

4 **A. VISION**

5 *Without plants, there is no life. The functioning of the planet, and our survival, depends upon plants.*
6 *The Strategy seeks to halt the continuing loss of plant diversity.*

7 1. Our vision is of a positive, sustainable future where human activities celebrate and support the
8 diversity of plant life (including the endurance of plant genetic diversity, survival of plant species and
9 communities and their associated habitats and ecological associations), and where in turn the diversity of
10 plants support and improve our livelihoods and well-being.

11 2. The Global Strategy for Plant Conservation is a catalyst for working together at all levels - local,
12 national, regional and global - to understand, conserve and use sustainably the world's immense wealth of
13 plant diversity whilst promoting awareness and building the necessary capacities for its implementation.

14 3. If all efforts are made to fully implement this Strategy:

15 (a) Societies around the world can continue to rely upon plants for ecosystem services,
16 including food, medicines, clean water, climate amelioration [or control], and rich, productive landscapes;

17 (b) Humanity can fully utilize the potential of plants to mitigate climate change and the role
18 of plant diversity in maintaining the resilience of ecosystems and their capacity to adapt to threats from
19 climate change;

20 (c) No species of plants will be at risk of extinction because of human activities, and the
21 genetic diversity of plants will be safeguarded;

22 (d) The rich evolutionary legacy of plant diversity will be used sustainably and benefits
23 arising are shared equitably to solve pressing problems, support livelihoods and improve human well-
24 being, as the ultimate source of our foods, many medicines, timber, fibre and other materials, and as the
25 structure and underpinnings of habitats for, and as ecological partners of, animals and other organisms;

26 (e) The knowledge and practices of all local human communities that depend on plant
27 diversity will be secure and recognized as valuable living traditions and ways of life;

28 (f) People everywhere will be aware of the urgency and understand that plants support their
29 lives and many livelihoods, and that everyone has a role to play in plant conservation.

30 **B. OBJECTIVES**

31 4. The Strategy consists of the following five objectives:

32 (a) Objective I: Plant diversity is sufficiently understood and documented to enable a
33 sustainable future;

34 (b) Objective II: Plant diversity is urgently and effectively conserved;

35 (c) Objective III: Plant diversity is used in a sustainable and equitable manner;

¹ This version is the result of the third meeting of the Liaison Group on the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (26 - 28 May 2009, Dublin, Ireland) and subsequent exchanges among the group and is contained in Annex 2 of the final report of that meeting (<http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/pc/gspclg-03/official/gspclg-03-04-en.doc>).

1 (d) Objective IV: Education and awareness about plant diversity, its role in sustainable
2 livelihoods and importance to all life on earth is promoted;

3 (e) Objective V: The capacities and public engagement necessary to implement the Strategy
4 have been developed.

5 C. RATIONALE

6 5. Plants are universally recognized as a vital part of the world's biological diversity and an essential
7 resource for the planet. In addition to the cultivated plant species used for food, timber and fibres, many
8 thousands of wild plants have great economic and cultural importance and potential, providing food,
9 medicine, fuel, clothing and shelter for billions of people throughout the world. The combined
10 contribution of wild and cultivated plants to the world's economy has not been estimated but is immense.
11 Furthermore, the potential contribution of plants to future economic activity is enormous. The diversity of
12 plant life is perhaps the greatest source of natural capital at humanity's disposal. Plants play a key role in
13 maintaining the planet's basic environmental balance and ecosystem stability and provide an irreplaceable
14 component of the habitats for the world's animal life. At present, a complete inventory of the plants of the
15 world has not been assembled, but it is estimated that the total number of vascular plant species may be of
16 the order of 400,000.

17 6. Of urgent concern is the fact that many plant species, communities, and their ecological
18 partnerships, including the many relationships between plant species and human communities and
19 cultures, are in danger of extinction, threatened by such human-induced factors as climate change, habitat
20 transformation, over-exploitation, alien invasive species, and pollution, inter alia. . The disappearance of
21 such vital and large amounts of biodiversity sets one of the greatest challenges for the world community:
22 to halt the destruction of the plant diversity that is so essential to meeting the present and future needs of
23 humankind. If this loss is not stemmed, countless opportunities to develop new solutions to pressing
24 economic, environmental, medicinal and industrial problems will also be lost.

25 7. Furthermore, plant diversity is of special concern to indigenous and local communities, and these
26 communities have a vital role to play in addressing the loss of plant diversity. They are the owners and
27 stewards of unique bio-cultural diversity, intellectual knowledge and management practices. The goal of
28 the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation is to address the challenges posed by threats to plant diversity.
29 While the overall purpose of the Strategy is conservation, sustainable use of plant diversity and benefit-
30 sharing are equally important to its purpose.

31 8. The rationale for a strategy focusing on plants has three aspects:

32 (a) Plants are primary producers and provide habitat infrastructure for many ecosystems;

33 (b) Setting meaningful targets is feasible since scientific understanding of at least higher
34 plants, though incomplete, is better than for most other groups of organisms;

35 (c) A recognition that intact forest ecosystems play a major role in climate amelioration and
36 provide a first line of defence against climate change.

