

Annex

**RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED BY THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON REVIEW OF
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION AT ITS SECOND MEETING
*UNESCO, Paris, 9-13 July 2007***

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2/1. Implementation of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan

The Ad Hoc Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity,

Having undertaken the in-depth review of the implementation of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan,

1. *Recommends* that the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting
 - (a) Adopt a decision along the lines provided in the annex to the present recommendation;
 - (b) Consider developing a framework of options to mobilize human and technological resources at national level, drawing on, and taking full consideration of, existing instruments, initiatives, and experiences;
 - (c) Consider the continuation of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention taking into account the importance of making progress in the implementation of the Convention;
2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, to invite Parties to submit views on the revision of the Strategic Plan beyond 2010, and to prepare a report for the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, taking into account also the views expressed by Parties at the second meeting of the Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention.

Annex

DRAFT DECISION FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES AT ITS NINTH MEETING

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Takes note* of the status of implementation of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan provided in paragraphs (a)-(p) of the summary of the note by the Executive Secretary on the status of implementation of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan (UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/2/2);
2. *Emphasizes* that national biodiversity strategies and action plans and equivalent instruments are key implementation tools of the Convention and therefore play an important role in achieving the 2010 biodiversity target;
3. *Highlights* that practical implementation should be one of the key messages in all aspects of the work of the Convention;
4. *Notes with concern* the insufficient financial, human and technical resources, the inadequate mainstreaming of biodiversity, in particular in sectoral planning processes and in national development and poverty eradication strategies, and the paucity of information in relation to the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
5. *Emphasizes* the need to strengthen coordination at the national level for implementation of the multilateral environment agreements, including the Rio conventions, in order to promote a more integrated approach and coherent implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans;

National biodiversity strategies and action plans

6. *Urges* Parties that have not yet done so to develop a national biodiversity strategy and action plan or adapt existing strategies, plans or programmes, as required by Article 6 of the Convention, as soon as possible and preferably no later than the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
7. *Further emphasizes* the importance of securing high-level government support in the process of developing, updating and implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and the need to engage all relevant sectors and stakeholders;
8. *Recalling* the guidance provided by the Conference of the Parties concerning national biodiversity strategies and action plans, annexed to this recommendation, and *taking note* of the

lessons learned from the in-depth review, *urges* Parties in developing, implementing and revising their national and, where appropriate, regional, biodiversity strategies and action plans, and equivalent instruments, in implementing the three objectives of the Convention, to:

Meeting the three objectives of the Convention:

(a) Ensure that national biodiversity strategies and action plans are action-driven, practical and prioritized, and provide an effective and up-to-date national framework for the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention, its relevant provisions and relevant guidance developed under the Convention;

(b) Ensure that national biodiversity strategies and action plans take into account the principles in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

(c) Emphasize the integration of the three objectives of the Convention into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies;

(d) Promote the mainstreaming of gender considerations;

(e) Identify priority actions at national or regional level, including strategic actions to achieve the three objectives of the Convention;

(f) Develop a plan to mobilize national, regional and international financial resources in support of priority activities, considering existing and new funding sources;

Components of biodiversity strategies and action plans

(g) Take into account the ecosystem approach;

(h) Highlight the contribution of biodiversity, including, as appropriate, ecosystem services, to poverty eradication, national development and human well-being, as well as the economic, social, cultural, and other values of biodiversity as emphasized in the Convention on Biological Diversity, making use, as appropriate, of the methodologies and conceptual framework of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment;

(i) Identify the main threats to biodiversity, including direct and indirect drivers of biodiversity change, and include actions for addressing the identified threats;

(j) As appropriate, establish national, or where applicable, sub-national, targets, to support the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, consistent with the flexible framework established in decisions VII/30 and VIII/15, taking into account, as appropriate, other relevant strategies and programmes, such as the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and focusing on national priorities;

Support processes

(k) Include and implement national capacity development plans for the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, making use of the outcomes of national capacity self-assessments in this process, as appropriate;

(l) Engage indigenous and local communities, and all relevant sectors and stakeholders including representatives of society and the economy that have a significant impact on, benefit from or use biodiversity and its related ecosystem services. Activities might include:

- (i) Preparing, updating and implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans with the participation of a broad set of representatives from all major groups to build ownership and commitment;
- (ii) Identifying relevant stakeholders from all major groups for each of the actions of the national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
- (iii) Consulting those responsible for policies in other areas so as to promote policy integration and multidisciplinary, cross-sectoral and horizontal co-operation to ensure coherence;

