



Convention on Biological Diversity

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SUBSIDIARY BODY ON IMPLEMENTATION

First meeting

Montreal, Canada, 2-6 May 2016

Agenda item 8

RECOMMENDATION ADOPTED BY THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON IMPLEMENTATION

1/5. Capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation, technology transfer and the clearing-house mechanism

The Subsidiary Body on Implementation

1. *Takes note* of the draft short-term action plan (2017-2020) to enhance and support capacity-building for the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets;¹

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations, to further streamline and focus the draft short-term action plan (2017-2020), with a particular focus on priority capacity-building needs submitted by Parties and identified in their national biodiversity strategies and action plans and on activities linked to the facilitation of collaboration and coordination among Parties, other Governments and international organizations so as to avoid duplication, and to include, in the process of revision of the short-term action plan, the following;

- (a) Streamlining activities to remove duplications;
- (b) Taking into account activities facilitated by the Secretariat that are already funded;
- (c) Taking into account the evaluation of the effectiveness and analysis of gaps in capacity-building activities supported and facilitated by the Secretariat;
- (d) Taking into account the Aichi Biodiversity Targets with less progress towards their achievement;
- (e) Identifying capacity-building activities based on inputs from Parties, especially developing country Parties;
- (f) Identifying the capacity-building activities likely to be the most effective, based on inputs from Parties;
- (g) Prioritizing based on the needs of Parties;
- (h) Indicating the activities to be facilitated by the Secretariat and/or by others;

¹ See [UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/6/Add.1](#) and [UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/INF/38](#).

3. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to submit a revised draft short-term action plan (2017-2020) to enhance and support capacity-building for the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting;

4. *Takes note* of the draft web strategy for the Convention and its Protocols prepared by the Executive Secretary² and requests the Executive Secretary to align it with the communication strategy that is being prepared for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting;

5. *Recommends* that the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling Articles 12 and 13 of the Convention as well as decisions XII/2 B, XI/2, X/5, VII/29, VIII/12, IX/14, X/16 and XI/13,

Recognizing the need for a more integrated and coherent approach to capacity-building and technical and scientific cooperation in supporting the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols as well as with the other biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements,

Noting with appreciation efforts by various national, regional and international organizations and initiatives, and the support provided by the Global Environment Facility, to support Parties in the effective implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets,

Taking note of the evaluation of the effectiveness of capacity-building activities supported and facilitated by the Secretariat and the analysis of gaps in capacity-building activities supporting the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020,³

Noting with concern that a number of capacity-building activities which the Conference of the Parties requested in its previous decisions have not been implemented for a number of reasons, such as the difficulty of mobilizing resources from all sources,

Taking into account the special and diverse needs of developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States among them, and Parties with economies in transition, as well as their limitations in accessing online tools,

Recalling the work programme for the clearing-house mechanism in support of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020,⁴

Noting with appreciation the progress made by the Executive Secretary on the implementation of paragraphs 8, 9 and 18 of decision XII/2 B, including the progress on capacity-building, on technical and scientific cooperation, including the further development of the Bio-Bridge Initiative, and the further development of the central clearing-house mechanism and national clearing-house mechanisms,⁵

² [UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/6/Add.2](#).

³ [UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/6](#) and [UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/INF/29](#).

⁴ [UNEP/CBD/COP/11/31](#).

⁵ [UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/6](#), [UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/INF/19](#) and [UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/INF/29](#).

1. *[Endorses][Adopts][Takes note]* of the short-term action plan (2017-2020) to enhance and support capacity-building for the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets;

2. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to contribute to the implementation of the action plan referred to in paragraph 1 above;

3. *Also invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to consider taking the following complementary measures to enhance the implementation of Article 12 of the Convention:

(a) Encourage and support relevant educational and training institutions to play a key role in organizing and delivering education and training programmes to assist Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, and relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols as well as other biodiversity-related conventions where possible;

(b) Encourage relevant institutions to develop new or update existing courses and programmes to address specific education and training needs for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols as well as other biodiversity-related conventions where possible, prioritizing topics that have not been adequately covered to date and considering, as appropriate, national circumstances and Parties with similar needs and a common language;

(c) Organize targeted training courses and workshops, tailored to the needs of specific countries, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and other target groups;

(d) Provide short-term fellowships and on-the-job training opportunities to enable participants from developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition to acquire specialized skills and gain exposure to new scientific and technological innovations;

