

IUCN's position on selected issues on the agenda

Convention on Biological Diversity

Fourteenth Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA14, 10-21 May 2010, Nairobi, Kenya) and Third Meeting of the Ad-Hoc Open-Ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention (WGR13, 24-28 May 2010, Nairobi, Kenya)

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Summary of main recommendations:

SBSTTA 14

1. In- Depth review of the Implementation of the Programme of Work on the Biological Diversity of Inland Water Ecosystems (agenda item 3.1.2)

IUCN calls on SBSTTA 14 to recommend that COP10 urges Parties to:

- ✓ Include biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services into management of water infrastructure and allocation of water resources;
- ✓ Identify inland water key biodiversity areas of global conservation significance, in synergy with the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and other mechanisms, as target sites within national protected area gap analysis;
- ✓ Guarantee that contributions of ecosystem services from inland waters are accounted for in assessments of options for water infrastructure development and operation, and included in frameworks for investment;
- ✓ Investigate ways and means to reduce water consumption for irrigation in agriculture, especially through increased efficiency and demand management; and
- ✓ Consider how the accounting of degradation and restoration of peatlands could be included under land use, land-use change, and forestry (LULUCF) regulations and by

For more information, please contact :

Dr. Jane Smart
Director, Conserving Biodiversity
Head, Species Programme
IUCN Headquarters
jane.smart@iucn.org

Mrs. Sonia Peña Moreno
Policy Officer – Biodiversity
Global Policy Unit
IUCN Headquarters
spm@iucn.org

IUCN World Headquarters
Rue Mauverney 28
1196 Gland
Switzerland
Tel: +41 22 9990000
mail@iucn.org
www.iucn.org

developing and applying a mechanism for the accounting and promotion of carbon storage and sequestration in wetlands and in particular in peatlands.

2. In- Depth review of the Implementation of the Programme of Work on Marine and Coastal Biodiversity (agenda item 3.1.3)

IUCN calls on SBSTTA 14 to recommend that COP10:

- ✓ Supports the ongoing work under the United Nations to establish a process for global reporting and assessment of the marine environment, drawing from existing data and processes such as the IUCN Red List Index, ensuring that synergies are made with discussions on the establishment of an Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES).

IUCN also urges Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to:

- ✓ Share and update relevant information on their protected areas system with the World Database on Protected Areas which includes the United Nations list of Protected Areas;
- ✓ Collaborate to identify and protect ecologically or biologically significant areas by establishing representative networks of marine protected areas (MPAs) to ensure safeguard of marine key biodiversity areas;
- ✓ Ensure that scientific research activities involving ocean fertilization do not proceed until a “global, transparent and effective control and regulatory mechanism is in place for these activities” (CBD COP Decision IX/16 C).

IUCN further urges Parties and other Governments acting through the United Nations General Assembly to:

- ✓ Establish a cooperative mechanism to facilitate the establishment and global recognition of MPAs and other management measures to conserve biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction; and

IUCN calls on SBSTTA 14 to recommend that COP10 calls upon Parties and other Governments to:

- ✓ Develop national measures to mitigate the impacts of excessive capacity of fishing fleets, destructive fishing practices, unsustainable fishing and illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU).

3. Biodiversity and Climate Change (agenda item 3.1.5)

IUCN calls on SBSTTA 14 to recommend that COP10 encourages Parties to:

- ✓ Continue to explore synergies between efforts to address climate change and efforts to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity, and further recognize that mitigating climate change is a central component of efforts to address biodiversity loss, and vice versa; and
- ✓ Ensure synergy between their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and national climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies, ensuring that the Ecosystem Approach is applied where appropriate when implementing responses to climate change.

4. Biofuels and Biodiversity (agenda item 4.1.2)

IUCN calls upon SBSTTA14 to recommend that COP10 urges Parties to:

- ✓ Establish landscape planning frameworks (and the supporting institutional capacity) to ensure that the Ecosystem Approach is applied to biofuels plans, programmes and projects;
- ✓ Develop and apply mechanisms for safeguarding sites of biodiversity conservation significance from the potential negative impacts of biofuels developments.

IUCN urges Parties to work with the private sector investing in biofuels developments to:

- ✓ Apply credible sustainability principles, criteria and practices which safeguard biodiversity, ecosystem services and livelihoods; and
- ✓ Engage in multi-stakeholder initiatives for developing sustainability standards for biofuels.

5. Invasive Alien Species (agenda item 4.4)

IUCN encourages SBSTTA14 to recommend that COP10 calls upon Parties, relevant organizations and others, as appropriate, to:

- ✓ Consider the use of Pest Risk Assessments at national level as well as industry self-regulation and best practice as solutions to this problem; and
- ✓ Establish an AHTEG to take this matter further in discussion involving all relevant stakeholders.