- (iv) Establishing appropriate mechanisms to improve the participation and involvement of indigenous and local communities and civil society representatives
- (v) Striving for improved action and cooperation to encourage the involvement of the private sector, namely through the development of partnerships at the national level;
- (vi) Strengthening the contribution of the scientific community in order to improve the science/policy interface to support research-based advice on biodiversity;

(m) Respect, preserve and maintain the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities consistent with Article 8(j);

(n) Establish or strengthen national institutional arrangements for the promotion, coordination and monitoring of the implementation of the national biodiversity strategy and action plans,

(o) Develop and implement a communication strategy for the national biodiversity strategy and action plan;

(p) Address existing planning processes in order to mainstream biodiversity concerns in other national strategies, including, in particular, poverty eradication strategies, national strategies for the Millennium Development Goals, sustainable development strategies, and strategies to adapt to climate change and combat desertification, as well as sectoral strategies, and ensure that national biodiversity strategies and action plans are implemented in coordination with these other strategies;

(q) Make use of or develop, as appropriate, regional, subregional or subnational networks to support implementation of the Convention;

(r) Promote and support local action for the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, by integrating biodiversity considerations into sub-national and local level assessments and planning processes, and, as and where appropriate, the development of sub-national and local biodiversity strategies and/or action plans, consistent with national biodiversity strategies and action plans;

Monitoring and review

(s) Establish national mechanisms including indicators, as appropriate, and promote regional cooperation to monitor implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and progress towards national targets, to allow for adaptive management, and provide regular reports on progress, including outcome-oriented information, to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

(t) Review national biodiversity strategies and action plans to identify successes, constraints and impediments to implementation, and identify ways and means of addressing such constraints and impediments, including revision of the strategies where necessary;

(u) Make available through the Convention's clearing-house mechanism national biodiversity strategies and action plans, including periodic revisions, and where applicable, reports on implementation, case studies of good practice, and lessons learned;

9. *Invites* the financial mechanism, and *urges* Governments and other donors to provide adequate funding to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, for the implementation and revision of national, and where appropriate, regional biodiversity strategies;

10. *Notes* that, in line with the guidelines for the fourth national reports developed in accordance with decision VIII/14, Parties should report on progress in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans and on mainstreaming as part of their fourth national reports, and reiterates the importance of submitting their fourth national reports on or before 30 March 2009.

Priority areas for capacity-building, access to and transfer of technology

Recognizing the importance of capacity-building and access to and transfer of technology and that these should address identified national needs and priorities,

Aware that inadequate capacity building, access to and transfer of technology, and technology cooperation are obstacles to the implementation of the Convention, especially in developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition,

Noting the need for a better use of existing mechanisms and an enhanced partnership with international and regional organizations,

Emphasizing the importance of the issue of access to and transfer of technology and technology cooperation, and scientific and technical cooperation in the implementation of the Convention and, in that respect, of the mandate of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group established in decision VIII/12 (Technology transfer and cooperation),

11. *Recalling* Article 20, of the Convention, *urges* Parties, to fulfil their obligations and commitments in regard to the Convention;

12. *Encourages* relevant implementing agencies to address nationally identified capacity needs for the implementation of the Convention;

13. *Notes* the need to provide Parties with additional information on guidance, initiatives, mechanisms, systems and tools to improve technology transfer and cooperation, including:

(a) Approaches to technology transfer and cooperation which address the prioritized needs of countries based on priorities in the national biodiversity strategies and action plans rather than non-specific and global approaches;

(b) Bilateral and multilateral cooperation agreements as means to achieve effective transfer of technology;

(c) Guidance and initiatives to increase private sector engagement and strengthen enabling environment for investments at the national level;

14. *Recommends* that capacity building for national biodiversity strategies and action plans focus on:

(a) Elaboration and updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans with broad stakeholder participation and based on nationally-identified needs and obstacles;

(b) Effective delivery and implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans;

(c) Monitoring implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans;

(d) Mobilization of financial resources for development, review and implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans;

15. *Encourages* Parties to establish or strengthen national clearing-house mechanisms to promote scientific and technical cooperation with other Parties, in particular with developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition;

16. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in cooperation with partner organizations to facilitate:

(a) The continued exchange of best practices and lessons learned from the preparation, updating and implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, through appropriate forums and mechanisms such as the clearing-house mechanism and, subject to available resources, strengthened cooperation with regional processes, South-South cooperation and voluntary peer-review;

(b) The provision of training and technical support from partner organizations;

(c) Scientific and technical cooperation as well as technology transfer and cooperation to enhance the capacity of developing country Parties, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, to support national implementation of the Convention including through a better use of the clearing-house mechanism, the financial mechanism and communication, education and public awareness under the Convention;

17. *Recalling* paragraph 6 of decision VIII/8, *reaffirms* the need for regional and subregional meetings to discuss national experience in implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and the integration of biodiversity concerns into relevant sectors, including consideration of obstacles and ways and means for overcoming the obstacles;

18. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, to:

(a) Continue to build upon the existing database of national biodiversity strategies and action plans;

(b) In collaboration with partner organizations continue to compile a range of instruments, including toolkits and documentation of best practices and lessons learned, to support Parties to develop, review and implement their national biodiversity strategies and action plans and related implementation activities, including for the achievement of the 2010 biodiversity target;

(c) Identify opportunities in the organization of work of the bodies of the Convention, as appropriate, to support development, review and implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans;

19. *Takes note of* the opportunity provided by the ongoing development of “One UN” programmes and *encourages* Parties, including the “One UN” pilot countries, to give due consideration to integrating biodiversity issues as identified in their national biodiversity strategies and action plans;

20. *Invites* the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in partnership with the Convention, building upon, *inter alia*, the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building, to further examine ways and means to support national implementation of the Convention;

21. *Invites* all bilateral and multilateral development cooperation agencies to promote mainstreaming of the environment, including biodiversity, into development cooperation activities;

22. *Also invites* Parties and other Governments and relevant organizations to contribute to initiatives aimed at assessing the benefits of implementing the three objectives of the Convention, and the costs of the loss of biodiversity and the failure to take measures to fulfil the three objectives of the Convention, and *encourages* Parties to take this information into account when elaborating, reviewing and implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans;

Mechanisms for the implementation of the Convention and inputs to the process of revising the Strategic Plan beyond 2010

23. *Agrees* that the recommendations from the second meeting of the Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention arising from the in-depth review of goals 2 and 3 of the Strategic Plan provide an input to the review of Strategic Plan beyond 2010;

24. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare an updated overview of guidance generated in the framework of the Convention, including, *inter alia*, guidelines, principles, and programmes of work, for the implementation of the Convention, in the context of the Strategic Plan, including an analysis of the relationship of the thematic programmes of work with the cross-cutting issues;

25. *Invites* Parties to provide comments on the effectiveness of the guidance as summarized in the overview prepared by the Executive Secretary, referred to in paragraph 24 above.

Appendix

**DECISIONS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES PROVIDING GUIDANCE TO
PARTIES ON NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS ^{1/}**

CBD Article/ programme of work/cross-cutting issue	Decision	Guidance
Articles 6 and 8	II/7 (para. 5)	<i>Encourages</i> Parties, in preparing and implementing their national strategies and action plans, to collaborate with relevant organizations and, if so desired, to take into consideration existing guidelines such as “National Biodiversity Planning” published by the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Resources Institute and the World Conservation Union (IUCN)
Articles 6 and 8	III/9 (para. 2)	<i>Urges</i> Parties to include in their national plans, strategies or legislation measures for (a) <i>in situ</i> and <i>ex situ</i> conservation; (b) integration of biodiversity objectives in relevant sectoral policies to achieve conservation and sustainable use; and (c) equitable sharing of benefits from the use of genetic resources
Targets	III/9 (para. 5)	<i>Invites</i> Parties to set measurable targets to achieve biodiversity conservation and sustainable use objectives
Agricultural biodiversity	III/11 (para. 15)	<i>Encourages</i> Parties to develop national strategies, programmes and plans which identify key components of biodiversity in agricultural production systems, encourage the adoption of repairing practices, and integrate with other plans, programmes and projects relating to the conservation and sustainable use of other terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine ecosystems
Cooperation	III/21 (para. 8)	<i>Urges</i> the Parties to ensure that the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands, and of migratory species and their habitats, are fully incorporated into national strategies, programmes and plans ⁷
Marine and coastal biodiversity	IV/5, annex (para. 10) (retired)	Parties should, in accordance with Article 6 of the Convention, develop national strategies, plans and programmes in order to promote the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biological diversity
Public education and awareness	IV/10 B (para. 1(a))	<i>Urges</i> Parties to place special emphasis on the requirements of Article 13 of the Convention in the development of their national strategies and action plans
Ecosystem approach	V/6, annex, section C (para. 12)	<i>From the operational guidance for application of the ecosystem approach:</i> As the primary framework of action to be taken under the Convention, the ecosystem approach should be fully taken into account in developing and reviewing national biodiversity strategies and action plans.
Education and public awareness	V/17 (para. 6)	<i>Invites</i> Parties, Governments, organizations and institutions to support capacity-building for education and communication in biological diversity as part of their national biodiversity strategies and action plans, taking into account the global initiative
Dry and sub-humid lands biodiversity	V/23, annex I (para. 2 (f))	<i>From the programme of work:</i> Support the development of national strategies and programmes, and to promote the integration of biological diversity concerns in sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies, in furtherance of Article 6 of the Convention, in seeking harmonization and avoiding duplication when undertaking activities relevant to other related conventions...
Access and benefit-sharing	V/26 (para. 3)	<i>Urges</i> Parties to ensure that national biodiversity strategies as well as legislative, administrative or policy measures on access and benefit-sharing contribute to conservation and sustainable-use objectives

