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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE  
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Twelfth meeting

Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, 6-17 October 2014

Item 13 of the provisional agenda\*

**LIST OF DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS PREPARED FOR THE TWELFTH MEETING OF  
THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES REGARDING CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR  
REVISING AND UPDATING NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES AND  
ACTION PLANS, TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, TECHNOLOGY  
TRANSFER AND THE CLEARING-HOUSE MECHANISM**

*Note by the Executive Secretary*

1. The present note compiles the draft recommendations prepared for the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties<sup>1</sup> regarding capacity-building for revising and updating national biodiversity strategies and action plans, technical and scientific cooperation, technology transfer, and the clearing-house mechanism in order to provide an overview for further consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its twelfth meeting, following recommendation 5/11 adopted by the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention at its fifth meeting.

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\* UNEP/CBD/COP/12/1/Rev.1

<sup>1</sup> UNEP/CBD/COP/12/1/Add.2.

Para.	Draft recommendations regarding capacity-building for revising and updating national biodiversity strategies and action plans, technical and scientific cooperation, technology transfer, and the clearing-house mechanism
<b><i>Item 12 - Mid-term review of progress towards the goals of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and further actions to enhance progress</i></b>	
4 (g)	<p><i>Notes</i> the following general conclusions of the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook with regard to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020:</p> <p>(g) There are opportunities to support the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 through enhanced technical and scientific cooperation among Parties. Further capacity-building support and technology transfer will also be needed, especially for developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition;</p>
16 (b)	<p><i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of the necessary resources:</p> <p>(b) To further enhance the clearing house mechanism of the Convention to enable the provision of targeted technical support to Parties, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, and countries with economies in transition, on the identification and use of suitable policy support tools, and to strengthen synergies across national, regional and international institutions;</p>
<b><i>Item 13 - Review of progress in providing support in implementing the objectives of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and enhancement of capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation and other initiatives to assist implementation</i></b>	
<b><i>A. Provision of support for revising and updating national biodiversity strategies and action plans and capacity-building</i></b>	
1	<i>Invites</i> Parties, other Governments, indigenous and local communities, relevant organizations and the business sector, as appropriate, to share information on their capacity building initiatives, including emerging best practices and lessons learned, and opportunities, as provided in Section B, paragraph 3 (a);
2	<i>Encourages</i> 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 indigenous and local communities, to make available information regarding their capacity-building needs and priorities identified through, inter alia, national and subnational capacity self-assessments, and to incorporate them in their national strategies and action plans with respect to the implementation of the Convention as provided in Section B, paragraph 2;
3	<i>Encourages</i> donors and Parties to provide funding in this context;

4	<p><i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary:</p> <p>(a) Recalling paragraph 10 of decision XI/2, to continue promoting and facilitating, in collaboration and cooperation with relevant organizations and processes, activities to strengthen the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and to further progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets at the national, subregional and regional levels;</p> <p>(b) To undertake an evaluation of the effectiveness of capacity-building activities that the Secretariat has supported and facilitated, and a review of related partnership arrangements for delivery, and a gap analysis in capacity-building activities supporting implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;</p> <p>(c) To promote the use of available mechanisms, including the clearing-house mechanism, to further enhance capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer to support the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;</p> <p>(d) To ensure that information on capacity-building and technical and scientific cooperation needs, opportunities and activities is shared effectively across and accessed through all platforms under the Convention;</p> <p>(e) To facilitate matching between needs, opportunities and activities, for capacity building, inter alia, by organizing special matching side events during relevant regional and international meetings;</p> <p>(f) To report on progress made and results achieved to the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention at its sixth meeting, or its successor body, for its consideration prior to the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;</p>
<i>B. Technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer</i>	
1	<p><i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with partners, taking into account and avoiding duplication with other efforts, such as those of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, and subject to the availability of resources, to enhance technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer under the Convention, with a view to supporting the effective implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets, as well as revised and updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans, by, inter alia:</p> <p>(a) Facilitating the communication of technical and scientific needs and priorities of Parties, utilizing the clearing-house mechanism and other appropriate means;</p> <p>(b) Further enhancing the availability and accessibility of information with respect to best practices and expertise for technical and scientific cooperation to make it more readily and effectively available through the clearing-house mechanism and other appropriate means;</p> <p>(c) Facilitating the linking of the needs of Parties with support for technical and scientific cooperation by relevant global, regional and national organizations and initiatives;</p>