6. Incentive Measures (agenda item 4.6)

IUCN recommends that SBSTTA14 urges COP10 to call on Parties and other Governments to:

- ✓ Increase efforts to identify and remove subsidies which create perverse incentives and which negatively affect biodiversity;
- ✓ Promote Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES) and related positive incentive mechanisms at all levels, and to monitor closely the performance of these schemes in terms of their biodiversity benefits, socio-economic impacts and cost-effectiveness.

IUCN also calls on SBSTTA14 to recommend that COP10:

- ✓ Requests Parties and others to further develop, pilot and promote international PES schemes, focusing initially on REDD plus and other initiatives with potential for biodiversity benefits, while also exploring the need and potential for new international biodiversity financing mechanisms such as the proposed Green Development Mechanism (GDM); and

IUCN recommends that SBSTTA14 calls on COP10 to:

- ✓ Encourage Parties and others to develop, pilot and promote work on economic valuation of environmental goods and services, and to encourage activities that improve the understanding and the integration of valuation results in public and private decision-making.

WGRI3

7. In-Depth review of goals 1 and 4 of the Strategic Plan (including engagement with the private sector) (agenda item 3.2)

IUCN urges WGRI3 to recommend that COP10:

- ✓ Calls on governments to develop policies that would create an enabling environment to incentivize and reward those businesses that fully address biodiversity considerations in their practices, building on the concepts of No Net Loss and Net Positive Impact on biodiversity.

8. Implementation of the Strategy for Resource Mobilization (including innovative financial mechanisms and guidance to the GEF) (agenda item 6)

IUCN recommends that WGRI3:

- ✓ Encourages Parties and others to broaden the base of support for biodiversity conservation, by looking beyond traditional donors to the private sector, and by further developing the economic case for investing in ecosystem restoration and conservation.

IUCN urges WGRI3 to recommend that COP10:

- ✓ Encourages Parties and others to implement economic instruments, including market-based mechanisms for biodiversity conservation, and accelerate efforts to develop new finance mechanisms such as REDD plus and the GDM; and
- ✓ Encourages Parties and members of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Council to explore mechanisms through which additional funds can be allocated to the GEF with a view to substantially increase funds for the implementation of the Strategic Plan to be adopted at COP10, in line with any target adopted in Nagoya on increased resources for implementation.

Introduction

IUCN provides views and recommendations on selected issues on the agendas of SBSTTA14 and WGRI3. The CBD Strategic Plan for the post-2010 period, the Programme of Work on Protected Areas, the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and Gender Mainstreaming are the subject of other IUCN position papers. An information document on the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) has also been prepared.

IUCN strongly supports the proposed SBSTTA recommendations on Forests, Mountains, Agriculture, and Sustainable Use. IUCN supports Parties in their efforts to implement the CBD, particularly through the thematic Programmes of Work (POW) noting that their implementation will vary greatly in different regional situations, e.g. Small Islands Developing States (SIDS).

Effective implementation of the Convention and the new Strategic Plan

IUCN is of the view that the Convention's objectives can only be achieved through the adoption at the 10th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties of a robust post-2010 Strategic Plan. As mentioned in the IUCN position paper on the subject, a post-2010 Strategic Plan should include a Vision for 2050; a biodiversity target (Mission) for 2020; short term targets with milestones for 2015; and indicators to measure progress against these targets.

Targets should include consideration of biodiversity and ecosystem resilience, restoration, ecological and biological connectivity; ensure that the most important areas for biodiversity are conserved; and embrace all biomes and all taxonomic groups.

It is essential that the POWs and the decisions related to them be aligned to the Strategic Plan. To achieve such an alignment it is necessary for all POWs to include specific targets and to clearly state to which targets each will contribute to in the Strategic Plan, using consistent terminology. In addition, National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) should clearly state their input to the targets of the Strategic Plan and POWs. A strong commitment and support from the Executive Secretary, relevant partner organizations and the international donor community is needed for Parties to ensure that sufficient financial and technical capacity is available to implement effective and updated NBSAPs.

The discussions at this SBSTTA and WGRI offer an unparalleled opportunity to emphasize the links between biodiversity and today's global issues.

These include the need to strongly enhance communications about the value of biodiversity for climate change and adaptation. It is also crucial to fully embed biodiversity considerations into the development targets under the Millennium Development Goals. The development of innovative financial mechanisms is fundamental to ensuring sufficient resources are available to implement the convention. It is also essential to improve our understanding of the value of biodiversity as being fundamental to human survival on the planet. Studies such as The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) are contributing to this improved understanding of the value of biodiversity.