(e) Develop and exchange additional relevant education and training materials at the national, regional and international levels and make them available through the clearing-house mechanism;

(f) Incorporate biodiversity-related education in their broader education, professional training and capacity-building programmes;

(g) Set up mechanisms to facilitate networking and sharing of experiences, best practices and lessons learned in promoting biodiversity-related education and training at all levels;

(h) Promote partnerships between Governments and academic institutions, as well as relevant organizations and centres of excellence to deliver tailored training programmes for government officials, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant stakeholders;

(i) Further implement relevant activities under components 1 (education) and 3 (training) of the implementation plan for the programme of work on communication, education and public awareness;⁶

(j) Develop online courses, as appropriate, and taking into account national circumstances, and consider inviting participants from other Parties with similar needs to enhance South-South and other forms of cooperation;

⁶ [Decision VIII/6](#), annex III.

(k) Share relevant information and lessons learned through the clearing-house mechanism, national reports and other relevant means and mechanisms;

4. *Invites* Parties to contribute to technical and scientific cooperation by, inter alia, providing information on priority needs, offering examples of effective practices/bright spots for replication, identifying synergies with their plans, programmes and activities on science, technology, and technical and scientific cooperation, and facilitating the linking of the needs of Parties with available support for technical and scientific cooperation and share this information through the central clearing-house mechanism, and through national clearing-house mechanisms, as appropriate, and national reports;

5. *Invites* Parties and other Governments to encourage and support the engagement of relevant national or regional institutions, including scientific, technical and policy institutes, and indigenous peoples and local communities to contribute to technical and scientific cooperation;

6. *Recalling* paragraph 7 of decision XII/2 B, *urges* Parties, in particular developed country Parties, and *invites* other Governments and international financial institutions, regional development banks, and other multilateral financial institutions to support the establishment and maintenance of programmes for scientific and technical education and training in measures for the identification, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and its components and support such education and training to address specific needs of developing countries;

7. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the informal advisory committee to the clearing-house mechanism, as defined by its operational guidelines, and to undertake a further review of that mandate at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

8. *Encourages* Parties to continue their efforts to establish, sustain and further develop effective national clearing-house mechanisms in support of the implementation of their national biodiversity strategies and action plans;

9. *Takes note* of the web strategy for the Convention and its Protocols⁷ and the communication strategy, prepared by the Executive Secretary;

10. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations in a position to do so to provide financial, technical and human resources to support capacity-building and technical and scientific cooperation for developing country Parties and indigenous peoples and local communities, and the further development of national clearing-house mechanisms;

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

(a) To continue work to promote a more integrated and coordinated approach to capacity-building and technical and scientific cooperation, through multiple partnerships, including with biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements and other relevant conventions;

(b) To invite relevant international organizations, including United Nations bodies, to strengthen coherent action on capacity-building and through an integrated support platform of the clearing-houses of the Convention for identifying the needs of Parties and of indigenous peoples and local communities and linking them with available expertise and knowledge, using the clearing-house mechanism;

⁷ [UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/6/Add.2](#).

(c) To continue efforts to take a more strategic approach in identifying and establishing partnerships with organizations and other entities that have comparative advantages in terms of expertise, resources and networks and ability to add considerable value to capacity-building efforts;

(d) To catalyse and facilitate implementation, in collaboration with Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, other relevant conventions, international organizations, universities and other relevant organizations, the implementation of the short-term action plan referred to in paragraph 1 above and to report on progress at the second meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation;

(e) To undertake monitoring and evaluation of the outcomes and effectiveness of ongoing capacity-building activities supported and facilitated by the Secretariat, with a view to better targeting and improving future capacity-building activities, and to report on the results to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation for consideration at its second meeting;

(f) To commission, before the end of the year 2020, an independent evaluation of the impacts, outcomes and effectiveness of the action plan in facilitating and supporting the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, including recommendations for improvement, to be submitted to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation for its consideration;

(g) To continue efforts to facilitate capacity development activities for indigenous peoples and local communities;

(h) To implement the web strategy for the Convention and its Protocols, in line with the communication strategy;

(i) To further develop the clearing-house mechanism, in line with the web strategy and with the work programme for the clearing-house mechanism in support of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;

(j) To submit a progress report for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its second meeting on the above elements, taking into account information provided through the national reports, the clearing-house mechanism and the Traditional Knowledge Portal.
