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REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY TO THE COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES AT ITS FOURTEENTH SESSION

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 14), the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (CP COP-MOP 9), and the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing (NP COP-MOP 3) were held concurrently in Sharm el Sheikh, Egypt, from 17 to 29 November 2018. The high-level segment was held on 14 and 15 November 2018. An African Ministerial Summit was held on 13 November 2018. Collectively, the meetings were known as the 2018 United Nations Biodiversity Conference.

2. Section II of this report contains a summary of the outcomes of the United Nations Biodiversity Conference of relevance to the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and its Contracting Parties. Section III of the report provides information on the collaborative activities between the secretariats of IPPC and CBD undertaken in the context of their joint work plan 2017-2018 during the intersessional period between the thirteenth and the fourteenth sessions of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures.

II. A SUMMARY OF THE OUTCOMES OF THE UNITED NATIONS BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE 2018 OF RELEVANCE TO THE INTERNATIONAL PLANT PROTECTION CONVENTION

A. Updated assessment of progress towards selected Aichi Biodiversity Targets and options to accelerate progress

12. In decision 14/1,¹ noting the need to enhance political, technical and financial support, technology transfer, and capacity-building, the Conference of the Parties urged Parties and invited other Governments, in accordance with national circumstances, and invited indigenous peoples and local communities, relevant organizations, including from the private sector, and other relevant stakeholders to take urgent action by 2020 to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The indicative actions in this decision relevant to IPPC and its Contracting Parties are as follows:

(a) To eliminate, phase out or reform perverse incentives that contribute to biodiversity degradation and develop and apply positive incentives that reward the adoption of sustainable practices in harmony with the Convention and other international obligations, taking into account national socioeconomic conditions (Target 3 on incentives);

(b) Noting that, while the annual rate of net forest loss has been halved, further efforts to address regional forest degradation and deforestation are needed and further efforts are needed to reduce the loss and degradation of other ecosystems (Target 5 on habitats including forests);

(c) To promote the conservation and sustainable use of soil biodiversity, such as by contributing to the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity coordinated by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and improve enforcement and monitoring of sustainable forest management and the sustainability of timber trade, particularly in developing countries and tropical regions (Target 7 on sustainable agriculture, forestry and fisheries);

(d) To place more focus on preventing the spread of invasive alien species and to eradicate those already established (Target 9 on invasive alien species);

(e) Noting that the number of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture secured in ex situ conservation facilities shows an increase, enhance actions to avoid further reduction in genetic variation

¹ Decision 14/1 (<https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-14/cop-14-dec-01-en.pdf>)

among breeds of farmed and domesticated animals, and promote in situ conservation in centres of origin and genetic diversity (Target 13 on genetic diversity);

(f) To step up the implementation of the short-term action plan on ecosystem restoration,² drawing on the findings of the Assessment Report on Land Degradation and Restoration of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) and noting the Pan African Action Agenda on Ecosystem Restoration for Increased Resilience,³ endorsed at the African Ministerial Summit on Biodiversity 2018⁴ (Target 14 on ecosystem services and Target 15 on ecosystem restoration);

(g) To increase efforts in the protection of and respect for traditional knowledge and make use of information contained in the *Local Biodiversity Outlooks*,⁵ inter alia, on the customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities, to contribute to updated reporting on progress in the implementation of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (Target 18 on traditional knowledge);

(h) Further promote and facilitate the mobilization of open-access biodiversity-related data and information, considering the voluntary guidance to improve the accessibility of biodiversity data and information (Target 19 on knowledge/information sharing).

B. Invasive alien species

3. In decision 14/11,⁶ the Conference of the Parties welcomed the Supplementary Voluntary Guidance for Avoiding Unintentional Introduction of Invasive Alien Species Associated with Trade in Live Organisms. Under this guidance the sanitary and phytosanitary measures applicable for avoiding unintentional introductions are referred to, and additional voluntary measures for stakeholders involved in the value chain of trade in live organisms are indicated, which include:

- (a) Conformity with existing international standards and other guidance relevant to invasive alien species;
- (b) Responsible preparation of consignments of live organisms;
- (c) Condition of packing containers/consignment;
- (d) Condition of materials associated within packing containers;
- (e) Treatment of by-products, waste, waters and media;
- (f) Condition of carrier conveyances;
- (g) Role of States and importers/receivers of live organisms;
- (h) Monitoring;
- (i) Other matters.

4. In the same decision 14/11, the Conference of the Parties further requested the Executive Secretary to explore with the Secretariat of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, the World Customs Organization and the Inter-agency Liaison Group on Invasive Alien Species the possibility of developing a system of classification and labelling, consistent and in harmony with international agreements, for

² Decision XIII/5, annex.