	(d) In the context of paragraph 1 (c) above and building on existing structures, promoting thematic, cross-cutting and regional pilot programmes for technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer;
	(e) Reporting on progress to the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention at its sixth meeting, or to the subsidiary body on implementation that may be established in accordance with paragraph 7 of recommendation 5/2;
2	<i>Encourages</i> 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 indigenous and local communities, to make available information regarding their technical and scientific needs and priorities and needs for technology transfer, in particular through the clearing house mechanism;
3	<i>Encourages</i> Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations, stakeholders and other entities, taking into account and avoiding duplication with other efforts, to participate in and contribute to technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer under the Convention, and in particular:
	(a) To share, including through the clearing-house mechanism, as appropriate, information on good practices and the provision of expertise for technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer;
	(b) To provide technical and scientific support and associated capacity-building, using the information made available pursuant to paragraph 1 (a) above;
	(c) To promote collaborative partnerships for technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer on a thematic, cross-cutting and/or regional basis;
4	<i>Invites</i> donor agencies, and Parties in a position to do so, to provide the necessary financial and human resources to enable the further enhancement of technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer among Parties;
<i>C. Clearing-house mechanism</i>	
1	<i>Invites</i> Parties and other users to submit information through the central clearing-house mechanism and to provide user feedback whenever possible;
2	<i>Strongly encourages</i> Parties to accelerate the establishment and development of their national clearing-house mechanisms where they have not done so;
3	<i>Invites</i> the Global Environment Facility, Parties and other donors to continue to provide financial support for sharing information and knowledge through the clearing-house mechanism, including for content preparation and translation;
4	<i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary to continue developing the information services of the central clearing-house mechanism, taking into account user feedback as well as recommendations from the informal advisory committee to the clearing-house mechanism;

5	<p><i>Also requests</i> the Executive Secretary to develop a web strategy to ensure that all information common or relevant to the clearing-house mechanism, the Access and Benefit sharing Clearing-House and the Biosafety Clearing-House, as well as other platforms developed under the Convention, such as the NBSAP Forum, the website for ecologically and biologically significant marine areas and any future similar developments, can be accessed centrally to avoid duplication of efforts, and to provide this strategy to the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention, for its consideration at its sixth meeting, or to its successor body, in preparation for the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.</p>
<p><b><i>Item 16 - Biodiversity and sustainable development</i></b></p>	
7	<p><i>Encourages</i> Parties, other Governments, international organizations, and other relevant stakeholders, and indigenous and local communities to identify best practices and lessons learned, on integrating biodiversity, poverty eradication, and development, that can contribute to advancing poverty eradication and development, and to share this information using the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention and, as appropriate, other relevant ways;</p>
8	<p><i>Encourages</i> Parties, other Governments, international organizations, relevant stakeholders and indigenous and local communities to take steps to identify and overcome barriers to the implementation of decisions of the Conference of the Parties, such as lack of cross-sector coordination, resources and political prioritization, in order to effectively integrate biodiversity, poverty eradication and development, and to share lessons learned and the approaches or methods used to overcome barriers using the clearing-house mechanism;</p>
<p><b><i>Item 17 - Mainstreaming gender considerations</i></b></p>	
7	<p><i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with relevant partners, to collect case studies and best practices, including those from indigenous and local communities, on monitoring, evaluation and indicators on gender mainstreaming regarding biodiversity, including information on biodiversity tailored for women and participatory models, including women in a meaningful, timely and effective manner, and to disseminate it through the clearing house mechanism;</p>
<p><b><i>Item 21 - Marine and coastal biodiversity</i></b></p>	
<p><i>Impacts of anthropogenic underwater noise on marine and coastal biodiversity</i></p>	
4 (b)	<p><i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary:</p> <p>(b) To compile and synthesize relevant scientific and technical information concerning the elements specified in paragraph 3 above, as well as information on related measures taken and best practice examples, provided by Parties, other Governments and competent organizations, and to make this compilation available as information for a future meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to be held prior to the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, with a view to disseminating the results of the synthesis, including successful experiences, through the clearing-house mechanism or other means;</p>