37 D. SCOPE

38 9. The Strategy and its 16 targets are intended to provide a framework for policy makers and public
39 opinion and catalyse the reforms necessary to achieve plant conservation. Clear, stable, long-term targets
40 that are adopted by the international community can help shape expectations and create the conditions in
41 which all actors, whether Governments, the private sector, or civil society, have the confidence to develop
42 solutions to address threats to plant diversity. At the same time, they can provide guidance for setting

1 national plant conservation targets, taking into account the global targets. For the targets to be widely
2 understood and appealing to public opinion, they need to be kept fairly simple and straightforward. They
3 should be understood in a commonsensical rather than a literal way. In order that the number of targets be
4 kept manageable, they need to focus on a set of activities that are strategic, rather than aiming to be
5 comprehensive. The targets have been reviewed, and appropriately revised, based upon the evidence of
6 the successes and shortfalls in the targets adopted through decision VI/9.

7 10. The Strategy provides a framework to harmonise among existing initiatives aimed at plant
8 conservation, to identify gaps where new initiatives are required, and to promote mobilization of the
9 necessary resources.

10 11. The Strategy is a tool to enhance the ecosystem approach to the conservation and sustainable use
11 of biodiversity and focus on the vital role of plants in the structure and functioning of ecological systems
12 and assure provision of the goods and services such systems provide.

13 12. The Strategy also acts as a means to implement the Strategic Plan of the Convention and
14 supports and facilitates national action on the thematic programmes of work of the Convention.

15 13. Accordingly, the Strategy addresses the Plant Kingdom with main focus on higher plants, and
16 other well-described groups such as Bryophytes and Pteridophytes. The setting of measurable targets for
17 this set of taxa is more credible than for many lower plant groups. This does not imply that these groups
18 do not have important ecological functions, nor that they are not threatened. However, effective action
19 will be best achieved by focusing, in an initial phase at least, on achievable outcomes for known taxa.
20 Parties may choose on a national basis to include other taxa including algae, lichens and fungi. The
21 strategy considers plants in the terrestrial, inland water and marine environments.

22 14. The Strategy applies to plant genetic diversity, plant species and communities and their associated
23 habitats and ecosystems.

24 **E. GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

25 15. The Strategy provides a framework for actions at global, regional, national and local levels. A
26 global dimension to the Strategy is important because it can:

27 (a) Facilitate the development of a global consensus of key objectives, targets and actions;

28 (b) Strengthen possibility of implementing necessary transnational actions (such as some
29 recovery programmes);

30 (c) Optimize availability and usefulness of information;

31 (d) Be used to focus research on key generic issues (such as conservation methods);

32 (e) Allow the identification of appropriate standards for plant conservation;

33 (f) Mobilize support for globally significant actions (globally threatened species; "centres of
34 plant diversity" and "hot spots"); and

35 (g) Allow for collaboration between national, regional and international entities.

36 16. The Global Strategy for Plant Conservation:

37 (a) Applies the ecosystem approach adopted under the Convention, recognizing the
38 interaction of plants and plant communities, with other components of ecosystems, at all scales, and their

1 role in ecosystem functions and processes. The ecosystem approach also implies, inter alia, intersectoral
2 cooperation, decentralization of management to the lowest level appropriate, equitable distribution of
3 benefits, and the use of adaptive management policies that can deal with uncertainties and are modified in
4 the light of experience and changing conditions;

5 (b) Applies the Convention provisions on access and benefit-sharing, drawing as appropriate
6 on the Bonn Guidelines for access and benefit-sharing, with a view to ensuring a fair and equitable
7 sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources, and consistent with the International Treaty
8 on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture;

9 (c) Builds upon the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local
10 communities, with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and
11 practices, and contribute to the implementation of Article 8(j) of the Convention;

12 (d) Employs *in situ* conservation measures as the primary approach for conservation,
13 complementing them where necessary with *ex situ* measures. The Strategy provides an opportunity to
14 explore linkages between *in situ* and *ex situ* conservation, including in restoration programmes;

15 (e) Adopts a multidisciplinary approach that takes into account scientific, social and
16 economic issues;

17 (f) Strengthens initiatives on national inventories;

18 (g) Makes use of communication tools existing now, and in the future, to disseminate and
19 make freely available, information, tools, advice and guidance to assist in sharing, networking and
20 promotion of all targets of the Strategy;

21 (h) Integrates with relevant activities under existing initiatives.

22 F. TARGETS

23 17. Under the five objectives, sixteen outcome-oriented targets have been developed which the
24 Strategy seeks to achieve by 2020. For each target, a technical rationale includes where possible a long-
25 term target, the rationale for benchmarks, and milestones where appropriate.

26 ***Objective I: Plant diversity is sufficiently understood and documented to enable a sustainable future***

27 *Target 1: A widely accessible list of known plant species*

28 18. *Terms and technical rationale:* A widely accessible list of known plant species is a fundamental
29 requirement for plant conservation. Using the 2010 list as a basis, an improved peer-reviewed list is
30 considered to be attainable by 2020. Enhancements should include more complete synonymy and
31 geographic distributions to country level drawing on national floras and checklists [and compilations] and
32 international initiatives. (Where possible links to descriptions and conservation status should be an
33 aspiration.) Further work on national and regional floras is also necessary to lay the basis for the longer
34 term aim of developing a complete World Flora, including local and vernacular names. Capacity-building
35 in taxonomy, as outlined in the Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI), will be critically important to
36 achieving this longer-term objective.