^{1/} This table does not include short-term purely procedural requests to Parties for information. Please note also that additional guidance is available in relation to invasive alien species (decision VI/23, para 10), island biodiversity (decision VIII/1, annex) and CEPA (decision VIII/6, annexes II and III).

CBD Article/ programme of work/cross-cutting issue	Decision	Guidance
Dry and sub-humid lands biodiversity	VI/4 (para. 2)	<i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the secretariats of relevant conventions, to prepare a proposal for the development of a mechanism to coordinate activities in these areas, and for linking and ensuring integration of the national biodiversity strategies and action plans under the Convention on Biological Diversity and the national action programmes under the Convention to Combat Desertification
Global Strategy for Plant Conservation	VI/9 (para. 4)	<i>Invites</i> Parties and Governments to develop national and/or regional targets, and, as appropriate, to incorporate them into relevant plans, programmes and initiatives, including national biodiversity strategies and action plans
Forest biodiversity	VI/22 (para. 28)	<i>Urges</i> Parties and other Governments to incorporate relevant objectives and related activities of the programme of work into their national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national forest programmes and promote compatibility and complementarity between these plans/programmes and other related initiatives
Invasive alien species	VI/23 (para. 10)	<i>Urges</i> Parties and other Governments, in implementing the Guiding Principles, and when developing, revising and implementing national biodiversity strategies and action plans to address the threats posed by invasive alien species, to... (<i>Further guidance is provided in VI/23(10) but is not reproduced here</i>)
Strategic Plan for the Convention on Biological Diversity	VI/26 (annex)	Goal 3: National biodiversity strategies and action plans and the integration of biodiversity concerns into relevant sectors serve as an effective framework for the implementation of the objectives of the Convention. 3.1 Every Party has effective national strategies, plans and programmes in place to provide a national framework for implementing the three objectives of the Convention and to set clear national priorities. 3.4 The priorities in national biodiversity strategies and action plans are being actively implemented, as a means to achieve national implementation of the Convention, and as a significant contribution towards the global biodiversity agenda.
Implementation of the Convention, in particular, implementation of priority actions in national biodiversity strategies and action plans	VI/27 A (para. 2)	<i>Urges</i> Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity: (a) To develop and adopt national biodiversity strategies and action plans, where they have not yet done so; (b) To give priority to the integration of the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, as well as benefit-sharing, into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies, in accordance with Article 6 of the Convention; (c) To identify priority actions in national biodiversity strategies and action plans and other relevant national strategies; (d) To implement national biodiversity strategies and action plans; and to periodically revise them in the light of the experience of implementation; (e) To establish national mechanisms or consultative processes, with particular regard, where appropriate, to the special needs of indigenous and local communities, for coordinating, implementing, monitoring, evaluating and periodically revising national biodiversity strategies and action plans; (f) To identify constraints and impediments to implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and to reflect them in the national reports; (g) To make their national biodiversity strategies and action plans, including periodic revisions, available through their national clearing-house mechanism and the Convention website
Regional cooperation	VI/27 A (para. 3)	Parties are encouraged to develop regional, subregional or bioregional mechanisms and networks; and to support implementation of the Convention including, as appropriate, through the development of regional or subregional biodiversity strategies and action plans, the identification of common constraints and impediments to implementation; and promotion of joint measures for addressing these