Regular assessments of the status of biodiversity and ecosystem services would significantly benefit implementation. Strengthening the science-policy links through processes such as the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), particularly in relation to evidence on the importance of biodiversity for improving the resilience of people and nature as well as for local and national development, livelihoods and human wellbeing, is essential.

SBSTTA 14

1. In-Depth review of the Implementation of the POW on the Biological Diversity of Inland Water Ecosystems (agenda item 3.1.2)

IUCN welcomes the opportunity presented by the In-depth Review of the Implementation of the Program of Work on the Biological Diversity of Inland Water Ecosystems to emphasize the importance of accelerating progress in this area. IUCN is deeply concerned about the continuing serious deterioration in the health of the biodiversity of inland water ecosystems as summarized in UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/3. The importance of securing water for biodiversity and for delivery of ecosystem services vital for development, as well as the impacts of climate change on water resources, underscores the need for urgent global, regional and national action.

IUCN strongly supports suggested recommendations in UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/3. If adopted, these will serve to accelerate implementation of the existing POW and to update it in essential areas.

Forging key linkages

Water security for ecosystems and people is widely agreed to be the primary natural resource challenge; water forges strong links between biodiversity and development; and water is the key natural resource link between the various Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and their targets, thus IUCN agrees

that creating the link between water, biodiversity and people with the MDGs is essential.

In this respect, IUCN calls on SBSTTA 14 to recommend that COP10 urges Parties to:

- ✓ Develop and implement national and regional action plans and policy frameworks to ensure enforcement of existing and future legal measures, to halt unsustainable utilization of inland water ecosystems, and to ensure biodiversity and ecosystem services are incorporated into management of water infrastructure and allocation of water resources.

Also, IUCN calls on SBSTTA 14 to recommend that COP10 urges Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to:

- ✓ Strengthen implementation of the POW including by increasing capacity for its implementation through institutional coordination, with particular emphasis on the contribution of the POW to the achievement of sustainable development, poverty alleviation and the Millennium Development Goals;
- ✓ Identify inland water key biodiversity areas of global conservation significance, in synergy with the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and other mechanisms, as target sites within national protected area gap analyses;
- ✓ Implement measures to avoid, reduce and mitigate the impact on biodiversity conservation and ecosystem services of dams, surface water diversions and abstraction of surface and ground waters;
- ✓ Address the alteration of water flows that will be detrimental to biodiversity, including through implementation of environmental flows in the planning and operation of dams and other water infrastructure; and
- ✓ Ensure contributions of ecosystem services from inland waters are accounted for in assessments of options for water infrastructure development and operation, and included in frameworks for investment.

IUCN emphasizes that governance is the biggest stumbling block to effective implementation of solutions to sustainable water allocation. Effective governance would facilitate the establishment of best practice policies and planning frameworks which in turn should help avoid the degradation of inland water ecosystems.

Recognition of the role that agriculture plays in driving such degradation is extremely important, particularly in the light of climate change and in

relation to the colossal consumption of water for agriculture. IUCN urges strengthened integration of biodiversity in policies and planning for sustainable agriculture, through appropriate water governance and increased efficiency and effective demand management in irrigated agriculture, as well as by accounting for economic values of ecosystem services in decisions over wetland conversion or diversion of river flows for agriculture.

Decision IX/2 on biofuels and biodiversity relevant to inland water biodiversity, which reflect the varying conditions of countries and regions, needs to take into account the impacts of the production and use of biomass for energy on inland water biodiversity and on indigenous and local communities.

Avoiding the degradation and destruction of wetlands can provide multiple benefits for biodiversity and help reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The accounting of degradation and restoration of peatlands should be considered under land use, land-use change, and forestry (LULUCF) regulations. Methodologies for the accounting and promotion of carbon storage and sequestration in wetlands (including peatlands) need to be developed and applied. This will open up many opportunities for financing inland waters conservation.

IUCN calls on SBSTTA14 to recommend that COP10:

- ✓ Notes that irrigation for agriculture worldwide accounts for more than 70% of use of inland waters and this colossal pressure will increase with climate change;
- ✓ Requests the Executive Secretary, in partnership with the FAO and in consultation with other relevant international organizations, to investigate ways and means to reduce water consumption for irrigation in agriculture, especially through measures to improve demand management and increase water use efficiency;
- ✓ Calls on UNFCCC Parties to incorporate, where relevant, wetlands (including peatlands) into the framework of LULUCF and apply best practice from water resources management to adaptation to climate change impacts on inland water ecosystems, including action to maintain and restore ecosystem services, capacity development and institutional strengthening.

2. In- Depth review of the Implementation of the POW on Marine and Coastal Biodiversity (agenda item 3.1.3)

IUCN welcomes the In-depth Review of the Implementation of the Program of Work on Marine

and Coastal Biological Diversity and emphasizes the extreme importance of accelerating progress. IUCN is deeply concerned about the continuing serious deterioration in the health of the ocean and its biodiversity as summarized in UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/4. The impacts of climate change and ocean acidification present new challenges, and underscore the need for urgent global, regional and national action.

