



***PAN-EUROPEAN BIOLOGICAL AND LANDSCAPE  
DIVERSITY STRATEGY***

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**COUNCIL FOR THE PAN-EUROPEAN  
BIOLOGICAL AND LANDSCAPE DIVERSITY STRATEGY**

**FIFTH INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONFERENCE  
*BIODIVERSITY IN EUROPE***

**22-24 September 2009  
Liege, Belgium**

**BACKGROUND PAPER: THEME 3  
POST 2010 VISION FOR THE PAN EUROPEAN REGION**

*Document prepared by Norway in collaboration  
with the Friends of the Chair and resource persons for the session*

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**Theme III: Post 2010 Vision for the pan European region**

**5<sup>th</sup> Intergovernmental Conference “Biodiversity in Europe”  
22 -24 September 2009, Liege, Belgium**

The revision of the strategic plan of the CBD and the establishment of a post 2010 vision and associated targets for biodiversity represents a huge opportunity for framing the biodiversity work for the coming decades. This will be discussed, negotiated and refined in numerous important meetings before a CBD-decision is taken at COP10 in Nagoya in October 2010.

The CBD-document UNEP/CBD/SP/PREP/1 (**Synthesis/Analysis of Views on the Updated and Revised Strategic Plan for the Convention after 2010** ) gives a comprehensive overview of the process for this work.

The outcome of the G8 environment ministers meeting in Syracuse, Italy (April 2009) is of particular importance for discussions under theme 3:

The G8 Environment Ministers, together with the Ministers of Australia, Brazil, China, the Czech Republic and Sweden, as the respective current and upcoming Presidencies of the European Union, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mexico, the Republic of Korea, South Africa, and participating international organizations, meeting in Syracuse, Italy, adopted the “*Carta di Siracusa*” on Biodiversity which recognises the importance of the 2010 Target, and the urgent need to support and strengthen the international process for the identification of an ambitious and achievable post-2010 common framework on biodiversity. This process should involve all relevant actors and stakeholders, be based on the lessons learned from the 2010 Target, as well as consider the informal discussions of the High Level Working Group on the Future of Global Targets for Biodiversity, convened by the current presidency of the Convention on Biological Diversity in Bonn in March 2009. The “*Carta di Siracusa*” on Biodiversity proposes a common path toward the post-2010 framework on biodiversity encompassing the following points:

“(a) The multiple challenges that the world faces today are an unmistakable indication that we need to strengthen our efforts to conserve and sustainably manage biodiversity and natural resources;

(b) As significant economic loss arises due to the unsustainable use of biodiversity, timely and proper programmes and actions, aimed at strengthening the resilience of ecosystems, must be taken;

(c) Notwithstanding the efforts and commitments to achieve the 2010 Target, direct and indirect drivers of biodiversity loss, aggravated by climate change, still continue. Furthermore, the world has been changing rapidly since the adoption of the 2010 Target. All of these drivers of biodiversity loss, causing mid- and long-term threats to biodiversity and identified on the basis of scientific research, should be considered in the development of the post-2010 framework;

(d) A thorough communication strategy, fully engaging all the different sectors, as well as stakeholders, indigenous and local communities and the private sector, to emphasise their own participation and their responsibilities, is also a key factor for the effective implementation of the post-2010 biodiversity framework;

(e) The reform of environmental governance at all levels is essential to integrate biodiversity and ecosystem services into all policies, to turn the current weaknesses in economic systems into opportunities and to boost sustainable development and employment, taking particular account of the circumstances of developing countries. ”

Recommendations from the Athens conference on biodiversity (April 2009) [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/biodiversity/conference/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/biodiversity/conference/index_en.htm) and the outcome from

the Swedish biodiversity event 7 – 8 September focusing on the EU-countries provides important stepping stones for the discussions.

One of the challenges discussing the revision of the strategic plan and the post 2010 vision and targets in the Pan-European region is the variety among the countries. The Pan-European level has two different set of regional approaches which provides additional input to the discussions. The *Biodiversity in Europe* Conference represents one opportunity for informed discussions in the pan-European region, thus expanding considerable the number of countries participating in the deliberations.

Biodiversity is a broad concept, and can be addressed from multiple levels; number of species, ecosystems, management measures, pressures and drivers, positive ecosystem services etc. The discussion would also need to have all the three objectives of the CBD in mind (conservation, sustainable use and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of genetic resources).

Based on the experiences with the 2010 target, what would be useful in the next phase?

Discussion and advice regarding the balance between (i) political target/vision (as the present 2010 target), (ii) measurable targets and possible indicator framework (driving forces-pressures- state-impact-response) and how to address ecosystem services in the post 2010 regime.

The conference represents a valuable arena to discuss and give guidance relating to regional cooperation: the cooperation within the EU is one level, but is there a potential for pan-European cooperation aiming for improved implementation of the CBD? Some elements in this regard are: practical results from the PEBLDS process, work of the EEA having a pan-European approach. What is useful, and what is needed?

Ecosystem services and mainstreaming of biodiversity are central lines in the conference; how can we use the findings from the TEEB for constructive dialogues with other sectors, how we can enhance the understanding of ecosystem resilience as an asset for management in a changing environment. And how should this be reflected in the post 2010 structure.

Three parallel breakout groups will be discussing;

1. post 2010 vision and targets for the pan-European region, in preparation of the new CBD post 2010 strategic plan,
2. involvement of stakeholders and mainstreaming of biodiversity in developing the post 2010 vision and targets
3. potential for added value of the regional level for implementation of the CBD, and communication as a tool for improved management of biodiversity.

The new strategic plan should stimulate to improve management of biodiversity at all levels. It is possible to adjust and change the way we work under the CBD umbrella if we agree on a more efficient way of doing it. What should be included in the revised Strategic Plan of the Convention on Biological Diversity in order to achieve the best possible results?

Other relevant documents:

IUCN 2010 Options paper: **2010 is almost here – now what?** Consultation: Options for a new vision for Biodiversity