CBD Article/ programme of work/cross-cutting issue	Decision	Guidance
Dry and sub-humid lands biodiversity	VII/2 (para. 5(c) (i))	<i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary ... to integrate activities related to national biodiversity strategies and action plans with national action programmes for the Convention to Combat Desertification, national adaptation programmes of action under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Ramsar wetland policies and other relevant programmes, including national strategies for sustainable development and poverty reduction
Marine and coastal biodiversity	VII/5 (para. 44)	<i>Urges</i> Parties and other Governments to adopt the use of relevant methods and techniques for avoiding the adverse effects of mariculture on marine and coastal biological diversity, and incorporate them into their national biodiversity strategies and action plans
Monitoring and indicators	VII/8 (para. 8)	<i>Urges</i> all Parties that have not done so to develop a set of biodiversity indicators as part of their national strategies and action plans, taking into account, as appropriate, the targets of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and the target to achieve by 2010 a significant reduction in the current rate of biodiversity loss at the global, regional and national level, as well as the guidance, lessons learned and list of indicators provided in UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/10
Biological diversity and tourism	VII/14 (para. 10)	<i>Invites</i> all Governments to integrate these Guidelines in the development or review of their strategies and plans for tourism development, national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and other related sectoral strategies, at appropriate levels in consultation with interested stakeholders including tourism operators and all members of the tourism sector
Global strategy for plant conservation	VII/10 (para. 6 (a))	<i>Encourages</i> Parties ... to promote and facilitate implementation and monitoring of the Strategy at national level, including the identification of national targets and their integration in national biodiversity strategies and action plans and sectoral and cross-sectoral plans programmes and activities
Mountain biodiversity	VII/27 (para. 3)	<i>Invites</i> Parties to identify priority actions among the actions recommended in the programme of work depending on the particular national or local conditions and <i>urges</i> Parties to incorporate them into their national biodiversity strategies and action plans, as well as national programmes and activities on the implementation of regional mountain conventions and initiatives, and implement them taking into account the ecosystem approach
Island Biodiversity	VIII/1 (para.3)	<i>Urges</i> Parties ...to implement the programme of work primarily through its incorporation into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans, and to mainstream it into national sustainable development strategies. (Further guidance provided in the programme of work, annex to VIII/1)
Global Taxonomy Initiative	VIII/3 (para. 9)	<i>Urges</i> Parties and other Governments that have not done so to: [..] Undertake or complete or update, as a matter of priority, national taxonomic needs assessments, including related technical, technological and capacity needs, and establish priorities for taxonomic work that take into account country-specific circumstances. These assessments should take into account ongoing national biodiversity strategies and action plans as well as regional strategies and initiatives under development, with particular regard to user needs and priorities
Global Initiative on Communication, Education and Public Awareness	VIII/6 (annex II, para. 2)	CEPA strategies should be developed and implemented, wherever possible, as components of national biodiversity strategies and action plans. Where countries have yet to develop national biodiversity strategies and action plans, any CEPA strategies should take the potential of this into account. (Further guidance provided in annexes II and III of VIII/6)
Scientific and technical cooperation and the clearing-house mechanism	VIII/11 (programme of work of the CHM)	<i>Actions by national clearing-house mechanisms:</i> 1.1.8. Identify and implement opportunities to facilitate scientific and technical cooperation that will enhance the capacity to implement priority actions in national biodiversity strategies and action plans 1.2.3. Identify and implement opportunities to facilitate the transfer of technology that is needed to implement priority actions in national biodiversity strategies and action plans 3.3.4. Identify work areas where active networking between experts would facilitate implementation of priority actions in national biodiversity