IUCN strongly supports the suggested recommendations in UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/4. These recommendations will accelerate implementation of the existing Program of Work and update it in essential areas including: (i) improving the representation of biodiversity in the global system of marine and coastal protected areas (ii) strengthening biodiversity conservation in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction; (iii) addressing climate change and ocean acidification related aspects of marine biodiversity; (iv) strengthening application of the Ecosystem Approach; and (v) coordinating efforts on unsustainable fishing.

IUCN calls on SBSTTA 14 to recommend that COP10:

- ✓ Supports work under the United Nations to establish a legitimate and credible process for global reporting and assessment of the marine environment, drawing from existing data and processes such as the IUCN Red List Index, ensuring that synergies are made with IPBES.

In view of the fact that the Census of Marine Life is at the end of its ten-year cycle, it is particularly important that work continues under the United Nations to establish the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the Marine Environment, as called for in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation. The IUCN Red List Index, which serves as an official indicator for Millennium Development Goal #7, has already been calculated for corals, seabirds, whales and seals and will be an asset which becomes progressively more valuable here as work to assess marine species for the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (Global Marine Species Assessment) progresses.

In addition, IUCN calls on SBSTTA 14 to recommend that COP10:

- ✓ Agrees to encourage globally networked scientific efforts, such as the IUCN Red List Global Marine Species Assessment (GMSA), the Ocean Biogeographic Information System (OBIS), the Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative (GOBI), and developing a follow-up to the Census of Marine Life (CoML) including support to national and regional scale efforts.

As human impacts on marine biodiversity increase, it is critical that we monitor and quickly respond to changes. A comprehensive, accessible and continually expanding global database of life forms and their location in the sea is an essential tool.

Identification of ecologically and biologically significant areas and scientific and technical aspects relevant to EIAs in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction

IUCN welcomes the report of the Expert Workshop on Scientific and Technical Guidance on the Use of Biogeographic Classification Systems and Identification of Marine Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction in Need of Protection (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/INF/4, Annex V) and the report on the Global Open Oceans and Deep Seabed (GOODS) Biogeographic Classification UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/INF/10). These reports align well with the global process of consolidating standards for the identification of key biodiversity areas, and provide key building blocks for the protection of ecologically or biologically significant areas, ecosystem-based management, and representative networks of marine protected areas beyond national jurisdiction and may also be used to inform efforts within national jurisdiction and control.

In this respect, IUCN urges Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to:

- ✓ Collaborate to identify and protect ecologically or biologically significant areas, including by establishing representative networks of marine protected areas (MPAs) to ensure safeguard of marine key biodiversity areas, in accordance with international law, and agree to review progress at COP11.

The scientific criteria adopted at COP9 and the guidance developed at the Ottawa workshop for applying the scientific criteria provide a sound basis to begin the process of identifying areas in need of protection and appropriate management.

IUCN also urges Parties, in particular developed country Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations and initiatives to:

- ✓ Support capacity building activities and tools to facilitate Parties, in particular developing country Parties, to identify and protect ecologically or biologically significant areas within and beyond national jurisdiction, and to ensure that MPA networks are representative.

To this end, the Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative (GOBI) is an international partnership advancing the scientific basis for conserving biological diversity in

the deep seas and open oceans. Originating partners include CoML, OBIS, UNEP-WCMC, IUCN and MCBI. GOBI is facilitated by IUCN with support from the German government and drawing from IUCN's leadership of the IUCN Red List Global Marine Species Assessment. GOBI stands ready to assist in regional workshops, training manual and modules, and other capacity development activities.

There is an urgent need to substantially increase the coverage of MPAs in areas beyond national jurisdiction. A cooperative mechanism would facilitate the global recognition and establishment of MPAs (and other management measures) to conserve biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction. Sharing and updating relevant data will also to monitor progress in implementation of the CBD.

IUCN therefore further urges Parties and other Governments acting through the United Nations General Assembly to:

- ✓ Call on Parties to establish a cooperative mechanism to facilitate the global recognition and establishment of MPAs and other management measures to conserve biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction; and
- ✓ Share and update relevant information on their protected areas system with the World Database on Protected Areas which includes the United Nations list of Protected Areas.

Such a UNGA-based mechanism could help to improve cross-sectoral management by providing guiding principles, targets and objectives, and a global imprimatur of regional efforts.

IUCN urges Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to:

- ✓ Apply information and guidance in the Annexes to the Report of the Expert Workshop on Scientific and Technical Aspects relevant to Environmental Impact Assessment in Marine Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/INF/5), and cooperate to expedite urgently appropriate revisions to the relevant CBD Voluntary Guidelines.