37 19. *Progress:* Globally, good progress has been made, and at current rate of progress, the previous
38 target could be around 85% complete by 2010, with a possibility of partial coverage for the remaining
39 15% by the end of 2010.

1 20. *Justification for changes:* (Note: Justifications for changes from decision VI/9 are for illustration
2 and it is assumed that these will be deleted in final Strategy text.) The word ‘working’ has been removed
3 from the target to reflect the greater degree of confidence envisaged for the 2020 product. The original
4 target will be met by the end of 2010 or shortly thereafter, and the new rationale proposes taking the
5 target a step further, The latter half of the old target ‘as a step towards a complete world flora’ was
6 removed because the term “world flora” was not thought to be well understood by the general public. The
7 reference to the GTI is intended to address/pre-empt comments from Parties to the effect that capacity is
8 lacking to deliver on this Target and to highlight the role of the GTI in this respect.

9 *Target 2: An assessment of the conservation status of all known plant species to guide conservation*
10 *action at national, regional, and international levels*

11 21. *Terms and technical rationale:* The conservation status of many plant species has been assessed
12 either through country-level processes and/or through international initiatives. These assessments have
13 been conducted either using the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria or other systems. Since most
14 countries have assessed their plant species, a compilation of these evidence-based assessments will
15 provide a useful overview of existing conservation status information, and a starting point to guide
16 conservation action. Dissemination could be through an internet portal allowing access to all existing
17 assessments for each species. A full assessment of all known plant species to a consistent international
18 standard is the longer term aim to facilitate conservation action. The IUCN Red List Categories and
19 Criteria provide a robust framework for this endeavor enabling comparison of threat across a variety of
20 spatial and temporal scales. Although it is not realistic to assess all species by this method by 2020,
21 assessments for a representative sample of plant species (The Sampled Red List Index - SRLI) will
22 provide a global overview and a baseline against which trends can be tracked. A working list of evidence-
23 based conservation assessments is the only feasible approach commensurate with the urgency of assessing
24 species in order not to hamper progress with Targets 7 and 8.

25 22. *Progress:* The proportion of plants assessed globally by IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria
26 has only reached *ca.* 10%. Many more plant species have been assessed at national or regional level using
27 a variety of systems but an overview is lacking of the total species numbers thus addressed (see
28 <http://www.regionalredlist.com/site.aspx>). Major constraints to achievement of this target include lack of
29 funding for field work, data compilation and assessment activities leading to incomplete and scattered
30 outputs. IUCN has developed a new tool, RapidList, which allows preliminary assessment of species. The
31 Sampled Red List Index project aims to select approximately 1,200 species for each of bryophytes, ferns
32 and their allies, gymnosperms, monocots and dicots and conduct a preliminary, GIS-based conservation
33 assessment for each of these. The following milestones could serve as steps towards the 2020 target:

34 (a) A working list of all available evidence-based conservation assessments for plants by
35 2012, to be maintained as an online resource and developed to include all plant species by 2020;

36 (b) A published interim threatened species list, an output from (a) above, from which other
37 GSPC targets can be measured by 2015;

38 (c) An assessment of the threat status of a globally representative sample of plant species by
39 2015;

40 (d) National and/or regional Red Lists developed or updated to assist in obtaining an
41 overview of threat levels at a global level.

42 23. *Justification for changes:* The use of the term ‘evidence-based’ is intended to make clear that the
43 assessments should be based on data which is verifiable, making the assessment potentially refutable and
44 not just a guess. A variety of evidence-based approaches are acceptable as practical steps towards meeting
45 the final target of full assessments of all species under IUCN criteria, so that they are comparable at a
46 global level. Until full IUCN assessments are available an interim working list based on all available

1 evidence is needed. This should be a single point of reference (internet portal) where all threat status
2 information for a single species can be found... If multiple assessments exist for one species, all should be
3 shown. . This will address the existing information gap, which will otherwise hamper progress with
4 Targets 7 and 8

5 *Target 3: Development and effective sharing of advice and guidance for plant conservation and*
6 *sustainable use, based on research and practical experience*

7 24. *Terms and technical rationale:* Conservation biology research, and methodologies and practical
8 techniques for conservation are fundamental to the conservation of plant diversity and the sustainable use
9 of its components. These can be applied through the development and effective dissemination of relevant
10 models and protocols for applying best practice, based on the results of existing and new research and
11 practical experience of management. ‘Protocols’ in this sense, can be understood as practical guidance on
12 how to conduct plant conservation and sustainable use activities in particular settings. Key areas where
13 the development of models with protocols is required include: the integration of in situ and ex situ
14 conservation; maintenance of threatened plants within ecosystems; applying the ecosystem approach;
15 balancing sustainable use with conservation; and methodologies for setting conservation priorities; and
16 methodologies for monitoring conservation and sustainable use activities.

17 25. *Progress:* The Plant Conservation Report notes that it is critical that a means of dissemination of
18 these protocols, including the Toolkit, is developed. The following milestones could serve as steps
19 towards the 2020 target:

20 (a) The establishment of a web-based compilation of resources by 2015 (national, regional
21 and international);

22 (b) Toolkit to support implementation of the Strategy available by 2012.

