

Global Biodiversity Sub-Committee (GBSC)

Information paper

Post-2010 global biodiversity targets and indicators: update on activities

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Information paper for the Global Biodiversity Sub-committee of the Global Environmental Change Committee

Post-2010 global biodiversity targets and indicators: update on activities

A successor to the global 2010 biodiversity target will be discussed and agreed at the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 10) in October 2010. CBD COP 10 will be informed by preparatory work that has taken place regionally, nationally and globally, as well as specific preparatory undertaken by the CBD Working Group on Review of Implementation (WGRI) which will meet in May 2010. From a UK perspective, some of the more notable work that will feed into CBD COP 10 includes the EU consideration of a post 2010 target, and a global meeting to discuss post-2010 CBD planning in London in January 2010 co-hosted by the UK and Brazilian Governments.

The EU considerations of a post-2010 target will harness a vast amount of preparatory activities and meetings such as Athens, Siracusa, Stromstad, EPBRS, work by the European Network of Conservation Agencies (ENCA), Nature Directors and more. The final discussions will most likely take place in the Working Party for International Environment Issues (WPIEI) – Biodiversity whose final conclusions will be put before the European Council of Ministers. European discussions should conclude before CBD COP 10.

Emerging proposals from UNEP

An international workshop to review the indicators used by the CBD to assess progress towards the 2010 target, and to consider further development of indicators to assess potential post-2010 targets, was hosted by Defra in Reading in July 2009. The workshop was organised by UNEP-WCMC with support from UNEP, the European Commission and JNCC. The workshop results have been published¹ and are being used to inform the subsequent steps of the post-2010 target preparatory process.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in collaboration with the Secretariat to the Convention on Biological Diversity (SCBD) and Countdown 2010 organised an expert meeting (2-3 October 2009, Nairobi) to provide some specific inputs into the design and development of post-2010 biodiversity targets based on the reflections of recommendations and outcomes of various previous meetings. Draft recommendations on future biodiversity targets beyond 2010 are now available (see attached paper): these will be refined and published in the near future.

Emerging proposals from EU

The European Platform for Biodiversity Research Strategy (EPBRS) held a meeting on research needs for the post-2010 target under the Swedish Presidency in Visby in October 2009. Preparation for the meeting included an e-conference, chaired by JNCC chairman Peter Bridgewater. The e-conference report and recommendations of the meeting have been published².

¹ <http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/ind/emind-02/official/emind-02-0709-10-workshop-report-en.pdf>

² <http://www.epbrs.org/epbrs/news/show/14>

The EU Co-ordination Group for Biodiversity and Nature discussed the Development of post-2010 biodiversity policy at its 6th meeting on 16th October 2009. The support paper for these discussions is attached, but as yet there are no published outcomes from this meeting.

Future important events leading up to CBD COP 10

November 2009 – CBD publish draft proposal for a new Strategic Plan which will include proposals for draft +2010 targets.

18-20 Jan 2010 – UK-Brazil post-2010 meeting: an international event on the proposals for the new CBD Strategic Plan, including development of post-2010 biodiversity targets.

25-27 Jan 2010 – Spanish Biodiversity Conference; will consider development of EU +2010 targets.

1-5 Feb 2010 – Trondheim Biodiversity conference, Norway.

Feb 2010 – CBD publish draft updated Strategic Plan as a pre-session document for WGRI 3 and SBSTTA 14. Strategic Plan contains a revised biodiversity target, as well as a multi-year programme of work.

15-19 March 2010 – EU preparatory meeting for SBSTTA14, Vilm. Meeting will consider draft SBSTTA papers and develop EU positions.

May 2010 – Launch of Global Biodiversity Outlook 3 (GBO3) on 22 May 2010, International Biodiversity Day.

May 2010 – SBSTTA 14 will consider findings from GBO3 including on the progress against the goals, targets and associated indicators of the 2010 target, and make recommendations on a post-2010 framework of goals, targets and indicators (all part of the Strategic Plan). The meeting also has a full agenda of in depth reviews of programmes of work, and will consider proposals on new and emerging issues, and the update of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation.

May 2010 – WGRI 3 (held directly following SBSTTA), will prepare a recommendation for COP10 on the revised and updated Strategic Plan.

September 2010 – A special session during the sixty-fifth session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 65) on 22 Sept will discuss biodiversity and give political momentum to the development of the post-2010 biodiversity target.

October 2010 – at its tenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties will consider and adopt the revised and updated Strategic Plan, including the post-2010 goals, targets and indicators.