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REPORT OF THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY TO THE ELEVENTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON PHYTOSANITARY MEASURES

INTRODUCTION

1. This report provides information on the collaborative activities between the Secretariats of the IPPC and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) conducted during the inter-sessional period between the tenth and eleventh Sessions of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures.

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

A. Collaboration on Implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity

2. At its twelfth meeting the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) requested the Executive Secretary to transmit the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO4) to the secretariats of the biodiversity-related conventions, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, other relevant organizations and the General Assembly of the United Nations and to bring the main findings of the report to the attention of these bodies (decision XII/1). In response to this decision the Secretariat of the CBD participated the tenth session of the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (CPM) and disseminated the summary booklet of the GBO4.

3. Pursuant to decision XII/30 on the financial mechanism, the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity invited the IPPC Secretariat to provide any advice concerning the funding of the national priorities on implementation of the IPPC that may be referred to the Global Environment Facility through the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity. The Executive Secretary then established a dedicated webpage (<https://www.cbd.int/financial/blg.shtml>) to promote sharing of relevant information on the financial mechanism. A survey on national funding priorities for the seventh replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund was conducted by the Team of Five Experts on assessing funding needs. The result showed that some 20% of the submitted 373 (potential) projects contain the elements related to the IPPC and other biodiversity-related conventions

B. Collaboration in the framework of the liaison group of biodiversity-related conventions

4. The tenth ordinary meeting of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-Related Conventions¹ was held at the International Environment House in Geneva, Switzerland on 16 September 2015. The report of the meeting is available on the CBD website.²

¹The Convention on Biological Diversity, Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, International Plant Protection Convention, International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat and the World Heritage Convention.

² Minutes of the Tenth Ordinary Meeting of the Liaison Group of the Biodiversity-Related Conventions, 16 September 2015, Geneva, Switzerland, <https://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/biodiv/brcws-2016-01/other/brcws-2016-01-blg-10-minutes-en.pdf>

5. From 17 to 18 September 2015, at the same location, the members of the Liaison Group participated in a meeting of the informal advisory group that was established by the CBD COP through decision XII/6 to prepare a workshop with the task to prepare options which could include elements for a possible road map, for Parties of the various biodiversity-related conventions to enhance synergies and improve efficiency among them, without prejudice to the specific objectives and recognizing the respective mandates and subject to the availability of resources of these conventions, with a view to enhancing their implementation at all levels. The meeting was held to develop the scope and organization of the workshop. Representatives of the secretariats of the biodiversity-related conventions, including IPPC and CBD, also participated in preparatory meetings of the informal advisory group held by audio and video conference on 30 June 2015, 30 July 2015, 9 September 2015, 3 December 2015 and 3 February 2016.

6. The Workshop on Synergies among the Biodiversity-Related Conventions was held from 8 to 11 February 2016 at the United Nations Office at Geneva, Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland³. The workshop brought together representatives of the Parties to each of the seven biodiversity-related conventions, including members of the bureau, standing committee or equivalent body of the conventions. The members of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-Related Conventions as well as other international organizations also participated in this workshop to assist the Parties in their work. The workshop developed options for action to enhance synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions in the following eight broad thematic areas: I. the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020, the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and national biodiversity strategies and action plans; II. Institutional arrangements and coordination mechanisms; III. Information and knowledge management; IV. National reporting, monitoring and indicators; V. Communication and awareness-raising; VI. Science–policy interface; VII. Capacity-building and; VIII. Resource mobilization and utilization. The report of the workshop, together with a note by the Executive Secretary regarding options for enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions, will be considered by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity at its first meeting to be held from 2 to 6 May 2016. The report of the workshop together with the recommendations of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation will further be considered by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting in December 2016.

C. Invasive alien species

7. The sixth meeting of the inter-agency liaison group on invasive alien species was held at the headquarters of the International Maritime Organization in London, UK from 31 March to 1 April in 2015⁴. The meeting reviewed and updated the relevant guidance and capacity development activities conducted by the members of the group to address the issue of invasive alien species, which include recent updates of IMO/ILO/UNECE Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Unit (CTU Code). The liaison group on invasive alien species received information on the potential of International Year of Plant Health (IYPH) in 2020 from the IPPC Secretariat and the liaison group expressed their willingness to collaborate for its successful implementation when the IYPH is formally established.

8. In response to paragraph 11 of decision IX/4 A, paragraphs 8 and 13 of decision XI/28 on the requested collaborative works by the Conference of the Parties to the CBD among the Secretariats of the relevant organizations on the international regulatory framework related to invasive alien species, and in

³Documents of the Workshop on Synergies among the Biodiversity-Related Conventions, 8 to 11 February 2016, Geneva, Switzerland, are available on the CBD website at <https://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=BRCWS-2016-01>

⁴ Report of the 6th meeting of the inter-agency liaison group on invasive alien species <https://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/ais/iaslg-05/official/iaslg-05-report-en.pdf>

collaboration with the Secretariat of the IPPC in accordance with paragraph 2 of decision XII/16 on addressing the risks associated with introduction of alien species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food, the Executive Secretary submitted a topic on a commodity specific standard that is required to address the risks above to the Secretariat of the IPPC in August 2015. The Secretariat of the CBD received an information that the topic was subjected to the discussion of the Standing Committee of the IPPC; however the proposed draft specification on “Guidelines for the export, shipping, handling, import and disposal of live organisms as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as bait and food” was not adopted by the Committee.

9. In response to decision XII/16 and XII/17 of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD, the Executive Secretary invited the Secretariat of the IPPC to the expert meeting that was held in Montreal, Canada from 28 to 30 October 2015 in order to address the risks associated with trade in wildlife, including e-commerce, biological control agents against invasive alien species, and development of decision support tools on invasive alien species management. The result of the meeting⁵ will be considered at its twentieth meeting of Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to be held in Montreal, Canada from 25 to 30 April 2016⁶.

10. On the margins of sixty-fifth Regular Meeting of the Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures held on 16-17 March 2016 at the World Trade Organization in Geneva, Switzerland, the Secretariat of the CBD organized an Information Session on International Guidance on Reduction of Risks Associated with Live Species Trade in collaboration with the Secretariats of the IPPC and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE). The session concluded that further collaboration between the Secretariats and among members to address invasive alien species, in particular on the issues emerging with trade in wildlife on e-commerce and development of needed capacity in all relevant stakeholders.

D. Capacity-building activities to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 9

11. In support of the Capacity-building Strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative (annex to decision XI/29⁷) the “Global Taxonomy Initiative Training Course on Rapid Identification of Invasive Alien Species for Achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 9” took place in 2015 with 8 weeks of distant education course (April-May) and 4 week (July-August) of laboratory training for trainers. The CBD Secretariat provided basic information on application of sanitary and phytosanitary measures to minimize the risk of biological invasions envisaging that the trained experts collaborate with national and regional plant protection organizations after the training course accomplished.

E. Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

12. During the inter-sessional period there was no collaborative activities conducted on the matters related to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

⁵ The report of the expert meeting <http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/ais/iasem-2015-01/official/iasem-2015-01-06-en.doc>

⁶ UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/20/7 <http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/sbstta/sbstta-20/official/sbstta-20-07-en.pdf>

⁷ Decision XI/29 the Global Taxonomy Initiative <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-11/cop-11-dec-29-en.pdf>