23 26. *Justification for changes:* There is no mention of sharing or making information accessible in the
24 original target wording; there was also a lack of clarity in the target text, creating confusion. The revised
25 wording includes the aspect of effective sharing, and replaces models and protocols with advice and
26 guidance. The target text would be made more comprehensive with this change, and able to stand on its
27 own.

28 ***Objective II: Plant diversity is urgently and effectively conserved***

29 *Target 4: Ecosystem services secured through effective management of at least 10% of major ecological*
30 *regions*

31 27. *Terms and technical rationale:* The long term goal is to have robust and healthy ecosystems, with
32 the world benefiting from their ecosystem services. Ecological regions are understood to mean large areas
33 of land or water that contain a geographically distinct assemblage of natural communities, that share a
34 large majority of their species, ecological dynamics and environmental conditions, and interact
35 ecologically in ways that are critical for their long-term persistence. Various approaches are available for
36 use in the identification of ecological regions, based on major vegetation types (e.g. tundra, mangrove,
37 temperate coastal forest). Effective management means that the area is managed to ensure the persistence
38 of the vegetation, and associated biotic and abiotic components.. To this end, we need to secure
39 ecosystem services through the conservation and restoration of a considerable proportion of the plant-
40 based ecological regions, including marine areas. There is a need to identify those regions most critically
41 threatened. About 10% of the land surface is currently covered by protected areas. In general, forests and
42 mountain areas are well represented in protected areas, while natural grasslands (such as prairies) and
43 coastal and estuarine ecosystems, including mangroves, are poorly represented. The target would imply:
44 (i) increasing the representation of different ecological regions in ecological networks, and (ii) increasing
45 the integrity and effective management of ecological networks. Since some ecological regions will

1 include protected areas covering more than 10% of their area, the qualifier “at least” is used. In some
 2 cases, ecosystems restoration and rehabilitation may be necessary. Various approaches are available for
 3 use in the identification of ecological regions, based on major vegetation types. REDD (Reducing
 4 emissions from deforestation and forest degradation), ecological networks, corridors, peace parks are
 5 potential means for reaching this target. Indigenous and Community Conserved Areas (ICCAs), include
 6 sacred forests, wetlands, and landscapes, village lakes, catchment forests, river and coastal stretches and
 7 marine areas. ICCAs can be natural and/or modified ecosystems containing significant biodiversity
 8 values, ecological services and cultural values, voluntarily conserved by Indigenous peoples and local
 9 communities, both sedentary and mobile, through customary laws or other effective means. ICCAs have
 10 been recognised as legitimate conservation sites by the Programme of Work on Protected Areas, and they
 11 deserve support and, as appropriate, inclusion in national and international systems.

12 28. *Progress:* The risks posed by climate change increase the importance of effective conservation
 13 and management of ecological regions. A review of the potential impact of climate change on existing
 14 protected area networks is needed. Currently there is uncertainty as to how the 10% level of this target
 15 relates to the conservation of either species-rich hotspots or areas of high threat or endemism, as these are
 16 not always correlated. However as the conservation species-rich hotspots and areas of high threat or
 17 endemism, is a key component of target 5, this target aims not only to ensure the increased representation
 18 of all ecological regions (and the species within them that are yet to be fully documented) in protected
 19 areas, but also to ensure that large tracts of important intact vegetation – crucial to under pinning
 20 ecosystem services – are effectively managed and thus sustained for the future. The following milestones
 21 could serve as steps towards the 2020 target:

22 (a) Establish which of the existing global or regional ecological region classifications are
 23 suitable for use at the national or regional scale (may differ around the world) ;

24 (b) Identify the co-occurrence of protected areas and these ecological regions in order to
 25 identify most critical regions increase as appropriate;

26 (c) Develop guidance on the management of critical vegetation types;

27 (d) Trial the implementation of management guidance through the ecosystem approach.

28 29. *Justification for changes:* This target has been suggested by the online consultation as requiring
 29 modification. It was felt that the target was difficult to define at national level for action and also it was
 30 limiting to just link to protected areas when the conservation of ecological regions have an important link
 31 to building ecological networks and providing ecosystem services.. There is need however to link to
 32 sustainable use and human well-being as well provide guidance on implementation of the target at
 33 national and regional level. In the terms and technical rationale, the importance of ecological networks
 34 has been stressed. There is general confusion regarding how this target relates to Target 5 and the new
 35 rationale seeks to clarify this. The core of this target is about the conservation of ecosystems, whether
 36 they are diverse or not. There is a need to ensure that ecosystems are healthy and functional and to
 37 maintain ecosystem services through the conservation of critical ecological regions.

38 *Target 5: Protection of at least 50 per cent of the most important areas for plant diversity assured with*
 39 *effective management for conserving plant diversity in place*

40 30. *Terms and technical rationale:* In the longer term the protection of all important areas for plant
 41 diversity –should be assured, including enlarging or connecting the area, as appropriate or possible, to
 42 combat threats, especially associated with climate change. The most important areas for plant diversity
 43 would be identified according to a set of criteria including endemism, species richness, and/or uniqueness
 44 of habitats, including relict ecosystems, also taking into account the provision of ecosystem services.
 45 These areas are identified primarily at local and national levels. Protection can be assured
 46 through effective conservation measures, including, but not limited to, protected areas. The key will be

1 ensuring appropriate management measures are taken to maintain and enhance the plant diversity. It is not
2 possible to provide an exhaustive list of threats to consider in designing effective management, as these
3 will vary in different regions. There should be consideration of threats due to climate change, as well as
4 linkage the development of ecological networks under target 4 and to consideration of invasive alien
5 species under target 10. Effective management measures for plants should documented in the
6 management plans developed using the ecosystem approach.

