

**ADVANCE VERSION—SUBJECT TO FINAL EDITING AND
CLEARANCE**

VIII/16. Cooperation with other conventions and international organizations and initiatives

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Urges* Parties to facilitate cooperation among international organizations, and to promote the integration of biodiversity concerns into all relevant sectors by coordinating their national positions among the various conventions and other international forums in which they are involved, as appropriate;
2. *Urges* Parties to promote, as appropriate, coordination among national focal points for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the Convention on Biological Diversity with a view to achieving synergies on crosscutting activities, and to seek funding from the Global Environment Facility for these activities where appropriate;
3. *Underlines* the important role of the Joint Liaison Group in supporting cooperation among the Rio conventions;
4. *Welcomes* the proposed options for enhanced collaboration and joint actions identified in the paper developed jointly by the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the Convention on Biological Diversity (UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/1/7/Add.1);
5. *Invites* the Joint Liaison Group, in future papers submitted to the Conference of the Parties, to provide an assessment of the obstacles, successes and lessons learned through their collaboration and joint actions, and an indication of the resource implications associated with additional options proposed in this regard;
6. *Welcomes* the paper developed jointly by the secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals, the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar, Iran, 1971) and the World Heritage Convention on options for enhanced cooperation among the biodiversity-related conventions (UNEP/CBD/WG-RI/1/7/Add.2), and encourages the liaison group of the biodiversity-related conventions to address concrete elements such as harmonization of national reporting, and applying the provisional framework of goals and targets for evaluating progress towards 2010, and indicators consistent with this framework, across the conventions;
7. *Notes* the need for enhanced cooperation among the Rio conventions and the biodiversity-related conventions at the level not only of their respective secretariats, but of their respective scientific and technical bodies;
8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to secure more resources from the programme support to fund Convention activities, including those related to joint liaison arrangements between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification at the United Nations Headquarters;
9. *Welcomes* ongoing cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, particularly the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, the International Plant

Protection Convention, as well as other FAO processes, on issues related to agriculture, fisheries, forests and other matters;

10. *Recognizes* the important role and achievements of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests in coordinating and collaborating on forest issues;

11. *Welcomes* progress made by the Global Partnership on Plant Conservation in promoting the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and *expresses its gratitude* to Botanic Gardens Conservation International for its continued support to the Partnership;

12. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, where appropriate, subject to the availability of necessary financial and human resources and in accordance with the priority-setting mechanism established by the Conference of the Parties, to liaise with the conventions, organizations and initiatives with which the Convention has already signed memoranda of cooperation with a view to advancing implementation of the Convention in line with the decisions of the Conference of the Parties, including the possibility of developing joint work programmes;

13. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to liaise with the secretariat of the World Trade Organization on relevant issues, including trade-related intellectual property rights, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, and environmental goods and services, *inter alia*, with a view to identifying options for closer collaboration, including developing a memorandum of cooperation to promote the three objectives of the Convention;

14. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to liaise with the secretariat of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;

15. *Invites* the secretariat of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture to join the liaison group of the biodiversity-related conventions;

16. *Welcomes* the revised joint work programme with the Convention on Migratory Species (2006-2008) ^{21/}, and, where countries are party to both conventions, invites national focal points of the Convention on Biological Diversity to undertake relevant activities of the joint work programme in collaboration, as appropriate, with their counterparts for the Convention on Migratory Species, and requests the Executive Secretary to collaborate with the Secretariat of the Convention on Migratory Species to implement the activities identified in the joint work programme.

^{21/} Endorsed by the CMS Conference of the Parties in paragraph 6 of Resolution 8.18: "Integration of Migratory species into national biodiversity strategies and action plans and into on-going and future programmes of work under the Convention on Biological Diversity,"

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VIII/30. Biodiversity and climate change: guidance to promote synergy among activities for biodiversity conservation, mitigating or adapting to climate change and combating land degradation

The Conference of the Parties,

Noting the advice or guidance, including tools and approaches, contained in the note by the Executive Secretary prepared for the eleventh meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/11/18), with the addition, as a new section IV, of section IV of the report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on Biodiversity and Adaptation to Climate Change (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/11/INF/5), as an initial step in the design, implementation and monitoring of activities that interlink across biodiversity, climate-change, wetland ecosystems, and land degradation and desertification, while addressing the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, the World Heritage Convention (WHC), the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS), and other relevant multilateral environmental agreements,

