

CONVENTION ON WETLANDS (Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

53rd Meeting of the Standing Committee

Gland, Switzerland, 29 May – 2 June 2017

SC53-15

Progress on implementing Resolution XI.6 on *Partnership and synergies with Multilateral Environmental Agreements and other institutions*

Actions requested:

The Standing Committee is invited to:

- i. take note of the progress report on implementing Resolution XI.6 on *Partnership and Synergies with Multilateral Environmental Agreements and other institutions* and the related Resolutions XII.3 and XII.7.
- ii. consider the transmission to the Global Environment Facility (GEF) through the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) of the elements of the Ramsar Strategic Plan (Annex 1 of this document) that are aligned to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the four-year framework of programme priorities (2018-2022) for the seventh replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund annexed to CBD Decision XIII/21.
- iii. provide elements of advice with respect to the involvement of the Secretariat on the actions foreseen in Annexes I and II of CBD Decision XIII/24, in particular on:
 - a) how it can support the implementation of the options for action by Parties contained in Annex I to the Decision; and
 - b) the entry of information missing from a table of desirable key actions associated with the road map for enhancing synergies at the international level from 2017 to 2020 contained in Annex II to the Decision.
- iv. express a clear mandate of the responsibility of the Convention as the provider of information on wetland extent and also as co-custodian with UNEP for Sustainable Development Goal indicator 6.6.1, in order that this instruction can be transmitted to UNEP and other relevant agencies.

Background

1. Resolution XII.3 (2015) on *Enhancing the languages of the Convention and its visibility and stature, and increasing synergies with other multilateral environmental agreements and other international institutions* instructed the Secretariat to report annually on progress in implementing Resolution XI.6 on *Partnership and synergies with Multilateral Environmental Agreements and other institutions* to the Standing Committee.
2. Paragraph 41 of Resolution XII.3 requested the Secretary General to report to the 13th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties (COP13) on the opportunities for the Convention

to further strengthen its contribution to the Post-2015 Sustainable Development Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), as they relate to wetlands.

3. Paragraph 43 of Resolution XII.3 instructed the Secretariat to continue working to strengthen collaboration with IUCN World Heritage Outlook, UNEP, UNEP-GRID, UNDP, UNESCO, Regional Economic Commissions of the UN, the World Bank, the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), The Global Environment Facility (GEF), the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) and others, and report on progress to the Standing Committee and the Contracting Parties on a regular basis.
4. The Secretariat is also requested, in paragraph 44, to continue its work with the Biodiversity Liaison Group (BLG) to enhance coherence and cooperation and to continue efforts to improve efficiency and reduce unnecessary overlap and duplication at all relevant levels among the biodiversity-related Conventions.
5. Resolution XII.7 (2015) on *Resource Mobilization and Partnership Framework of the Ramsar Convention*, in paragraph 21, requested the Secretariat to strengthen partnerships with other multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) such as *inter alia* the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), in order to enhance synergies and sharing of resources, avoid duplication and enhance implementation, respecting the mandate of each Convention, and requested the Secretariat to provide to the Standing Committee at its 51st meeting (SC51) a plan on how to increase cooperation with other MEAs, and to report regularly on its actions to the Standing Committee.
6. Resolution XII.7, in paragraph 14, requested the Standing Committee as a high priority task and with the committed assistance of the Secretariat and the Scientific and Technical Review Panel (STRP) to respond to the invitation from the Parties to the CBD to provide elements of advice, as appropriate, concerning funding of national and transboundary wetlands initiatives, that may be referred to the GEF through the Conference of the Parties to the CBD.
7. Decision XII/30 of the CBD (2014) invited the governing bodies of the MEAs to provide elements of advice, as appropriate, concerning guidance on funding that may be referred to the GEF through the Conference of the Parties to the CBD.
8. Accordingly this report covers the main activities undertaken in line with Resolutions XI.6, XII.3 and XII.7, and specifically those activities under the BLG and IPBES, and the progress made with SDGs, MEAs, UNEP, and other institutions.