Conservation measures related to fisheries are also needed; COP should promote engagement in international cooperative efforts to address the impact of fisheries on biodiversity.

In this respect, IUCN calls on SBSTTA14 to recommend that COP10 invites Parties, including through their participation in Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMO) to:

- ✓ Ratify the FAO agreement on Port States measures to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and to implement relevant FAO International Plans of Action; to develop national and international measures to mitigate the impacts of overcapacity of fishing fleets, destructive fishing practices, unsustainable fishing, and IUU fishing.

Impacts of ocean fertilization

The section on ocean fertilization should include an additional recommendation after paragraph 29 to recognize the critical importance of Resolution LC-LP.1 (2008), under which Parties to the London Convention and London Protocol agreed that "ocean fertilization activities other than legitimate scientific research should not be allowed", and include explicit recognition of the call of COP Decision IX/16C. A global regulatory mechanism must be in place before research activities involving ocean fertilization further proceeds. Work is underway under the London Convention and London Protocol to develop an Assessment Framework to determine which proposals constitute legitimate scientific research and to provide for their subsequent oversight and review.

IUCN urges Parties, other governments and relevant organizations to:

- ✓ Abide by the terms of Resolution LC-LP1 (2008) and ensure that scientific research activities involving ocean fertilization do not proceed until a "global, transparent and effective control and regulatory mechanism is in place for these activities" in accordance with CBD COP Decision IX/16 C.

3. In- Depth review of the Work on Biodiversity and Climate Change (agenda item 3.1.5)

IUCN welcomes the in-depth review of the cross cutting issue on biodiversity and climate change elaborated in UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/6. IUCN also welcomes the report of the 2nd AHTEG on Biodiversity and Climate Change, contained in CBD Technical Series 41, to which IUCN contributed technical expertise, and the two Addendums to UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/6.

In light of this, IUCN calls on SBSTTA 14 to encourage Parties to:

- ✓ Continue to explore synergies between efforts to address climate change and those to conserve and sustainably use biodiversity, and further recognize that mitigating climate change is a

central component of efforts to address biodiversity loss.

- ✓ More fully integrate climate change mitigation and adaptation into the full range of CBD Programmes of Work.

In addition, IUCN welcomes the recognition of the role that ecosystems play in both mitigating climate change through sequestering and storing carbon, and adapting to the adverse impacts of climate change through essential ecosystem services on which people depend for adaptation and resilience.

In this regard, IUCN calls for synergies to be made at national level between implementation of the CBD and efforts to address climate change through both mitigation and adaptation.

In particular, IUCN encourages SBSTTA 14 to recommend that COP10:

- ✓ Urges all Parties to ensure synergy between their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans and national climate adaptation and mitigation strategies, including ensuring that the ecosystem approach is applied where appropriate when implementing responses to climate change; and
- ✓ Requests Parties to be clear on the use of terminology relating to biodiversity and climate change, and to recognize three overarching relationships between biodiversity and climate change.

Firstly, biodiversity is affected by climate change, and therefore in addition to urgent greenhouse gas emission reductions, additional and urgent efforts should be made to reduce other threats to biodiversity (including overexploitation, habitat loss and fragmentation, pollution, and the spread of invasive alien species) to ensure that ecosystems are more resilient to the increasing threat posed by climate change. Secondly, biodiversity contributes to the mitigation of climate change, through sequestering and storing carbon in a range of terrestrial and marine ecosystems, including forests, peatlands and other wetlands. And thirdly, that biodiversity supports people in adapting to climate change through providing the ecosystem services on which people depend to reduce their vulnerability and enhance their capacity to adapt to change.

In addition, IUCN urges Parties to:

- ✓ Ensure that all interventions aimed at mitigating or adapting to climate change take account of and reduce any potential negative impacts on biodiversity, including through the application of the Ecosystem Approach where appropriate.

- ✓ Recognize that the application of the Ecosystem Approach in responses to climate change is different and additional to the application of Ecosystem-based Adaptation, which specifically refers to the important role that ecosystem services play in supporting people to adapt to climate change.

At the international level, IUCN recognizes the potential for increased collaboration between the CBD, the UNFCCC, UNCCD and other multilateral agreements addressing aspects of climate change mitigation and adaptation, biodiversity, ecosystem services and development, including the UN Forum on Forests, and the Ramsar Convention, and therefore strongly supports the establishment of a joint expert group to develop a joint work programme on biodiversity and climate change between the CBD and the UNFCCC and other relevant Conventions.

4. Biofuels and Biodiversity (agenda item 4.1.2)

IUCN recognizes the work of the Secretariat in compiling experiences in the development and application of tools relevant to the sustainable production and use of biofuels and information on monitoring the impacts of biofuels on biodiversity and people.