³ <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/274b/80e7/34d341167178fe08effd0900/cop-14-afr-hls-04-final-en.pdf>

⁴ <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/274b/80e7/34d341167178fe08effd0900/cop-14-afr-hls-04-final-en.pdf>

⁵ <https://www.cbd.int/gbo/gbo4/publication/lbo-en.pdf>

⁶ Decision 14/11 on invasive alien species, with supplementary voluntary guidance for avoiding unintentional introduction of invasive alien species associated with trade in live organisms, <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-14/cop-14-dec-11-en.pdf>

consignments of living organisms that pose a hazard or risk to biological diversity related to invasive alien species, supplementary to and in line with existing international standards.

5. With regard to management measures on invasive alien species to be implemented by broad sectors to facilitate achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 and beyond, the Conference of the Parties decided to establish the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on Invasive Alien Species. Prior to the AHTEG meeting, a moderated open online discussion forum to support the deliberations of the AHTEG will be convened. The online discussion forum will be open to experts in phytosanitary measures and relevant stakeholders in 2019.

C. Capacity-building and technical and scientific cooperation

6. In decision 14/24,⁷ The Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to continue to identify synergies and areas of cooperation with the Rio Conventions and biodiversity-related conventions in order to support joint capacity-building activities for consideration in the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and organize, in conjunction with the preparatory process for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, regional and stakeholder-specific consultative workshops and online discussion forums to enable Parties to the Convention and Parties to its Protocols, as well as indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant organizations, including women's and youth organizations, to contribute to the preparation of the draft long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020.

7. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to commission a study to provide an information base for the preparation of the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020. It also requested the Executive Secretary to further promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation, in particular the promotion of cooperation on areas such as remote sensing, scenario analyses and modelling, values of biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, and training in DNA technologies, such as DNA barcoding for rapid species identification in countries and regions concerned within the context of the Global Taxonomy Initiative.

D. Cooperation with other conventions, international organizations and initiatives

8. In decision 14/30,⁸ the Conference of the Parties urged Parties and other Governments, other organizations, conventions and stakeholders, to consider possible new areas and approaches to advance the implementation of biodiversity commitments through enhanced cooperation as part of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and to take into account lessons learned from existing cooperation, including with organizations and networks representing indigenous peoples and local communities, youth, women, academia and local authorities, as part of the process of developing the post-2020 biodiversity framework.

9. In paragraph 12 of decision 14/30, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary and the co-chairs of the open-ended working group on the preparation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework established through decision 14/34, subject to the availability of resources, to organize a workshop in early 2019, to facilitate, as appropriate, discussions among Parties of the various biodiversity-related conventions to explore ways in which the conventions can contribute to the elaboration of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and, based on the respective mandate of each convention, to identify specific elements that could be included in the framework. It also invited the members of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions to participate in the workshop, which should aim to enhance synergies and to strengthen cooperation among the biodiversity-related conventions, without prejudice to their specific objectives and recognizing their respective mandates and subject to the availability of resources for these conventions, with a view to enhancing their participation in the design of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

⁷ <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-14/cop-14-dec-24-en.pdf>

⁸ <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-14/cop-14-dec-30-en.pdf>

10. In paragraph 22 of the same decision, the Conference of the Parties expressed its appreciation for the effective cooperation of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations with the Convention. In paragraph 24, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to continue to work with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to promote mainstreaming biodiversity in the agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors.

E. Comprehensive and participatory process for the preparation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

11. In decision 14/34,⁹ the Conference of the Parties adopted the preparatory process for the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and requested the Executive Secretary to facilitate implementation of the process. It decided that the post-2020 global biodiversity framework should be accompanied by an inspirational and motivating 2030 mission as a stepping stone towards the 2050 Vision “Living in harmony with nature”. It established an open-ended intersessional working group to undertake the negotiations to develop the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and it recognized the importance of involving other biodiversity-related conventions in the process for the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

12. The elements of the work to develop post-2020 global biodiversity framework will be guided by the co-chairs of the open-ended working group and overseen by the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties. As a first step in developing the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, a discussion document summarizing and analysing the initial views of Parties and observers has been made available.¹⁰ Parties and observers are encouraged to provide to the Secretariat their views on this document as well as any other views on the scope and content of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework by 15 April 2019. A series of regional, global and thematic consultation meetings will be held to help inform the work of the open-ended intersessional working group, including a workshop among biodiversity-related conventions to be held in 2019.

III. COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES OF THE TWO SECRETARIATS RELATED TO THE PHYTOSANITARY AND OTHER SETS OF MEASURES FOR BIODIVERSITY

A. Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions

13. The thirteenth ordinary meeting of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions was hosted by the World Heritage Centre at the Headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in Paris on 18 and 19 September 2018. The Secretariat of IPPC was unable to participate in this meeting. Representatives of each of the members of the Liaison Group participated at the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and prepared and delivered joint statements on behalf of the Liaison Group on relevant items of the agenda. The Liaison Group organized a high-level event, “The Living Planet – the foundation of sustainable development: Contribution of the biodiversity-related conventions to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals”, in New York on 17 July 2018, in the margins of the United Nations High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, at which IPPC was represented by Mr. Francisco Javier Trujillo Arriaga, Chairperson of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures.

B. The Inter-agency Liaison Group on Invasive Alien Species

14. The ninth meeting of the Inter-agency Liaison Group on Invasive Alien Species (Liaison Group) was co-hosted by the International Civil Aviation Organization and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity in Montreal, Canada, on 9 and 10 July 2018.¹¹ At the meeting, information was

⁹ <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-14/cop-14-dec-34-en.pdf>

¹⁰ <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/de9c/8c12/7c0cb88a47f9084e5d0b82eb/post2020-prep-01-inf-01-en.pdf>

¹¹ Report of the ninth meeting of the Inter-agency Liaison Group on Invasive Alien Species to be posted at <http://cbd.int/invasive/lg/>

exchanged on standards, guidance and tools to assist Parties to each Convention or agreement that are relevant to management of invasive alien species, which include:

- (a) The Supplementary Voluntary Guidance for Avoiding Unintentional Introductions of Invasive Alien Species Associated with Trade in Live Organisms approved by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at its twenty second meeting (CBD);
- (b) Outstanding guidelines for preventing the transport and introduction of invasive alien species by air (ICAO);
- (c) The work programmes of sea and air containers (IPPC);
- (d) The task force activities on e-commerce (IPPC);
- (e) The implementation of Phase I (a period to gather information) of the International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments (BWM Convention);
- (f) Capacity-building on management of biofouling, the GloFouling Partnership (IMO);
- (g) A new Invasive Species Compendium with horizon scanning information (CABI);
- (h) The Global Register of Introduced and Invasive Species, GRIIS (GBIF, IUCN, IUCN-ISSG);
- (i) Transboundary shipments of insects: current and emerging issues (Centre for Environmental Policy, Imperial College London).

15. At the same meeting, the Liaison Group unanimously agreed to formally invite the World Customs Organization to the Liaison Group as a member, and the terms of reference for the Liaison Group to be amended on its member list. The rest of the text of the terms of reference remains the same.

C. Other Invasive Alien Species related initiatives

16. The Secretariat of CBD organized a series of trainings on the application of DNA barcoding (GTI-DNA-tech) for rapid identification of priority species, including quarantine pests, invasive alien species, endangered species and other species of biodiversity concern in 10 developing countries/regions¹² from April 2018 to March 2019. The Secretariat of IPPC was invited and facilitated one of the training courses, held in August 2018 at the national plant protection organization in Sri Lanka. The training course included a project formulation training for the sustainability of application of DNA barcoding in the country in a cross-sectoral manner. In addition, the Secretariat of CBD, in collaboration with the United Nations Developing Programme country office in Sri Lanka, convened a cross-sectoral meeting of senior officials and in-country experts to formulate a national programme to address the issue of invasive alien species, envisioning preparation by the Party for harmonized sister projects to be supported by the seventh cycle of the Global Environment Facility and the Standard Trade Development Facility.

17. The Secretariat of CBD organized a side event on invasive alien species in collaboration with the IPPC Secretariat and the International Union for Conservation of Nature on the margins of the United Nations Biodiversity Conference in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, on 19 November 2019.

18. The Secretariat of CBD reviewed the guide on pest risk communication produced by the International Advisory Group on Pest Risk Analysis (IAGPRA)¹³ in 2018 with a view to the facilitation of pest risk communication among biodiversity stakeholders, including indigenous peoples and local communities.

¹² <http://www.cbd.int/gti/>

¹³ <https://www.ippc.int/en/external-cooperation/organizations-page-in-ipp/internationaladvisorygrouppestriskanalysis/>

19. The Secretariat of CBD produced and published a short promotion video on the International Year of Plant Health. The video is accessible via twitter with #IYPH2020 #IYPH or directly at <https://twitter.com/UNBiodiversity/status/1087810903247081473>.