Work under the Biodiversity Liaison Group and the scientific bodies of the biodiversity-related Conventions

9. The Ramsar Secretariat has continued to participate in the meetings and joint actions of the BLG according to its Plan for Joint Activities. The Secretariat participated in the meeting of the BLG in August 2016, in which key issues were discussed including:
 - Synergies among the biodiversity-related Conventions: Follow-up among the Conventions to the process initiated under CBD Decision XII/6, the Geneva workshop on synergies, recommendations of the first meeting of the CBD's Subsidiary Body on Implementation

(SBI-1), and expectations for COP17 of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and COP13 of the CBD;

- The BLG work plan for 2016/2017 and next meetings;
- The Second Meeting of the United Nations Environment Assembly: Outcomes of UNEA-2, and resolutions related to synergies;
- Indicators and monitoring under the SDGs, including of SDG 6 by UN-Water;
- The International Whaling Commission (IWC) and its contribution to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets as well as to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs; and
- IUCN's World Conservation Congress (IUCN-WCC) held in Hawaii, 1-8 September 2016.

CBD's Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice

10. The STRP Chair attended the 20th meeting of the CBD's Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA20). A number of themes of relevance to the Convention were discussed including: IPBES assessments, Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures, Invasive Alien Species, Disaster Risk Reduction and Restoration, and REDD+, among others.

Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

11. The STRP Chair attended the eighth meeting of the IPBES Multidisciplinary Expert Panel (MEP) from 25 to 27 October 2016 in Bonn, Germany. One finding from the meeting was the limited number of comments from the Ramsar community, including Contracting Parties, on the First Order Draft of the Land Degradation and Restoration (LDR) assessment. Of around 86 external LDR reviewers, only eight (including the STRP Chair) provided any comments on wetlands (see more detail in the Report of the STRP Chair, Doc.SC53-10). Contracting Parties are urged to encourage appropriate reviewers to provide input to the Second Order Draft that is expected to be available for review from 1 May to 21 June 2017.

Submission of proposals for the IPBES second work programme

12. Ramsar Resolution XII.2 (2015) requested the Secretariat "to submit to IPBES a request for a thematic assessment on the current status and trends of wetlands, including their condition". It is anticipated that IPBES-6 in March 2018 will be asked to approve a call for proposals for the second work programme. If that schedule holds, then the formal call for proposals will be issued shortly thereafter.
13. It is important to note that Decision SC47-24 (2014) approved these interim guidelines for Ramsar submissions to IPBES. Accordingly, it is the Standing Committee that decides which proposal or proposals to submit to IPBES. As recognized in the interim guidelines, "Due to timing constraints, it is likely that the proposals will need to be presented to Standing Committee members virtually and approval or comments provided within a short period." Therefore, the Ramsar Secretariat will work with the STRP Chair on a proposal to be submitted

for approval by the Management Working Group of the Standing Committee prior to submission to IPBES.

Memorandum of Understanding with IPBES

14. The Conference of the Parties in Resolution XII.3 instructed the Secretariat to continue working to strengthen collaboration with IPBES. In this regard, Decision IPBES-4/4 requested its Executive Secretary to finalize memoranda of cooperation with the secretariats of the individual MEAs related to biodiversity and ecosystem services. The resulting MOU has been discussed among both Secretariats and it has been submitted for the consideration and approval of the Standing Committee and the Management Working Group intersessionally. The Executive Team agreed at its meeting of 22-23 February 2017 to use this inter-sessional approval mechanism, given that the MoU is to be considered at the coming IPBES Plenary on 7-10 March.

Cooperation with other MEAs

15. As indicated in the previous section, the Secretariat participates actively with other MEAs, and has concentrated efforts in line with paragraph 44 of Resolution XII.3.

Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

16. The joint work plan with the Convention of Migratory Species (CMS) was approved by CMS Standing Committee at its 45th Meeting in November 2016, and is included in Document 53-04.

Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds

17. The Secretariat participated in the 6th session of the AEWA Meeting of the Parties (MOP6) held in Bonn, Germany, from 9 to 11 November 2015. The Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2024 was introduced to the participants and it was proposed that Ramsar and AEWA prepare and undertake joint projects for capacity building, and for site and species conservation and livelihoods.
18. The Secretariat was consulted for the preparation for the new AEWA Strategic Plan. It highlighted the areas of strength and the areas that could be strengthened, as well as the effectiveness of AEWA's contribution to the conservation of migratory waterbirds and the major issues on which it is best placed to focus. The Secretariat proposed that the Ramsar Regional Initiatives be involved in AEWA's work in Africa, and shared relevant Ramsar Resolutions with the team of consultants.