<b>Item 22 - Invasive alien species</b>	
<i>Management of risks associated with introduction of alien species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food, and related issue</i>	
3	<i>Invites</i> Parties, Governments and other relevant bodies to make available relevant information, including the results of risk assessments on invasive alien species and lists of species, through clearing-house mechanisms and/or the Global Invasive Alien Species Information Partnership;
<i>Review of work on invasive alien species and considerations for future work</i>	
8 (a)	<i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources:  (a) To facilitate, through technical and scientific cooperation in line with Article 18, the development and implementation of regional projects to manage pathways and priority species at the regional level.
<b>Item 23 - Global Strategy for Plant Conservation</b>	
4	<i>Urges</i> Parties and <i>invites</i> other Governments, members of the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation and other stakeholders to enhance their efforts to implement the Strategy by promoting and facilitating communication, coordination and partnerships between all relevant sectors, including through improved use of the clearing-house mechanism, as well as the following:  (a) For those targets of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation where many of the key stakeholders, dedicated institutions or champions are outside the plant conservation community (notably targets 6, 10, 13 and 14), by pursuing and supporting activities critical for the achievement of the corresponding Aichi Biodiversity Targets of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and as identified through the mid-term review of the Strategy and the fourth edition of Global Biodiversity Outlook;  (b) For those targets of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation where progress is primarily driven by actors from within the plant conservation community (notably targets 1 to 5, 7, 8, 9, 12, 15 and 16), through the provision of political, institutional and financial support, as appropriate, and by giving recognition to their efforts, including through official communications and reports;
7	<i>Encourages</i> Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to continue sharing relevant examples and case studies, including those made available by Parties through their fifth national reports, through the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation toolkit ( <a href="http://www.plants2020.net">www.plants2020.net</a> ) and the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention and to draw on the available tools and guidance when planning and implementing plant conservation, as appropriate.
<b>Item 24 - New and emerging issues: synthetic biology</b>	
6	[ <i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary to make available the information reported in accordance with paragraphs 4 and 5 above through the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention and other means;]

<b><i>Item 29 - Cooperation with other conventions, international organizations and stakeholders' engagement, including business</i></b>	
<i>Business engagement</i>	
1 (b)	<p><i>Invites</i> Parties, taking into account their national policies, needs and priorities:</p> <p>(b) To cooperate with the Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity and its associated national and regional initiatives in order to assist reporting by businesses regarding their efforts to mainstream the objectives of the Convention and its associated Protocols, as well as the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and to provide this information through the clearing-house mechanism, while also providing a global summary to the Conference of the Parties at future meetings;</p>
<b><i>Item 30 - Improving the efficiency of structures and processes under the Convention, and retirement of decisions</i></b>	
10	<p><i>Decides</i> to enable a voluntary peer-review process for the national biodiversity strategies and action plans on a pilot basis by interested Parties making best use of mechanisms such as the NBSAP Forum, and <i>requests</i> the Executive Secretary to report on progress and challenges in its implementation to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting;</p>
11	<p>With a view to enabling the Conference of the Parties, at each of its meetings through 2020, to review progress in the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 and the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, in line with paragraph 3 (e) of decision X/2, <i>invites</i> Parties and other Governments, on a voluntary basis, to make available, information on progress towards the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and related national targets and on indicators and approaches towards assessing progress, including through use of the online reporting tool of the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention, and <i>requests</i> the Executive Secretary to report on that voluntary exercise to the Conference of the Parties;</p>
17 (a)	<p><i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources:</p> <p>(a) To undertake an assessment of the Parties' capacity needs and skill gaps with regard to integration of biosafety and access and benefit-sharing issues into national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national development plans in order to tailor the capacity-building interventions based on the needs of Parties;</p>
<i>Retirement of decisions</i>	
2	<p><i>Also decides</i> to refocus the exercise of retiring decisions, using an online decision tracking tool to be developed and maintained in the clearing house mechanism, with a view to supporting the review of existing decisions and improving the development and adoption of new decisions;</p>

3 (a)	<p><i>Requests the Executive Secretary:</i></p> <p>(a) To develop, by building on existing tools, as appropriate, and maintain an online decision tracking tool in the clearing-house mechanism with a view to supporting the review of existing decisions and improving the development and adoption of new decisions;</p>
<i>Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services</i>	
3	<p><i>Requests the Executive Secretary:</i></p> <p>(d) To make available, through the clearing-house mechanism, information on progress in the implementation of the work programme 2014-2018 of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, including the global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services to be launched in 2018, and to bring this information to the attention of the Subsidiary Body, as appropriate;</p> <p>(e) To make available, through the clearing-house mechanism, deliverables of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services as they become available, with a view to sharing knowledge on biodiversity issues and integrating and mainstreaming these issues into national policy processes, where appropriate;</p>