7 31. *Progress:* To date more than 35 countries have taken steps to identify important areas for plant
8 diversity and at least 17 have ongoing programmes that are addressing conservation issues as well as
9 documenting sites. Some important areas for plant diversity fall within officially protected areas (in
10 Europe this is approximately 66%) though this figure varies considerably between countries. The
11 percentage of important areas for plant diversity protected does not necessarily mean the site is
12 maintained in good condition. The view that the impact of climate change may make this target (and by
13 definition the conservation of highly diverse areas ineffective), is not substantiated. Well managed
14 protected areas will contain the largest, most resilient populations of species and numerous microhabitats
15 for these species to survive within; they provide staging posts for migration and a reservoir of genes for
16 evolution; they will therefore be the core of any landscape scale conservation schemes to mitigate the
17 impacts of climate change. The following milestones could serve as steps towards the 2020 target:

18 (a) Evaluation of protected areas against important areas for plant diversity by 2012;

19 (b) Identify threats to plants and plant habitats on IPAs

20 (c) Address issues raised by Milestone (a) and (b) by 2013;

21 (d) Measures specifically geared toward plant conservation incorporated into existing
22 management plans by 2015;

23 (e) Management plans developed through the ecosystem approach with the involvement of
24 local stakeholders on at least 5 IPAs (without existing management) per country by 2015.

25 32. *Justification for changes:* The rewording has been suggested as a next stage in addressing the
26 long-term target, to improve measurability, and to address emerging threats. The changes are linked to the
27 updated work programme on Protected Areas. Progress has been made in identifying areas and in
28 mapping these against protected areas, however management frequently fails to take into account the
29 needs of plant diversity, and the threats to it.

30 *Target 6: At least 30 per cent of production lands in each sector managed sustainably for plants and*
31 *consistent with the conservation of plant diversity*

32 33. *Terms and technical rationale:* The ultimate goal is for all production lands to be managed
33 sustainably, with agrobiodiversity conserved, without impacts on plant diversity or areas important for
34 plant diversity. For the purpose of the target, production lands refer to lands where the primary purpose is
35 agriculture (including horticulture), grazing, or wood production. Consistent with conservation of plant
36 diversity implies that a number of objectives are integrated into the management of such production
37 lands: Conservation of plant diversity which is an integral part of the production system itself (i.e., crop,
38 pasture or tree species and genetic diversity); Protection of other plant species in the production landscape
39 that are unique, threatened, or of particular socio-economic value; Use of management practices that
40 avoid significant adverse impacts on plant diversity in surrounding ecosystems, for example by avoiding
41 excessive release of agro-chemicals and preventing unsustainable soil erosion. Increasingly, integrated
42 production methods are being applied in agriculture, including integrated pest management, conservation
43 agriculture, and on-farm management of plant genetic resources. Similarly, sustainable forest
44 management practices are being more broadly applied. Against this background, and with the above
45 understanding of the terms used, the target is considered feasible. Higher targets are appropriate for

1 natural or semi-natural forests and grasslands. The management of production lands in a sustainable way
2 is key as it will lead to actions that will have as a consequence the conservation of plant diversity. This
3 includes the use of management practices that avoid adverse impacts on plant diversity in the production
4 areas and in the surrounding ecosystems. The development of the biofuel production is an issue of
5 particular concern, and management of production areas used for these purpose should take measures to
6 avoid exerting pressure on the conservation of plant diversity. The sectors to be considered under this
7 target include, *inter alia* croplands, pasture, forestry, including harvesting of non-timber forest products,
8 and aquaculture.

9 34. *Progress:* Target 6 was noted to be difficult to measure effect. There is need for clarity of
10 baselines, performance indicators and definition of terms such as ‘effectively conserved’ and ‘production
11 lands’. There was a recommendation to increase the threshold from 30% to 50% given the increasing
12 challenge of land degradation and climate change and also develop sector specific sub targets but due to
13 difficulties in monitoring progress the 30% threshold was maintained. The target links to the programme
14 of work on agricultural biodiversity and the Millennium Development Goals. The United Nations Forum
15 on Forests has agreed to a goal “Increase significantly the area of protected forests worldwide and the
16 area of sustainably managed forests and increase the proportion of forest products from sustainably
17 managed forests.” The following milestones could serve as steps towards the 2020 target:

18 (a) Establish links between the GSPC and the programmes of work on agricultural and forest
19 biodiversity;

20 (b) Different sectors should develop specific targets;

21 (c) Development and promotion of guidance that shows how management systems that are
22 consistent with the conservation of plant diversity can be achieved (for each sector)

23 (d) Testing the guidance referred to under (c) above in at least 2 sites in each sector and in
24 each region.