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

19. The Secretary General met the Executive Director of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) at the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Hawaii to enhance collaboration.
20. The Secretariat participated actively in the 22nd Conference of Parties (COP22) to the UNFCCC, including through the Secretary General's intervention at the High Level Segment, the event on "Incorporating Blue Carbon into Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement" and the launching along with UNEP, FAO and Wetlands International of the Global Peatlands Initiative, which aims to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions by protecting

peatlands. The Secretariat was actively involved in the high level dialogues on “Water” and on “Leading the fight against Climate Change” as well as in the side events on “How do we Evaluate Adaptation Solutions in the Water Sector?”, “Wetlands and Peat – Understanding the Potential” and “Gender in Climate Policy”.

21. The Secretary General also wrote a joint op-ed with the UNFCCC Executive Secretary, entitled *Mother Nature vs. Climate Change*, drawing attention to the important role of the Convention and restoration of ecosystems, and especially wetlands in mitigation and adaptation to climate change.

Convention on Biological Diversity

22. The Secretary General met with the Executive Director of the CBD at the IUCN Conservation Congress in Hawaii to enhance collaboration. As a follow-up, the Secretariat organized a conference call with the CBD Secretariat to identify opportunities for strengthened collaboration including the review of the Fourth Ramsar Strategic Plan taking into account the outcomes of the review of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, in line with paragraph 26 of Resolution XII.2.
23. The Secretariat participated in the 13th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD (CBD COP13) in Cancun, Mexico. This offered the opportunity to raise the visibility of the Convention through the participation of the Secretary General in the High Level Segment and round tables on agriculture and fisheries, and the discussion on wetlands for disaster risk reduction in the Biodiversity and Climate Change Day at the Rio Pavillion.
24. The Secretariat participated as a panellist in the side events on “Mainstreaming of Biodiversity into Agricultural Practice: Rice Paddy Resolution of the Ramsar Convention for Biodiversity Conservation Practice” organized by JICA, and on “Making Connections – InforMEA and the MEA Knowledge Management Initiative” organized by UNEP.
25. The Secretariat also organized two side events, on Ramsar Regional Initiatives and on the 20th Anniversary of the Wetlands for the Future Fund, and participated in the contact groups’ discussions on financial mechanisms and cooperation with other MEAs.
26. The Secretary General met the new Executive Secretary of the CBD, and many Ramsar National Focal Points attending CBD COP13 to discuss key implementation issues.
27. At CBD COP 13, several Decisions were taken that are relevant to the Ramsar Convention and the BLG. Some of the most relevant are those regarding:
 - *The financial mechanism (XIII/21);*
 - *Cooperation with other conventions and international organizations (XIII/24);*
 - *Strategic actions to enhance the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, including with respect to mainstreaming and the integration of biodiversity within and across sectors (XIII/3); and*
 - *Progress in the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and towards the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (XIII/1).*

Decision XIII/21 *The Financial Mechanism*:

28. In response to Decision CBD XII/30, the Ramsar Secretariat sent a notification to Contracting Parties requesting to provide elements of advice, as appropriate, concerning the future funding of their national priorities, within the next phase of the Global Environment Facility (GEF). Only very few responses were received. However, there was not follow up by the Secretariat to prepare the relevant documents for the Standing Committee so that it would provide elements of guidance on the priorities of the Convention to be included in the CBD decision on funding to the GEF.
29. Despite efforts by the Secretary General and some Contracting Parties at the CBD COP13 to provide existing guidance, and given the fact that the guidance could only be provided by the governance body, the CBD COP13 did not include the advice from the Ramsar Convention.
30. In Decision XIII/21 *The financial mechanism*, the Conference of the Parties to the CBD took note of the elements of advice received from CMS and the International Treaty for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, as well as the input received from CITES for consideration in the development of the four-year framework of programme priorities (2018-2022) for the seventh replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund. Elements and input that fall within the mandate of the GEF are reflected at a strategic level, in the four-year framework of programme priorities annexed to the Decision.
31. The Conference of the Parties to the CBD invited the governing bodies of the various biodiversity-related Conventions, further to paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of Decision XII/30, to repeat the exercise described therein for the development of strategic guidance for the eighth replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund in time for consideration by the Conference of the Parties to the CBD at its 15th meeting.
32. In this context, and given the relevance of the financial mechanism to support the implementation by Contracting Parties of the Strategic Plan 2016-2024, the Secretariat requests that SC53 consider the transmission to the GEF through the CBD Secretariat of the elements of the Ramsar Strategic Plan (shown at Annex 1 of this document) that are aligned to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the four-year framework of programme priorities (2018-2022) for the seventh replenishment of the GEF Trust Fund annexed to CBD Decision XIII/21. Although this is not within the CBD COP13 Decision, the Secretariat considers that this could inform the GEF of the alignment of the Ramsar Strategic Plan, the Aichi Targets and the four-year framework of programme priorities.