CBD Article/ programme of work/cross-cutting issue	Decision	Guidance
		strategies and action plans, and seek to establish such networks
Financial resources and financial mechanism	VIII/13 (para. 2)	<i>Affirms</i> that Parties and Governments should determine their own funding priorities for national biodiversity activities based on the Strategic Plan, and national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and taking into account relevant elements of the Convention's programmes of work
National reporting	VIII/14 (para. 3)	<i>Decides</i> that the fourth and subsequent national reports should be outcome-oriented and focus on the national status and trends of biodiversity, national actions and outcomes with respect to the achievement of the 2010 target and the goals of the Strategic Plan of the Convention, and progress in implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans
Framework for monitoring implementation of the achievement of the 2010 target and integration of targets into the thematic programmes of work	VIII/15 (para. 10)	<i>Emphasizes</i> that the targets ... should ... be viewed as a flexible framework within which national and/or regional targets may be developed, relevant to the implementation by Parties of the programmes of work and National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans, according to national and/or regional priorities and capacities, taking into account differences in biological diversity between countries;
Ibid	VIII/15 (para. 11)	<i>Urges</i> Parties and <i>invites</i> other Governments to develop national and/or regional goals and targets and related national indicators ... and to incorporate them into relevant plans, programmes and initiatives, including national biodiversity strategies and action plans ...
Ibid	VIII/15 (para. 15)	<i>Emphasizes</i> that the elaborated technical rationale and proposed indicators for the outcome oriented targets for the programme of work on the biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands provided in the annex to the note by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/11/4/Add.2) are intended as guidance to Parties in their implementation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans
Ibid	VIII/15 (para. 23)	<i>Emphasizes</i> that the technical rationale and proposed global indicators for the global outcome-oriented targets for the programme of work on mountain biological diversity contained in the note by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/11/10) are intended as guidance to Parties in their implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans
Private-sector engagement	VIII/17 (para. 1)	<i>Urges</i> national focal points, working with relevant government departments, to communicate the importance of biodiversity to companies operating within the jurisdiction of Parties, including state-owned companies and small and medium enterprises, to engage such companies in the development of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and to encourage such companies to adopt practices that support the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the objectives of the Convention
Agricultural biodiversity	VIII/23 (para. 5)	<i>Urges</i> Parties and other Governments to integrate biodiversity, food and nutrition considerations into their national biodiversity strategies and action plans and other national plans and activities, including national plans of action for nutrition and strategies for achievement of the Millennium Development Goals

2/2. Options and a draft strategy for resource mobilization in support of the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity

The Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention,

Recalling that, in its decision VIII/13, the Conference of the Parties decided to conduct an in-depth review of the availability of financial resources at its ninth meeting, and requested the Executive Secretary to prepare a draft strategy for resource mobilization,

Recalling also that, in decision VIII/13, the Conference of the Parties recommended to Parties, Governments and funding institutions, as appropriate, the promotion, and fostering of new national and regional environmental funds and strengthening/expanding such existing funds, and further to encourage knowledge transfer and exchange about these mechanisms, through the creation and/or strengthening of national and international learning networks or communities,

Noting the information contained in the note by the Executive Secretary on options for resource mobilization in support of the achievement of the objectives of the Convention (UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/2/4), in particular in its section V, which provides a basis for considering options for resource mobilization and the need for further elaboration of those options,

Noting also the report of the Expert Group Meeting on Management of Environmental Funds for the Financial Sustainability of Biodiversity Conservation, held in Lima from 9 to 11 May 2007 (UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/2/INF/5),

Noting further the recent and upcoming international meetings and initiatives regarding resource mobilization, including: the Conference “Biodiversity in European Development Cooperation” held in September 2006 in Paris; the “Potsdam Initiative – Biological Diversity 2010”, launched during the meeting of G8+5 environment ministers, acknowledged at the G-8 Heiligendamm Summit in June 2007; the meeting on business and biodiversity, hosted by the Government of Portugal in November 2007, in cooperation with of the European Commission and IUCN,

Highlighting the need for a full integration of biodiversity financing at the International Conference on Financing for Development to be held in Doha in the second half of 2008,

1. *Recommends* that the Conference of the Parties adopt a strategy for resource mobilization to support implementation of the Convention at its ninth meeting;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary in preparation for the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to:

(a) Seek views and further suggestions from Parties, other Governments, regional economic integration groups, partner organizations, donors and observers on a strategy for resource mobilization, and compile the information received;

(b) Undertake informal consultations on the development of the strategy for resource mobilization in conjunction with the Convention’s inter-sessional meetings;

(c) Submit a draft strategy for consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting;

3. *Recommends* that, at its ninth meeting, the Conference of the Parties mandate its President to transmit a message on biodiversity and financing for development to the International Conference on Financing for Development, and *requests* the Executive Secretary to undertake informal consultations with Parties to prepare a draft of the message for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties;

4. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility to provide inputs to the development of the strategy for resource mobilization.