Welcoming the start of the process within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to consider ways and means to reduce emissions from deforestation in developing countries and *noting* that effective actions to reduce deforestation could constitute a unique opportunity for biodiversity protection,

Noting the United Nations Environment Programme Issue-Based Modules for Coherent Implementation of Biodiversity Conventions as a useful tool to facilitate synergy in reporting and implementation of biodiversity-related conventions,

Noting that the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) of the United Nations Convention on Climate Change has started its consideration of a five-year programme of work on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change, and that this programme could facilitate communication and cooperation between relevant organizations as well as drawing upon relevant information from, and activities undertaken in, other international and regional organizations,

Recalling decision VII/15, paragraph 15,

1. *Encourages* Parties and other Governments to integrate biodiversity considerations into all relevant national policies, programmes and plans in response to climate change; taking into account the maintenance and restoration of the resilience of ecosystems which are essential for sustaining the delivery of their goods and services;

2. *Encourages* Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations and research institutions to develop rapid assessment tools for the design and implementation of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use activities which contribute to adaptation to climate change, particularly in vulnerable countries and regions, including Small Island Developing States;

3. *Encourages* Parties and other Governments, when addressing research needs and activities on the impacts of climate change on biodiversity, to involve indigenous and local communities and other relevant stakeholders, particularly on issues related to ecosystem health, human health, traditional knowledge, and livelihoods;

4. *Encourages* Parties and other Governments to cooperate regionally in activities aimed at enhancing habitat connectivity across ecological gradients, with the aim of enhancing ecosystem resilience and to facilitate the migration and dispersal of species with limited tolerance to altered climatic conditions;

5. *Invites* Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations and research institutions, to address, as appropriate, the research gaps outlined in the report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Adaptation to Climate Change and summarized in paragraph 3 of recommendation XI/14 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and to promote research on climate change response activities related to biodiversity, in the context of the ecosystem approach and sustainable use, and in order to further facilitate the incorporation of biodiversity considerations into the design, implementation and monitoring of activities aimed at the mitigation and adaptation of the impacts of climate change, including on indigenous peoples and local communities;

6. *Invites* Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations and research institutions to develop, support, and review, as appropriate, pilot and/or ongoing projects involving joint actions within the objectives of the three Rio conventions, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, the World Heritage Convention, the Convention on Migratory Species, and other relevant multilateral environmental agreements in order to promote better understanding and functioning of synergy among these;

7. *Invites* Parties to consider the needs of the most vulnerable regions and ecosystems, and their indigenous and local communities, including the need to provide additional support to developing countries, particularly the least developed and small-island developing States among them, and countries with economies in transition, in order to enhance understanding, design and communication of synergies in the national implementation of the three Rio conventions, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, the World Heritage Convention, the Convention on Migratory Species, and other multilateral environmental agreements, and to support the preparation of adaptation activities and plans, including assistance in the areas of financial resources, technology transfer, education and outreach, capacity-building, research and systemic observation, and harmonized reporting.

8. *Requests* the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, while respecting the mandate of the UNFCCC, to develop draft guidance on how to integrate relevant climate change impacts and response activities, into the programmes of work of the Convention, building on the findings of the reports on biodiversity and climate change (CBD Technical Series No. 10 and UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/11/INF5), taking into account *inter alia*:

- (a) Vulnerable regions, sub-regions and ecosystem types;
- (b) Characterization of tools and methods in terms of effectiveness, costs, and ecosystem vulnerability;
- (c) Best practices based on the analysis of case studies; and
- (d) The contributions that protected areas can make in this context;

9. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, through the Joint Liaison Group (JLG) of the Rio conventions, to consider the options in document UNEP/CBD/WGRI/1/7/Add.1. In considering these options, the Group may identify mutually supportive activities to be conducted by the secretariats of the Rio conventions, Parties and relevant organizations, taking into account the findings of the two

reports on biodiversity and climate change (CBD Technical Series No. 10 and UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/11/INF/5) for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice prior to the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

10. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to transmit this decision, including the report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group, to relevant bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, the World Heritage Convention, the Convention on Migratory Species, and other relevant multilateral environmental agreements, and to ensure follow-up through the Joint Liaison Group of the Rio conventions.