Cooperation with other conventions and international organizations:

33. In Decision XIII/24 on *Cooperation with other conventions and international organizations*¹, the Conference of the Parties to the CBD welcomed options for enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related Conventions at the national level and a road map for actions at the international level from 2017 to 2020, which are found at Annexes I and II to the Decision.
34. The Conference of the Parties invited the governing bodies of the biodiversity-related Conventions to further strengthen cooperation and coordination at the global level within their respective mandates and enhance synergies among themselves, to encourage mutually supportive decisions, pursue their efforts to align their own strategies with the Strategic Plan

¹ The complete text of the decision is available in the CBD web site at www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-13/cop-13-dec-24-en.pdf.

for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets, where appropriate, and to support implementation of the options for action by Parties and the road map contained in Annex II to the Decision.

35. The Executive Secretary was requested, in consultation with the Liaison Group of Biodiversity related Conventions, to enter information missing from a table of desirable key actions associated with the road map for enhancing synergies at the international level from 2017 to 2020 contained in Annex II to the Decision, to specify a timeline for the various actions, and, where possible, to undertake the actions described in the table.
36. The Conference of the Parties, furthermore, invited the secretariats of the biodiversity-related conventions, the governing bodies of the conventions, and the international organizations that provide the secretariats for these conventions to undertake, where appropriate and subject to the availability of resources, the actions foreseen in the road map.
37. Accordingly, the Secretariat requests that the Standing Committee provide elements of advice with respect to the involvement of the Secretariat on the actions foreseen in Annexes I and II of CBD Decision XIII.24.

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

38. Under the signed MOU, discussions are ongoing on possible areas of collaboration including contributing to the global assessment of each Convention i.e. the Global Land Outlook of the UNCCD and the Ramsar's *State of the World's Wetlands* report, national reports and possible collaboration on peatlands and capacity building.

Sustainable Development Goals

39. The Secretariat has actively participated in the discussions of the SDG 6.6.1 target team meetings and in the meetings of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs), in particular on the 4th IAEG-SDG meeting held in Geneva from 15-18 November 2016, and subsequent teleconferences.
40. The inputs provided by the Secretariat have been included in the step-by-step monitoring methodology for SDG indicator 6.6.1 "Change in the extent of water-related ecosystems over time". However, the Secretariat has also proposed that efforts should be focused on one single indicator "% change in extent of water-related ecosystems over time" instead of a complex indicator which is difficult to achieve and interpret.
41. With regards to the data source and verification, the Secretariat has indicated that the Ramsar Convention Contracting Parties have agreed to report to COP13 on "wetland extent" thus providing an established form of data as required by the UN Statistical Division. However, the current methodology includes aggregation of different sources and data, which would be difficult and probably impossible to verify by national authorities.
42. Furthermore, the Secretariat has advised that it favours a methodology which promotes synergies among Conventions and international processes, especially at national level, to avoid duplication and burden to Contracting Parties.

43. In spite of the central role of the Convention on indicator 6.6.1 Ramsar is currently included as an “other involved agency” and as one of various sources of data.
44. The Secretariat has communicated to UNEP the importance of Ramsar being a co-custodian with UNEP of indicator 6.6.1, noting that Ramsar would take responsibility for wetland extent, which is already included in national reports for COP13.
45. In order to ensure that the Ramsar Convention plays an appropriate role in this SDG, and that the efforts of Contracting Parties in carrying out inventories and reporting on the extent of their wetlands provide the basis for this indicator, the Secretariat proposes that the Standing Committee express a clear mandate of the responsibility of the Convention as provider of data on wetland extent, and also as co-custodian with UNEP of indicator 6.6.1. This mandate would then be transmitted by the Secretariat to UNEP and other relevant agencies.
46. As there are other indicators for which Ramsar has or will have data, the Secretariat has requested that Ramsar be included under “other involved agencies” for the following indicators: 6.5.1 “Degree of integrated water resources management implementation (0-100)”; 14.2.1 “Proportion of national exclusive economic zones managed using ecosystem-based approaches”; 14.5.1 “Coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas”; and 15.1.2 “Proportion of important sites for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity that are covered by protected areas, by ecosystem type”. UNEP would be willing to work with Ramsar to determine the best way to assess issues related to SDG 14.2 sustainably manage and protect marine and coastal ecosystems, as an input into the comprehensive review of the SDG indicators which is scheduled to take place in 2020.