2/3. Streamlining the guidance provided to the Global Environment Facility as the institutional structure operating the financial mechanism of the convention

The Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity

1. *Recommends* that the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting:
 - (a) *Welcomes* the dialogue between the Chief Executive Officer of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Bureau of the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties held in Paris on 8 July 2007;
 - (b) *Encourages* the Executive Secretary to maintain and strengthen the dialogue with the Chief Executive Officer of the GEF with a view to enhancing the implementation of the guidance adopted by the Conference of the Parties during the fourth phase of the GEF;
 - (c) *Encourages* collaboration at national level between national focal points for the Convention, for related environmental agreements and for the GEF, including through the projects supported by GEF;
 - (d) *Noting* that the GEF is built on the principles of country-drivenness and country ownership, *highlights* the important role of national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAP) as a tool in identifying national needs and priorities for GEF financing;
 - (e) *Recognizes* the need to provide coherent and prioritized guidance to the GEF;
 - (f) *Adopts* a four-year (2010-2014) framework for programme priorities related to utilization of GEF resources for biodiversity, coinciding with the fifth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund;
 - (g) *Requests* the President of the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to transmit to the Council of the Global Environment Facility, in anticipation of the fifth replenishment of its Trust Fund, the four-year framework for programme priorities;
2. *Invites* Parties and Governments, relevant organizations and the GEF to submit to the Secretariat of the Convention, by 1 December 2007, their views on elements for the four-year (2010-2014) framework for programme priorities related to the utilization of GEF resources for biodiversity, as well as ways and means to enhance the process of formulating and consolidating guidance to the financial mechanism;
3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare, for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting, elements for the four-year (2010-2014) framework for programme priorities related to utilization of GEF resources for biodiversity, as well as recommendations to the process of formulating and consolidating guidance to the financial mechanism, taking into account the views expressed by Parties during the second meeting of the Working Group on Review of Implementation, and submissions by Parties, Governments and relevant organizations and national priorities identified in national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to organize a dialogue session among the Parties, with participation of the Chief Executive Officer of the GEF, in Bonn on 17 May 2008, prior to the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, on the four year (2010-2014) framework for programme priorities related to utilization of GEF resources for biodiversity, as well as the procedures for streamlining guidance to the GEF.

2/4. Status of national reporting and proposals on the scope and format of the third edition of Global Biodiversity Outlook

The Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity,

Recalling recommendation XII/4 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice on lessons learned from the preparation of the second edition of Global Biodiversity Outlook,

Taking note of the proposed scope and format of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook and organization of preparatory work contained in the note by the Executive Secretary on the subject (UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/2/6) and the considerations for the preparation of the third edition contained in the information document on the subject (UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/2/INF/13),

Emphasizing the importance of an inclusive, transparent and timely process for preparation and peer-review of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, which should be based on scientifically rigorous information and make full use of authoritative and independent scientific sources and the information to be provided by Parties in their fourth national reports, which the Conference of Parties agreed in decision VIII/14 are to be submitted by 30 March 2009,

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to revise the proposed scope and format, work plan, communication strategy and financial plan for the development of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, addressing the progress made and the constraints to achieve the 2010 Biodiversity Target, taking into account views expressed at the second meeting of the Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention, including those summarized in the annex to this recommendation, as well as comments provided by national focal points, the Informal Advisory Committee for Communication, Education and Public Awareness and other relevant organizations and specialists, and to submit a revised proposal for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting;

2. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to continue collaborating with other biodiversity-related conventions, the Rio conventions and other relevant processes and organizations and to engage them in the preparations of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook as appropriate and in accordance with their respective mandates;

3. *Recommends* that the Conference of the Parties, at its ninth meeting, *request* the Global Environment Facility, *urge* Parties, and *invite* other Governments and donors, to make timely financial contributions for the preparation and production of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook and ancillary products, and of the full set of the provisional 2010 indicators, through the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership, in accordance with the work plan and financial plan for the preparation of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook as well as the communication strategy, the scope and format for the third edition of the Outlook. These funds should be provided as early as possible so that the Global Biodiversity Outlook can be finalized in advance of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in all United Nations languages, and, if possible, with a draft available for review at the fourteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.

