoc Open-Ended Technical Expert Group on Art. 18.2 (a) of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, Montreal, Canada, 16-18 March 2005
- 6/Netherlands pledged EUR 100,000 towards (a) the Ad-Hoc Open-Ended Technical Expert Group on Art. 18.2 (a) of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, Montreal, Canada, 16-18 March 2005, (b) the First Meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Working Group on Liability and Redress under the Biosafety Protocol, Montreal, Canada, 25-27 May 2005, (c) the COP/MOP 2 Meeting, Montreal, Canada, 30 May-3 June 2005
- 7/UK pledged GBP 50,000 towards the Ad-Hoc Open-Ended Technical Expert Group on Art. 18.2 (a) of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, Montreal, Canada, 16-18 March 2005
- 8/Sweden pledged SEK 300,000 towards the COP/MOP 2 Meeting, Montreal, Canada, 30 May-3 June 2005
- 9/Denmark pledged DKK 100,000 towards the Ad-Hoc Open-Ended Technical Expert Group on Art. 18.2 (a) of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, Montreal, Canada, 16-18 March 2005
- 10/Canada pledged CAN\$ 100,000 towards the Ad-Hoc Open-Ended Technical Expert Group on Art. 18.2 (a) of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, Montreal, Canada, 16-18 March 2005
- 11/Slovenia pledged EUR 3,000 towards the participation costs of Developing Countries
- 12/France pledged EUR 20,000 towards the COP/MOP 2 Meeting, Montreal, Canada, 30 May-3 June 2005
- 13/Switzerland pledged US\$ 50,000 towards the Ad-Hoc Open-Ended Technical Expert Group on Art. 18.2 (a) of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, Montreal, Canada, 16-18 March 2005 and the COP/MOP 2 Meeting, Montreal, Canada, 30 May-3 June 2005
- 14/Denmark pledged towards the participation costs of Developing Countries

ANNEX IX

LIST OF MEETINGS ORGANIZED BY THE
SECRETARIAT OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
(as at 31 March 2005)

2004		
DATES	MEETING TITLE	VENUE
22- 23 January 2004	Latin American and Caribbean regional preparatory meeting for the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity	Buenos Aires, Argentina
8 February 2004	Asia and the Pacific regional preparatory meeting for the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
8 February 2004	African regional preparatory meeting for the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
8 February 2004	Third meeting of the Global Taxonomy Initiative Coordination Mechanism	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
9-20 February 2004	Seventh Ordinary Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
13 and 17 February 2004	Meeting of the Clearing-House Mechanism Informal Advisory Committee	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
22 February 2004	Joint COP/ICCP Bureau Meeting	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
23-27 February 2004	First meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
24-26 February 2004	Biosafety Clearing-House Training Workshop	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
5 - 7 April 2004	Forests and Forest Ecosystems: Promoting synergy in the three Rio Convention	Viterbo, Italy
1 May 2004	Fourth meeting of the Global Taxonomy Initiative Coordination Mechanism	Oaxaca, Mexico
20 - 24 June 2004	European Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI) Workshop	Isle of Vilm, Germany

DATES	MEETING TITLE	VENUE
13-17 September 2004	Regional Workshop for Africa on Synergy among the Rio Conventions and other biodiversity-related conventions in implementing the Programmes of Work on Dry and Sub-humid Lands and Agricultural Biodiversity	Gabarone, Botswana
4 - 6 October 2004	Coordination meeting for representatives of academic institutions actively involved in education and training programmes in biosafety (organized by SAEFL in collaboration with the CBD Secretariat)	Geneva, Switzerland
9 - 10 October 2004	Second Asian Regional Workshop on the Global Taxonomy Initiative	Wellington, New Zealand
18 October 2004	Liaison Group meeting on indicators for assessing progress towards the 2010 biodiversity target	Montreal, Canada
18 - 20 October 2004	Technical Group of Experts on Liability and Redress under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	Montreal, Canada
18 October–15 November 2004	Biosafety Considerations in the use of Genetically Modified Organisms for Management of Animal Populations - Online Conference	On-line conference
19 - 22 October 2004	Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on indicators for assessing progress towards, and communicating, the 2010 target at the global level	Montreal, Canada
25 - 27 October 2004	Expert group on outcome-oriented targets for the Programmes of Work on the biodiversity of Inland Water Ecosystems and Marine and Coastal Ecosystems	Montreal, Canada
1 - 3 November 2004	Workshop on capacity-building and exchange of experiences as related to the implementation of paragraph 2 of Article 18 of the Biosafety Protocol	Bonn, Germany
2 - 3 November 2004	Informal Meeting on Interoperability of Information among the Three Rio and Other Environmental Conventions	Montreal, Canada
9 - 10 November 2004	Meeting of the Informal Advisory Committee on the Biosafety Clearing-House	Montreal, Canada
13 - 17 December 2004	Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Island Biodiversity <i>Island Biodiversity</i>	Puerto de la Cruz, Tenerife Canary Islands, Spain

2005		
DATES	MEETING TITLE	VENUE
10 - 21 January 2005	Central African Sub-Regional Training Workshop for Key Partners of National Clearing-House Mechanisms	Bujumbura, Burundi
20 - 21 January 2005	Business and the 2010 Biodiversity Challenge	London, United Kingdom
24 - 28 January 2005	Meeting of Experts to develop a Users' Manual on the CBD Guidelines on Biodiversity and Tourism Development	Nassau, Bahamas
26 - 27 January 2005	Coordination meeting for governments and organizations implementing or funding biosafety capacity-building activities	Montreal, Canada
27 - 28 January 2005	Liaison Group on Capacity-building for Biosafety	Montreal, Canada
3 - 5 February 2005	Asia and the Pacific Regional Workshop on the Clearing-House Mechanism	Bangkok, , Thailand
5 February 2005	Liaison Group meeting on Island Biodiversity	Bangkok, Thailand
6 February 2005	Informal Advisory Committee for the Clearing-House Mechanism	Bangkok, Thailand
7 - 11 February 2005	Tenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice	Bangkok, Thailand
12 February 2005	Informal Advisory Committee (IAC) for Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA)	Bangkok, Thailand
14 - 18 February 2005	Third meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-Sharing	Bangkok, Thailand
23 - 25 February 2005	Technical Workshop on the development of regional Clearing-House Mechanisms	Bucharest, Romania
9 - 11 March 2005	Latin American and Caribbean Regional Workshop on the Clearing-House Mechanism	Brasilia, Brazil
12 - 13 March 2005	Consultation on the Cross-Cutting Initiative on Biodiversity for Food and Nutrition	Brasilia, Brazil
14 - 16 March 2005	Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on the review of implementation of the Programme of Work on Forest Biodiversity	Montreal, Canada
14 - 16 March 2005	Compliance Committee under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety	Montreal, Canada

16 - 18 March 2005	Open-ended Technical Expert Group on Identification Requirements of Living Modified Organisms Intended for Direct Use as Food or Feed, or for Processing (Article 18.2(a))	Montreal, Canada
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