Actions to strengthen cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme and other international institutions

47. As noted in previous reports to Standing Committee, the Secretariat is continuing to work to strengthen collaboration with UNEP, UNDP, UNESCO, UNECE and others.

Collaboration with UNEP

48. The Memoranda of Understanding with UNEP and SPREP were signed during CBD COP13 in Cancun, Mexico.
49. The Deputy Secretary General and the STRP Chair co-authored a chapter entitled “Synergies between the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands and other Multilateral Environmental Agreements” in the UNEP publication *Understanding synergies and mainstreaming among the biodiversity related conventions: A special contributory volume by key convention secretariats and scientific bodies* which was launched at CBD COP13.
50. The Secretariat continues to work with UNEP-GRID on the refinement of the new Ramsar Sites Information Service (RSIS) and with UNEP-WCMC on the use of the Online Reporting System for COP13 National Reports.
51. The Secretariat continues to collaborate with the MEA Information and Knowledge Management Initiative on the UN Information Portal on MEAs (InforMEA), and the related Law and Environment Ontology (LEO) project to develop an internationally accepted semantic standard for environmental law and policy, and on the project “Improving the effectiveness of

and cooperation among biodiversity-related Conventions and exploring opportunities for further synergies” with UNEP.

52. The proposes collaboration with UNEP on SDGs indicators is in line with the areas of work identified in the MoU.

Collaboration with UNDP

53. The Secretariat collaborated with UNDP on the role of wetlands for disaster risk reduction at the UNFCCC COP22. UNDP engaged in World Wetlands Day, including through its national offices. Discussions are ongoing regarding possible collaboration to support Contracting Parties’ access to the Green Climate Fund, building on the recent approved project in Uganda, as well as on other areas.

Collaboration with UNESCO

54. The publication *Managing MIDAs – Harmonising the management of Multi-Internationally Designated Areas: Ramsar Sites, World Heritage sites, Biosphere Reserves and UNESCO Global Geoparks* was launched at the 2016 IUCN World Conservation Congress in Hawaii, USA. It was published by IUCN in close collaboration with UNESCO and the Ramsar Convention, and with support from the Republic of Korea’s Jeju Special Self-Governing Province and Ministry of Environment. The publication is available at the Ramsar Library at <http://www.ramsar.org/document/managing-midas-harmonising-the-management-of-multi-internationally-designated-areas-ramsar>.

Collaboration with UNECE

55. A joint Ramsar/UNECE/FAO celebration took place on the International Day of Forests, 21 March 2016. The event was organized jointly by the UNECE Water Convention Secretariat, UNECE Housing and Land Management Unit, the UNECE/FAO Forestry and Timber Section and the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, with support from the Governments of Switzerland and Finland. The event, organized under the theme “Forests and Water”, aimed to raise awareness of the multiple links between forests and water resources, and to focus on forests (natural or planted) on organic soils (peat wetlands) and greenhouse gas emissions. The featured national experiences and case studies emphasized forest ecosystem services which safeguard water balance and supply, as well as the role of forests in increasing landscape resilience to water-related hazards.

Collaboration with IUCN

56. The IUCN World Conservation Congress 2016 took place between 1 and 10 September in Honolulu, Hawaii. The delegation led by Ramsar’s Secretary General had the opportunity to engage with the world’s leaders, governments, NGOs, grassroots organizations and other stakeholders, to underline the vital contribution of wetlands to the world’s sustainable development. The Secretary General participated in the high-level dialogue “A Changing Climate: Championing Nature-Based Solutions”, advancing wetlands as effective ways to mitigate and adapt to climate change and in 8 other panels and various interviews. She also had bilateral meetings with representatives from Contracting Parties, IOPs and other key stakeholders.

57. The Ramsar Convention Secretariat, together with the Ramsar Culture Network, organized an event entitled “Women and Wetlands” at the IUCN Congress, which focused on the central role that women play in the conservation and management of wetland ecosystems.
58. The Secretariat also organized the workshop “The Ramsar world wetland city scheme: inspiring local communities to value wetlands” aimed at a wide range of civil society and community groups, urban policy-makers, conservation practitioners and educators.