25 35. *Reasons for change:* To achieve more effective implementation, more sectors need to be engaged;
26 the addition of the word ‘sustainably’ is added to try to show the connections that are needed. As an extra
27 ambition for the target to 2020, the words ‘in each sector’ have been added, to show that all sectors must
28 have at least the benchmark percentage, not an average across them. The management of production
29 lands in a sustainable way is key as it will lead to actions that will have as a consequence the conservation
30 of plant diversity.

31 *Target 7: At least 60% of threatened species conserved in situ*

32 36. *Terms and technical rationale.* The target should be seen as a step towards the effective *in*
33 *situ* conservation of all threatened species. Conserved *in situ* is here understood to mean that biologically
34 viable populations of these species occur in at least one protected area or the species is effectively
35 managed outside the protected area network, e.g. as part of a management plan. Effective conservation
36 needs to consider (i) the genetic diversity of the species and (ii) climate change, for example by
37 determining whether the protected area network includes corridors, altitudinal gradients, or the presence
38 of multiple habitats to facilitate species movement. The target should also be interpreted to allow for
39 significant habitat and ecological restoration to enable its achievement. In this regard, guidelines in the
40 toolkit should provide adequate guidance on restoration and species recovery. The development of
41 internationally agreed guidelines for assisted migration of species impacted by climate change will be an
42 urgent requirement of the toolkit. Many endemic species are by definition vulnerable, and should be
43 treated as a priority, a sub-target of ensuring all endemics are found in at least one conservation area, or
44 are covered by species plans needs to be sought.

1 37. *Progress:* Many protected areas, especially in developing countries, do not have well-articulated
2 management objectives of any kind – let alone specific ones relating to protecting species. It will be
3 important to move from conserving 60% in situ to the conservation of 100%. Therefore the actions
4 underpinning this target will remain essential beyond 2020, as the current target is only a milestone
5 towards the objective of halting the loss of biodiversity. The following milestones could serve as steps
6 towards the 2020 target:

7 (a) Develop the means to measure if threatened species are conserved in protected area
8 systems that take into consideration climate change (e.g. reserves that have multiple habitat types, or
9 altitudinal gradients) using a representative sample;

10 (b) A monitoring system that allows a baseline to be established so that progress towards
11 achievement can be monitored (related to inventories of protected areas);

12 (c) Development of management plans for protected areas or for specific species of plants;

13 (d) 100% of single-country endemic species found in protected areas or covered by species
14 management plans.

15 38. *Justification for change:* The target percentage is unchanged because of the growing realization
16 of the additional threat of climate change, however, the qualifier “at least” is added to the target to
17 emphasize that the target is seen as an interim step towards a higher target. The removal of the emphasis
18 on the “worlds” threatened species is to emphasize the relevance of the target to national, regional, and
19 international levels.

20 *Target 8: At least 60% of threatened plant species in ex situ collections, and at least 10% in recovery and*
21 *restoration programmes*

22 39. *Terms and technical rationale:* *The ex situ collections should be accessible and should preferably*
23 *be in the country of origin.* This target moves towards achieving a comprehensive programme of ex situ
24 conservation that complements in situ conservation through the development of genetically representative
25 collections and measures to strengthen responses to the impacts of climate change. Currently, over 15,000
26 threatened species are maintained in living collections (botanic gardens, seed banks, and tissue culture
27 collections). Progress has been made up to the 2010 target to conserve 60% of all plant species, with the
28 development of greater capacity, resources and programmes, which could be built on to achieve the 2020
29 target. Further research, technology development and transfer, especially for species with recalcitrant
30 seeds will be needed to achieve the extended target. Within the first part of this target it is suggested that
31 priority be given to developing genetically representative collections of the most critically threatened
32 species, for which a target of 90% should be attained. It is estimated that currently about 5% of threatened
33 species are included in recovery and restoration programmes. Efficient focusing of resources and
34 monitoring of progress towards Target 8 is dependent on delivery of Target 2. Assessments of a
35 representative sample of plant species could provide a basis for initial estimation of baseline and progress
36 towards this Target. Toolkits under this target need to include protocols for genetic management of ex situ
37 collections, and reintroductions.

38 40. *Progress:* Significant progress has been made by some regions and countries, but countries with
39 high biodiversity still face the greatest challenges. In the absence of an updated global list of threatened
40 species (Targets 1 and 2), and with different lists in use, it is difficult to measure this target. The BGC
41 Plant Search database has already proved very useful in this regard and has the potential to be even more
42 effective once Target 2 outputs are available. Further definition of priority taxa is needed, such as narrow
43 endemics, sub specific taxa, critically endangered species and taxa with known or potential future use.
44 Mere presence of species in ex situ collections should not be seen as the outcome but rather genetically
45 representative collections. The following milestones could serve as steps towards the 2020 target:

1 (a) *Ex situ* collections of all Critically Endangered species should be genetically
2 representative of the species;

3 (b) A metadata base of living plant collections producing regular reports of the % of
4 threatened species in accessible *ex situ* collections;

5 (c) Establishment of a monitoring system for species included in recovery programmes.