Annex

VIEWS EXPRESSED AT THE SECOND MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION ON THE SCOPE OF THIRD GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY OUTLOOK

The third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook should, *inter alia*:

1. Have a clearly defined audience and purpose;
2. Present clear messages that are communicated in a way that is easy to understand by a non-technical audience;

3. Make use of the framework for assessing progress towards the achievement of the 2010 Biodiversity Target provided in decision VIII/15, and especially the provisional headline indicators contained therein;
4. Be strengthened by the inclusion of case-studies, derived from the fourth national reports, bioregional examples, natural-resource sectors, traditional ecological knowledge expertise, innovative collaborative biodiversity initiatives, and other processes aimed at improving scientific expertise on biodiversity;
5. Consider the social, cultural and economic implications of biodiversity loss for various social groups;
6. Pay attention to terrestrial and aquatic environments and invasive alien species;
7. Have a focus on status and trends in relation to the 2010 Biodiversity Target and implementation of the three objectives of the Convention;
8. Employ scenarios beyond 2010 as appropriate;
9. Provide information on implementation of the biodiversity agenda within the framework of the Millennium Development Goals and, more generally, progress made in mainstreaming biodiversity into the development agenda;
10. Include supplementary products, *inter alia*, thematic and bioregional assessments.
11. Draw upon collaborative efforts between UNEP and the scientific community, *inter alia* making optimal use of the Global Environment Outlook.

2/5. Operations of the Convention

The Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention *recommends* that the Conference of the Parties adopt two decisions along the following lines:

A. Review and retirement of the decisions of the Conference of the Parties

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling paragraph 35 and 36 of its decision VIII/10 and paragraph 3 of its decision VII/33,

1. *Decides* to review and, if appropriate, retire decisions and elements of decisions, taking care to avoid retiring guiding principles and decisions that have not been implemented or reflected in subsequent decisions, at an interval of eight years following their adoption;

2. *Decides* to re-examine the interval for review at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

3. *Decides also* that, with regard to criteria for the review and retirement of decisions and elements of decisions, the Executive Secretary shall proceed with the previous format adopted on the basis of the pilot review and subsequent reviews;

4. *Further decides* to retire the decisions and elements of decisions adopted at its fifth meeting listed in the annex to the present decision; ^{2/}

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to make proposals to the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting regarding the retirement of decisions and elements of decisions taken at its sixth meeting and to communicate such proposals to Parties, Governments and relevant international organizations at least six months prior to its tenth meeting;

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue the practice of maintaining the full text of all decisions on the Secretariat website while indicating those decisions and elements of decisions that have been retired.

B. Admission of bodies and agencies, whether governmental or non-governmental

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling Article 23 of the Convention and rule 7 of the rules of procedure,

Recalling also decision VIII/10, paragraph 39,

Recognizing the desirability of clarifying the formalities for admission as an observer to meetings of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies,

Decides to adopt the steps annexed to the present decision for the admission of any body or agency, whether governmental or non-governmental, to meetings of the Convention on Biological Diversity, recognizing that it is without prejudice to Article 23, paragraph 5, of the Convention, and rule 7 of the rules of procedure.

Annex

STEPS FOR ADMITTING QUALIFIED BODIES AND AGENCIES, WHETHER GOVERNMENTAL OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL, AS OBSERVERS TO MEETINGS OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES AND ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES

1. The present steps are without prejudice to Article 23, paragraph 5, of the Convention and rule 7 of the rules of procedure.

2. Any interested body or agency should inform the Executive Secretary of its wish to be represented as an observer to meetings of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies, and include its statutes/by-laws/rules or terms of reference, as well as any other relevant information.

^{2/} This annex would be prepared by the Conference of the Parties on the basis of proposals made by the Executive Secretary (see paras. 11-12 of the note by the Executive on the operations of the Convention (UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/2/7)).

3. The Executive Secretary will prepare a list of bodies and agencies which have informed him of their wish to be represented, and have provided the information referred to in paragraph 2 above. The Executive Secretary will submit that list to each meeting of the Conference of the Parties for its information. The list will also be provided, in advance of the meeting, to the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties for information.

4. Once listed, a body or agency need not re-submit the information provided under paragraph 2 above. Bodies and agencies should notify the Secretariat of any relevant change in the information provided under paragraph 2 that may affect their admission as an observer.