Annex 1

Elements of Ramsar Strategic Plan that are aligned to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the four-year framework of programme priorities (2018-2022) for the seventh replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund

Ramsar Goals and Targets 2016 – 2024		Aichi Biodiversity Targets 2010 - 2020		Four-year framework of programme priorities (2018-2022) for the seventh replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund
Ramsar Strategic Goals				
Goal 1: Addressing the drivers of wetland loss and degradation		Aichi Target # 5	By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.	Priority Cluster I: Mainstream biodiversity across sectors as well as landscapes and seascapes. Priority Cluster II: Address direct drivers to protect habitats and species.
Target 1	Wetlands benefits are features in national/ local policy strategies and plans relating to key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture, fisheries at the national and local level	Aichi Target # 2	By 2020, at the latest, biodiversity values have been integrated into national and local development and poverty reduction strategies and planning processes and are being incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems.	Cluster I Priority A Improve policies and decision-making, informed by biodiversity and ecosystem values ² Expected Outcome 1 Financial, fiscal, and development policies, as well as planning and decision-making ³ take into account biodiversity and ecosystem values, ⁴ in the context of the different tools and approaches used by Parties to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.
Target 2	Water use respects wetland ecosystem needs for them to fulfil their functions and provide services at the appropriate scale inter alia at the basin level or along a coastal zone.	Aichi Target # 7	By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.	Priority Cluster I: Priority A Improve policies and decision-making, informed by biodiversity and ecosystem values. Expected Outcome 3

² See decision X/3, paragraph 9(b)(ii).

³ At spatial, non-spatial, sectoral, national and subnational levels.

⁴ See decision X/3, paragraph 9(b)(ii).

				Economic sectors affecting significant biodiversity adopt sustainable supply chains and/or clean production processes, thus minimizing their impacts on biodiversity.
		Aichi Target # 8	By 2020, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity.	
Target 3	The public and private sectors have increased their efforts to apply guidelines and good practices for the wise use of water and wetlands.	Aichi Target # 4	By 2020, at the latest, Governments, business and stakeholders at all levels have taken steps to achieve or have implemented plans for sustainable production and consumption and have kept the impacts of use of natural resources well within safe ecological limits.	Priority Cluster I Priority A Improve policies and decision-making, informed by biodiversity and ecosystem values. Expected Outcome 3 Economic sectors affecting significant biodiversity adopt sustainable supply chains and/or clean production processes, thus minimizing their impacts on biodiversity.
		Aichi Target # 3	By 2020, at the latest, incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity are eliminated, phased out or reformed in order to minimize or avoid negative impacts, and positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity are developed and applied, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national socio economic conditions.	Priority Cluster I Priority A Improve policies and decision-making, informed by biodiversity and ecosystem values Expected Outcome 2 Identified significant incentives, including subsidies, harmful for biodiversity are eliminated, phased out, or reformed, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other international obligations and taking into account national socioeconomic conditions.
		Aichi Target # 7	same as above	
		Aichi Target # 8	same as above	
Target 4	Invasive alien species and pathways of introduction and expansion are identified and prioritized, priority invasive alien species are controlled or eradicated, and management responses are prepared and implemented to prevent their	Aichi Target # 9	By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage	Priority Cluster II Priority D Prevent and control invasive alien species.

	introduction and establishment.		pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment.	Expected Outcome 6 Management frameworks for invasive alien species are improved.
Goal 2: Effectively conserving and managing the Ramsar Site network		Aichi Target # 11	same as above	
Target 5	The ecological character of Ramsar sites is maintained or restored, through effective planning and integrated management	Aichi Target # 11	By 2020, at least 17 per cent of terrestrial and inland water, and 10 per cent of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem services, are conserved through effectively and equitably managed, ecologically representative and well connected systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider landscapes and seascapes.	Priority Cluster I Priority B: Manage biodiversity in landscapes and seascapes. Expected Outcome 4 Loss, fragmentation, and degradation of significant natural habitats, and associated extinction debt, is reduced, halted or reversed, and conservation status of known threatened species is improved and sustained, including through monitoring, spatial planning, incentives ⁵ , restoration, and strategic establishment of protected areas and other measures. Priority Cluster II Priority F Enhance the effectiveness of protected area systems.
		Aichi Target # 12	By 2020 the extinction of known threatened species has been prevented and their conservation status, particularly of those most in decline, has been improved and sustained.	
		Aichi Target # 6	By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all	