6 41. *Justification for change.* The long-term target must be to ensure that all threatened plant species
7 are in accessible *ex situ* collections, in recognition of the increasing urgency of such measures as part of
8 the response to the impacts of climate change. The secondary target for recovery programmes will also
9 need to be adjusted upwards partly for the same reasons but also recognizing the significant advances that
10 have been made in recovery techniques, technology, and resources. The phrase referring to “preferably in
11 the country of origin” has been retained because it is the preferred option but it should be interpreted to
12 include conservation measures undertaken in another country on behalf of the relevant authorities (e.g.
13 seed banks). Genetically representative collections of the most endangered species need to be established
14 as a priority.

15 *Target 9: 70 per cent of the genetic diversity of crops and other socio-economically valuable plant*
16 *species conserved, and associated indigenous and local knowledge maintained*

17 42. *Terms and technical rationale:* Theory and practice demonstrate that, with an appropriate
18 strategy, 70% of the genetic diversity of a crop can be contained in a relatively small sample (generally,
19 less than one thousand accessions). For any one species, therefore, the target is readily attainable. By
20 2010, it is likely that the target will be reached for the majority of major crops, so increasing focus can be
21 placed on other socio-economically important species, including those of local importance. For some 200-
22 300 crops, it is expected that 70% of genetic diversity is already conserved *ex situ* in gene banks. Genetic
23 diversity is also conserved through on farm management. By working with local communities, associated
24 indigenous and local knowledge can also be maintained. Combining genebank, on farm, and other *in situ*
25 approaches, the target could be reached for all crops in production, as well as major forage and tree
26 species. Other major socio-economically important species, such as medicinal plants, could be selected on
27 a case-by-case basis, according to national priorities. Through the combined actions of countries, some
28 2,000 or 3,000 species could be covered in all. Especially in the light of biodiversity and climate change,
29 it is now particularly important to emphasize other socio-economically valuable plants, including
30 medicinal plants, non-timber forest products, local land races, wild relatives of crops, and neglected and
31 underutilized plant resources. Priority species can be selected on a case-by-case basis at the local,
32 national, and regional level.

33 43. *Progress:* The Global Crop Diversity Trust has been established to ensure the conservation and
34 availability of crop diversity for food security worldwide. Maintenance of associated indigenous and local
35 knowledge presents a particularly significant challenge and to date there is a lack of tested methodologies
36 and limited assessments of indigenous and local knowledge associated with plant genetic diversity. There
37 is need to focus more on socio-economically important species as these address the needs of indigenous
38 and local communities. There is need to define the link between this target to target 13 more clearly;
39 provide some priority lists as a baseline. The following milestones could serve as steps towards the 2020
40 target:

41 (a) Develop, in consultation with Indigenous and Local Communities, priority lists of socio-
42 economically important, underutilized species or little-known crops;

43 (b) Get increased buy-in and ownership of this target from global agencies such as FAO,
44 Global Crop Diversity Trust and Bioversity, which already have programmes which parallel this target
45 and Target 12.

1 48. *Progress:* The GSPC welcomes the new Decision formulated by the CITES Plants Committee
2 that it will collaborate with the Strategy. The fact that the CITES Plants Committee is interested in
3 interacting with the CBD, in the context of the GSPC, is evidence of engagement and satisfaction with the
4 target as it stands (refer to UNEP/CBD/LG-GSPC/3/INF/2). The following milestones could serve as
5 steps towards the 2020 target:

6 (a) Collaborate with the CITES Plants Committee to ensure linkages between the two
7 Conventions are complimentary and supportive;

8 (b) Improve implementation through strengthening linkages between national GSPC focal
9 points and CITES focal points.

10 *Target 12: A continuous increase in the percentage of plant-based products derived from naturally*
11 *occurring sources that are sustainably managed, based on progressive inventory and assessment*

12 49. *Terms and technical rationale:* This target is consistent with the long term goal of achieving
13 sustainable management of all plant resources. Plant-based products include food products, timber, paper
14 and other wood-based products, other fibre products, and ornamental, medicinal and other plants for
15 direct use, including non-timber forest products, local land races, wild relatives of crops, and neglected
16 and underutilised plant resources. Sources that are sustainably managed are understood to include (i)
17 Natural or semi-natural ecosystems that are sustainably managed (by avoiding overharvesting of products,
18 or damage to other components of the ecosystem), excepting that commercial extraction of resources
19 from some primary forests and near-pristine ecosystems of important conservation value might be
20 excluded: and (ii) Sustainably managed, plantation forests and agricultural lands. In both cases,
21 sustainable management should be understood to integrate social and environmental considerations, such
22 as the fair and equitable sharing of benefits and the participation of indigenous and local communities.
23 Indicators for progress might include (i) direct measures e.g.: products meeting relevant verified standards
24 (such as for organic food, certified timber, and intermediate standards that codify good practices for
25 sustainable agriculture and forestry); and (ii) indirect measures e.g.: products from sources considered to
26 be sustainable, or near sustainable, on the basis of farming system analyses, taking into account the
27 adoption of integrated production methods. Assessment of progress will be assisted by the development
28 of criteria and indicators of sustainable agricultural and forest management. Certified organic foods and
29 timber currently account for about 2% of production globally. For several product categories, examples
30 exist of 10–20% of products meeting intermediate standards. Against this baseline, the target is
31 considered to be attainable. It would be applied to each category of plant-based products, understanding
32 that for some categories it will be more difficult to reach and more difficult to monitor progress.
33 Implementation would require a combination of product-specific and sector-wide approaches, consistent
34 with the Convention's programme of work on agricultural biodiversity.