IUCN calls for SBSTTA14 to make the following recommendations to COP:

- ✓ Establish landscape planning frameworks (and supporting institutional capacity) to ensure the Ecosystem Approach is applied to biofuels plans, programmes and projects;
- ✓ Undertake pilot projects to provide evidence for such landscape planning frameworks;
- ✓ Develop and apply mechanisms for safeguarding sites of biodiversity conservation significance from the potential negative impacts of biofuels developments;
- ✓ Assess the impacts of biofuels in the context of broader agricultural impacts and other energy options, including fossil fuels; and
- ✓ Ensure that gender considerations are taken into account (based on the requirements established by the Gender Plan of Action approved in COP9 in Bonn) in institutional capacity building plans.

Invites the international donor community, particularly the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) to:

- ✓ Invest in landscape planning frameworks and institutional capacity building to enable the

application of the Ecosystem Approach to biofuels plans, programmes and projects in order to avoid impact on biodiversity from biofuels;

- ✓ Assist producers and authorities in developing countries producing feedstock to ensure the technical and institutional capacity is in place to achieve sustainability standards such as those of the Roundtable for Sustainable Biofuels.

Recommends the Executive Secretary to:

- ✓ Build on existing processes and experiences when developing the proposed toolkit to further assist Parties and relevant stakeholders in applying appropriate ways and means to promote biofuels production that is sustainable.

In addition, IUCN urges Parties to work with the private sector investing in biofuels developments to:

- ✓ Apply credible sustainability principles, criteria and practices which safeguard biodiversity, and livelihoods; and
- ✓ Collaborate in multi-stakeholder initiatives for developing sustainability standards for biofuels.

With regard to the proposed 'Conceptual Framework for ways and means to minimize the negative and maximize the positive impact of biofuels production and use on biodiversity' IUCN urges that SBSTTA14 recommends that Parties elaborate on the "environmentally sensitive planning and assessment approach" by:

- ✓ Recommending the application of robust tools for integrated land use planning which reduce the risk of biofuel production with regards to biodiversity values, (including human values), such as the Integrated Biodiversity Assessment Tool (IBAT), and the Integrated Landscape Performance Checklist;
- ✓ Integrating the conclusions of the Bioenergy and Biodiversity: Joint International Workshop on High Nature Value Criteria and Potential for Sustainable Use of Degraded Lands;
- ✓ Incorporating water management practices based on water regimes which maintain ecosystems and their benefits such as Environmental Flows;
- ✓ Including guidance on available standards and methodologies to identify indirect land-use impacts of biofuels;
- ✓ Managing the risks of biological invasion from species introduced for biofuels production as outlined in IUCN's Guidelines on Biofuels and Invasive Species.

- ✓ Including voluntary standards and certification schemes to manage the potential impacts of biofuels on biodiversity and people's livelihoods;

- ✓ Using the findings of the International Risk Governance Council work on bioenergy;

- ✓ Including UN Energy and the International Renewable Energy Agency in collaborations.

5. Invasive Alien Species (agenda item 4.4)

UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/16/Rev.1 presents gaps and inconsistencies that are still in the regulatory framework on Invasive Alien Species (IAS – see www.gisp.org). Extensive consultations (including a AHTEG) have taken place over the last five years on the risks from international trade in live animals and plants which include the introduction of species which may become invasive, or which may carry diseases or parasites that could damage native biodiversity. Recent discussions between related international conventions and organizations have taken this further resulting on two main suggested actions:

1. National risk assessments, incorporated into national policy and legislation may be part of the solution to this problem. Parties should define species posing potential risk which would be subject to review through a Pest Risk Assessment (PRA) before being considered for importation.

2. The pet and animal trade industries have suggested and some have adopted "self-regulation" through best practice guidelines for the industry and their customers to avoid biological invasions and disease outbreaks as a result of alien animal introductions. Both could be further discussed in a proposed AHTEG on the general topic.

IUCN encourages SBSTTA14 to recommend that COP10 calls upon Parties, relevant organizations and others, as appropriate, to:

- ✓ Use Pest Risk Assessments at national and regional levels as appropriate, and promote industry self-regulation; and
- ✓ Establish an AHTEG to take this matter further in discussion involving all relevant stakeholders, and suggest means, including practical guidance, to address the risks of invasive alien species introduced as pets, aquarium and terrarium species.

6. Incentive Measures (agenda item 4.6)

Economic incentives play an important role in the sustainable use and the conservation of biodiversity by governments, businesses and people across international, national and local levels. It is essential that economic incentives make it worthwhile, in both financial and livelihood terms, for people to maintain rather than degrade natural resources through economic activity.