⁵ As referred to in Aichi Biodiversity Target 3.

			depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.	
Target 6	There is a significant increase in area, numbers and ecological connectivity in the Ramsar Site network in particular underrepresented types of wetlands including in underrepresented ecoregions and transboundary sites	Aichi Target # 11	same as above	<p>Priority Cluster II</p> <p>Expected Outcome 8 The area of protected areas under effective and equitable management is significantly increased, including development of sustainable financing.</p> <p>Expected Outcome 9 The ecological representativeness of protected area systems, and their coverage of protected areas, and other effective area-based conservation measures, of particular importance for biodiversity is increased, especially habitats for threatened species.</p>
		Aichi Target # 10	By 2015, the multiple anthropogenic pressures on coral reefs, and other vulnerable ecosystems impacted by climate change or ocean acidification are minimized, so as to maintain their integrity and functioning.	
Target 7	Sites that are at risk of change of ecological character have threats addressed.	Aichi Target # 12	Same as above	<p>Priority Cluster I</p> <p>Priority B Manage biodiversity in landscapes and seascapes.</p> <p>Expected Outcome 4 Loss, fragmentation, and degradation of significant natural habitats, and associated extinction debt, is reduced, halted or reversed, and conservation status of known threatened species is improved and sustained, including through monitoring, spatial planning, incentives, restoration, and strategic establishment of</p>

				<p>protected areas and other measures.</p> <p>Priority Cluster II Priority E Reduce pressures on coral reefs and other vulnerable coastal and marine ecosystems.</p> <p>Expected Outcome 7 Anthropogenic pressures on vulnerable coastal and marine ecosystems, including coral reefs, mangroves and seagrass beds, and associated ecosystems, including pollution, overfishing and destructive fishing, and unregulated coastal development, are reduced, thus contributing to ecosystem integrity and resilience.</p>
		Aichi Target # 5	By 2020, the rate of loss of all natural habitats, including forests, is at least halved and where feasible brought close to zero, and degradation and fragmentation is significantly reduced.	
		Aichi Target # 7	same as above	
		Aichi Target # 11	same as above	
Goal 3: Wisely using all wetlands				
Target 8	National wetland inventories have been either initiated, completed or updated and disseminated and used for promoting the conservation and effective management of all wetlands.	Aichi Target # 14	same as above	<p>Priority Cluster I</p> <p>Priority B: Manage biodiversity in landscapes and seascapes</p> <p>Expected Outcome 4 Loss, fragmentation, and degradation of significant natural habitats, and associated extinction debt, is reduced, halted or reversed, and conservation status of known threatened species is improved and sustained, including through monitoring, spatial planning, incentives, restoration, and strategic establishment of protected areas and other measures.</p>

				<p>Priority Cluster II</p> <p>Priority F: Enhance the effectiveness of protected area systems</p> <p>Expected Outcome 8 The area of protected areas under effective and equitable management is significantly increased, including development of sustainable financing.</p> <p>Expected Outcome 9 The ecological representativeness of protected area systems, and their coverage of protected areas, and other effective area-based conservation measures, of particular importance for biodiversity is increased, especially habitats for threatened species.</p>
		Aichi Target # 18	By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels.	
		Aichi Target # 19	By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and	

			transferred, and applied.	
		Aichi Target # 12	same as above	
Target 9	The wise use of wetlands is strengthened through integrated resource management at the appropriate scale, <i>inter alia</i> , within a river basin or along a coastal zone.	Aichi Target # 4	same as above	Priority Cluster I Priority B: Manage biodiversity in landscapes and seascapes Expected Outcome 4 Loss, fragmentation, and degradation of significant natural habitats, and associated extinction debt, is reduced, halted or reversed, and conservation status of known threatened species is improved and sustained, including through monitoring, spatial planning, incentives, restoration, and strategic establishment of protected areas and other measures.
		Aichi Target # 6	By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.	
		Aichi Target # 7	same as above	
Target 10	The traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities relevant for the wise use of wetlands and their customary use of wetland resources, are documented, respected, subject to national legislation and relevant international obligations and fully integrated and reflected in the	Aichi Target # 18	By 2020, the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and their customary use of biological resources, are respected, subject to	

	implementation of the Convention with a full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities at all relevant levels.		national legislation and relevant international obligations, and fully integrated and reflected in the implementation of the Convention with the full and effective participation of indigenous and local communities, at all relevant levels.	
Target 11	Wetland functions, services and benefits are widely demonstrated, documented and disseminated.	Aichi Target # 13	By 2020, the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives, including other socio-economically as well as culturally valuable species, is maintained, and strategies have been developed and implemented for minimizing genetic erosion and safeguarding their genetic diversity.	Priority Cluster I Priority A Improve policies and decision-making, informed by biodiversity and ecosystem values. Expected Outcome 1 Financial, fiscal, and development policies, as well as planning and decision-making take into account biodiversity and ecosystem values, in the context of the different tools and approaches used by Parties to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.
		Aichi Target # 1	By 2020, at the latest, people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps taken to conserve and use it sustainably.	
		Aichi Target # 2	same as above	
		Aichi Target # 14	By 2020, ecosystems that provide essential services, including services related to water, and contribute to health, livelihoods and well-being, are restored and safeguarded, taking into account the needs of women, indigenous and local communities, and the poor and vulnerable.	
Target 12	Restoration is in progress in degraded wetlands, with priority to wetlands that are relevant for biodiversity conservation, disaster risk reduction, livelihoods and/or climate change mitigation and adaptation	Aichi Target # 15	By 2020, ecosystem resilience and the contribution of biodiversity to carbon stocks has been enhanced, through conservation and restoration, including restoration of	Priority Cluster I Priority B Manage biodiversity in landscapes and seascapes Expected Outcome 4

			at least 15 per cent of degraded ecosystems, thereby contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation and to combating desertification.	Loss, fragmentation, and degradation of significant natural habitats, and associated extinction debt, is reduced, halted or reversed, and conservation status of known threatened species is improved and sustained, including through monitoring, spatial planning, incentives, restoration, and strategic establishment of protected areas and other measures.
		Aichi Target # 14	same as above	
Target 13	Enhanced sustainability of key sectors such as water, energy, mining, agriculture, tourism, urban development, infrastructure, industry, forestry, aquaculture and fisheries fisheries, agriculture and ecotourism practices when they affect wetlands, contributing to biodiversity conservation and human livelihoods	Aichi Target # 6	By 2020 all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem based approaches, so that overfishing is avoided, recovery plans and measures are in place for all depleted species, fisheries have no significant adverse impacts on threatened species and vulnerable ecosystems and the impacts of fisheries on stocks, species and ecosystems are within safe ecological limits.	Priority Cluster I Priority A Improve policies and decision-making, informed by biodiversity and ecosystem values. Expected Outcome 3 Economic sectors affecting significant biodiversity adopt sustainable supply chains and/or clean production processes, thus minimizing their impacts on biodiversity. Priority C Harness biodiversity for sustainable agriculture Expected Outcome 5 Biodiversity supporting key agricultural ecosystems, such as through pollination, biological pest control, or genetic diversity, is conserved and managed, contributing to sustainable agricultural production.
		Aichi Target # 7	By 2020 areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry are managed sustainably, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.	
Operational Goal				
Goal 4: Enhancing Implementation				
Target 14	Scientific and technical guidance at global and regional levels is developed on relevant topics and is available to policy makers and practitioners in an appropriate format and language	Aichi Target # 19	same as above	The areas under Goal 4 can be interpreted as cross cutting issues within the GEF framework.

Target 15	Ramsar Regional Initiatives with the active involvement and support of the Parties in each region are reinforced and developed into effective tools to assist in the full implementation of the Convention.			
Target 16	Wetlands conservation and wise use are mainstreamed through communication, capacity development, education, participation and awareness.	Aichi Target # 1	same as above	
		Aichi Target # 18	same as above	
Target 17	Financial and other resources for effectively implementing the fourth Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016 – 2024 from all sources are made available	Aichi Target # 20	By 2020, at the latest, the mobilization of financial resources for effectively implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 from all sources, and in accordance with the consolidated and agreed process in the Strategy for Resource Mobilization should increase substantially from the current levels. This target will be subject to changes contingent to resource needs assessments to be developed and reported by Parties.	
Target 18	International cooperation is strengthened at all levels			
Target 19	Capacity building for implementation of the Convention and the 4th Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016 – 2024 is enhanced.	Aichi Target # 17	By 2015 each Party has developed, adopted as a policy instrument, and has commenced implementing an effective, participatory and updated national biodiversity strategy and action plan.	
		Aichi Target # 1	same as above	