IUCN strongly supports efforts to align economic incentives with the goals of the CBD. These efforts includes the removal or mitigation of 'perverse' incentives that contribute to the loss of biodiversity; the implementation of positive incentives; and more systematic use of economic valuation tools for environmental decision-making.

IUCN has actively contributed to background document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/17 and, in particular, to the compilation of case studies intended to showcase best practice cases in the removal of perverse incentives and the promotion of positive incentives for improved resource management.

IUCN agrees that many subsidies are environmentally harmful, costly and inefficient. This is perhaps most important for the fisheries sector as subsidies to that sector have caused overcapitalization in the industry with the serious consequence of the severe depletion of fish stocks globally.

IUCN thus recommends that SBSTTA14 requests COP10, Parties and others to:

- ✓ Urgently increase efforts to identify and remove those subsidies which create perverse incentives and which negatively affect biodiversity.

IUCN advocates the use of mechanisms to provide people with efficient incentives to manage resources sustainably. TEEB for Policy-Makers (D1) confirms that practical mechanisms rewarding the provision of ecosystem services and promoting the greening of supply chains are now available and should be implemented more widely.

Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES) schemes can leverage the economic benefits of ecosystem services efficiently and equitably through direct payments and tax incentives, or by stimulating markets for goods and services with positive environmental impacts.

Green markets for biodiversity-friendly goods can stimulate the adoption of new production and processing methods that are cleaner, greener and more equitable, while also promoting the continued

provision of ecosystem services (TEEB D1, Ch. 5). It is the role of governments to provide a robust enabling framework, including incentives for markets to develop, tax and fiscal measures, and reform of environmental liability, as well as property rights.

In light of this, IUCN recommends that SBSTTA14:

- ✓ Encourages Parties and others to promote PES and related positive incentive mechanisms at all levels and to monitor closely the performance of these schemes in terms of the provision of ecosystem services, poverty, gender, and other important socio-economic factors.

While there are a growing number of successful PES schemes at the local and national level, there remains a need to scale up PES to the international level. Many of the benefits of sustainable ecosystem management accrue at a global level, while costs mainly fall on local resource users. Hence there is a need for new and additional international transfers of financial and other resources to support biodiversity conservation and ecosystem restoration, especially in the least developed countries.

Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation and related initiatives (REDD plus) provides a significant opportunity to provide incentives for forest conservation, sustainable forest management and the enhancement of forest carbon stocks, both nationally and internationally. REDD plus also provides important opportunities for biodiversity conservation, through the bundling of ecosystem services.

Similarly, proposals for a new Green Development Mechanism (GDM) are being developed as a complement to existing international biodiversity financing arrangements and to enable the private sector to play a more significant role in filling the biodiversity funding gap.

IUCN recommends that SBSTTA14 calls on COP10 to:

- ✓ Request Parties and others to further develop, pilot and promote international PES schemes, focusing initially on REDD plus and other initiatives with potential for biodiversity benefits, while also exploring the need and potential for new international biodiversity financing mechanisms such as the Green Development Mechanism (GDM).

IUCN continues to advocate the use of economic valuation tools for environmental decision-making. The work of TEEB has demonstrated clearly that the economic value of biodiversity and ecosystems is significant but still poorly recognized and inadequately reflected in public and private decisions. In order to build support for and guide

efforts to reduce ecosystem degradation and halt biodiversity loss, more information and wider understanding is needed of the local and global benefits of ecosystem services, as well as the full costs of restoration and conservation. Economic valuation is a tool that is increasingly being applied in the private sector, for example through the World Business Council for Sustainable Development's Ecosystem Valuation Initiative, in which IUCN is a partner. This and other similar initiatives show the business case for sustainable resource management for companies that rely and have impacts on ecosystem services.

IUCN recommends that SBSTTA14 calls on COP10 to:

- ✓ Encourage Parties and others to further develop, pilot and promote work on economic valuation of environmental goods and services, and to encourage activities that improve the understanding and integration of valuation results in public and private decision-making.

WGRI3

7. In-Depth review of goals 1 and 4 of the Strategic Plan (including engagement with the private sector) (agenda item 3.2)

IUCN welcomes the In-depth Review of goals 1 and 4 of the Strategic Plan and supports continued efforts to engage the private sector in the implementation of the Convention.

IUCN has supported implementation of COP decisions VIII/17 and IX/26, by convening leading multinationals from the mining, oil and gas, food and beverage, agriculture and tourism sectors to facilitate participation of business in the global conservation agenda.

Furthermore, IUCN has continued to support bilateral partnerships with private companies to develop sector-specific approaches and tools for reducing risks and increasing investment in biodiversity. IUCN is committed to partner with the private sector to help mobilize new and additional resources to implement the CBD, including through promotion of voluntary commitments to no-net-loss and net-positive-impact on biodiversity, as articulated in the Jakarta Charter agreed at the Third Business and 2010 Biodiversity Challenge Conference, held in Jakarta, Indonesia, from 30 November to 2 December 2009.

To support business engagement in the run-up to COP10, IUCN, in partnership with the WBCSD, will provide a platform to facilitate private sector inputs into the Convention's processes. To this end, IUCN is consulting business stakeholders to capture views

on the post-2010 targets and other key topics. IUCN and WBCSD intend to convene a Business and Ecosystem Day during COP10, for business leaders and governments to discuss and agree practical steps towards the effective implementation of TEEB recommendations.

IUCN calls on WGRI3 to:

- ✓ Agree on ways to promote the participation of business in the implementation of the new Strategic Plan;

IUCN also urges WGRI3 to recommend that COP10:

- ✓ Calls on governments to develop policies that create an enabling environment to incentivize and reward those businesses that address biodiversity considerations in their practices, building on the concepts of No Net Loss and Net Positive Impact on biodiversity.

8. Implementation of the Strategy for Resource Mobilization (including innovative financial mechanisms and guidance to the GEF) (agenda item 6)

The resources currently devoted to biodiversity conservation are insufficient. It is essential to broaden the range of active contributors to biodiversity conservation efforts, at all levels, in order to mobilize new and additional resources, including human, financial and technical capacities. A key priority is to attract more support from the private sector for implementing the CBD.

Many of the benefits provided by biodiversity are still overlooked and under-valued. This economic invisibility discourages many stakeholders from participating more actively in conservation efforts. Findings from the on-going study of The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB) will help to highlight the economic benefits of conserving biodiversity and related development opportunities.

Resource mobilization can be augmented by establishing and strengthening systems of PES. There is significant scope to mobilize new and additional resources for conservation through application of the 'beneficiary pays' principle.

Beneficiaries of ecosystem services should be encouraged to pay for the use, conservation and/or restoration of ecosystems. Particular attention should be paid to developing payments and/or markets for un-priced ecosystem services, notably habitat conservation and regulating services identified in the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (e.g. erosion control; nutrient cycling; water filtration). It is, however, essential to ensure that such schemes are

aligned with broader poverty reduction and rural development objectives.

IUCN recommends that WGRI3:

- ✓ Encourages Parties and others to broaden support for biodiversity conservation, by looking beyond traditional donors to the private sector, and by further developing the economic case for investing in ecosystem restoration and conservation.

REDD plus policies and measures provide significant opportunities to mobilize new resources for forest conservation, sustainable forest management and the enhancement of forest carbon stocks as mentioned above. Proposals for climate mitigation through the conservation and restoration of wetlands and sustainable management of drylands, and for a GDM, should also be supported.

Additional resources for restoration and conservation can be mobilized by extending the 'polluter-pays' principle to biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation. In practice, financial resources may be mobilized through environmental taxes and fees and the development of compensatory schemes, such as restoration, biodiversity offsets and mitigation banking, whereby negative environmental impacts are compensated by investments in landscape / seascape protection and restoration. Such investments could be leveraged from both private and public sources, and have the potential to achieve broader benefits, notably by generating local employment while enhancing ecological resilience.

IUCN urges WGRI3 to recommend that COP10:

- ✓ Calls on Parties and others to adopt, implement and monitor market-based mechanisms for biodiversity conservation, such as eco-labeling,

biodiversity offsets and PES, and to accelerate efforts to develop, promote and pilot new finance mechanisms with conservation benefits, such as REDD plus and the proposed GDM.

The Global Environment Facility is the financial mechanism of the Convention and the largest source of international public funding to support developing countries to conserve biodiversity. IUCN is extremely concerned that the GEF Council (May 2010) decided, in relation to the fifth replenishment of the GEF, to reduce its support to biodiversity in relation to other focal areas. Our greatest concern is that, by doing so, the chances of the GEF being able to support the activities and policy changes that would allow for achieving the targets set for a post-2010 period are very slim. The fact that the GEF 4-year cycles do not correspond with the programme and planning cycle of the Convention makes matters more complicated. Furthermore, the propagation of alternative funds focusing specifically on climate change (e.g. World Bank CIF, UNFCCC Adaptation Fund, etc.) requires enhanced coordination to enable a more coherent approach to supporting integrated nature-based solutions.

IUCN urges WGRI to strongly encourage Parties and the GEF Council to:

- ✓ Explore mechanisms through which additional funds can be allocated to the GEF during the period within replenishments;
- ✓ Build on experience gained through the allocation of funds such as those allocated for REDD, with the view to increase funds for the implementation of the Strategic Plan; and
- ✓ Coordinate dissemination of funds from the GEF and other funds.