35 50. *Progress:* The previous figure of 30% for this target was perceived as arbitrary and in need of
36 review, better refinement, definition of terms, and if possible development of sub targets. Terms to be
37 clarified include 'plant based products' and 'effective'. There is need to integrate this target better with
38 target 6 and the programme of work on sustainable use. There is need to develop sub targets at sectoral
39 level and strengthen linkages with the private sector and consumers. This target probably requires
40 intercessional work and the gathering of data to identify gaps and issues, before a realistic target can be
41 set. The following milestones could serve as steps towards the 2020 target:

42 (a) Collaborate with FAO and Bioversity to inventory plant-based products (and identify the
43 species from which they are derived) by 2015;

44 (b) Assess or certify the sustainability of a diversity of plant-based products, according to
45 explicit criteria, in order to develop a realistic figure for this target by 2015;

46 (c) Collaborate with CITES authorities regarding CITES listed species.

1 51. *Justification for change.* The rationale of target 11 states that it is complementary to target 12.
2 This, however, is incongruent, because 100% of the internationally traded plants and plant products are
3 covered by target 11, but only 30% of the domestically traded ones are contemplated in target 12. In
4 addition, the current wording is in contradiction to objective 2 of the CBD, which states that all plant
5 resources shall be used sustainably. The rewording reflects the need to first inventory plant-based
6 products (and identify the species from which they are derived) and to assess or certify their sustainability
7 according to explicit criteria, before a specific numeric target can be proposed. This parallels the decision
8 that advances in the inventory of all plants (target 1) and assessment of their conservation status (target 2)
9 are necessary before setting targets for their in situ and ex situ conservation. To set a target before
10 engaging in inventory and assessment of plant-based products – which is arguably less well organized and
11 advanced than inventory and conservation status of plants in general – would be artificial and arbitrary.

12 *Target 13: The decline of plant resources, and associated indigenous and local knowledge innovations*
13 *and practices, that support sustainable livelihoods, local food security and health care, halted*

14 52. *Terms and technical rationale:* Plant diversity underpins livelihoods, food security and health
15 care. This target is consistent with one of the widely agreed international development targets, namely to
16 “ensure that current trends in the loss of environmental resources are effectively reversed at both global
17 and national levels by 2015”. It is recommended feasible to halt the decline by 2010 and subsequently to
18 reverse the decline. Relevant plant resources and methods to address their decline are largely site specific
19 and thus implementation must be locally driven. The scope of the target is understood to encompass plant
20 resources and associated ethnobotanical knowledge. Measures to address the decline in associated
21 indigenous and local knowledge should be implemented consistent with the Convention’s programme of
22 work on Article 8(j) and related provisions. As it stands, this is an enabling target, but indicators
23 measurable in the mid- and long-term should be identified and participation of stakeholders improved and
24 broadened. Specific indicators being formulated by ILO (on traditional occupations, some of which
25 related to plants and plant-derived materials) and UNESCO (culture and language loss) could be assessed
26 for possible inclusion.

27 53. *Progress:* This target cannot be accurately quantified. It was proposed in 2006 that several sub-
28 targets should be developed, taking an ecosystem-by-ecosystem approach (e.g. for agriculture, forest
29 resources and pasture resources), but there has been no progress in this respect and no milestones have
30 been declined. The consultation noted that this target was unsatisfactory, being vague and difficult to
31 measure and is not SMART. This target is a strategic link to the MDG framework, can be included in
32 national sustainable development policies and links well to sustainable livelihood initiatives. However,
33 there is need for guidance for practical implementation at national level and definition of sub targets for
34 different priorities. This target provides a basis to address ABS and article 8j related priorities within the
35 Strategy, and in line with the ABS negotiations, the thresholds may be need to be increased. The
36 consultation recommended that indigenous and local communities be involved in the review and update
37 of this target. The following milestones could serve as steps towards the 2020 target:

38 (a) Develop stakeholder consultations regarding the appropriateness of the wording on
39 Indigenous and Local Communities in the GSPC and development of possible sub-targets;

40 (b) Encourage Parties to incorporate this target into national sustainable development
41 policies or sustainable livelihood initiatives, where possible taking an ecosystem approach.

42 54. *Justification for change.* Whilst no change in the target wording has been made, it is recognised
43 that the inclusion of specific references to knowledge, practices and innovations of indigenous peoples
44 and local communities in the GSPC has great merit. It ties the Strategy to Article 8j and 10c of the CBD,
45 and relates it to the Malawi Principles for the ecosystem approach and the Addis Ababa Principles and
46 Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity. The Malawi Principles, adopted in 1998, advocate an
47 ecosystem wide approach and recommend the decentralisation of management to the lowest appropriate

1 levels, including by communities. The Addis Principles and Guidelines, adopted in 2004, advocate state
 2 recognition that use and knowledge of resources lead to sustainable management, particularly by local
 3 people. The milestones reflect opinions from the Plant Conservation Report and online consultation.

4 ***Objective IV: Education and awareness about plant diversity, its role in sustainable livelihoods and***
 5 ***importance to all life on earth is promoted***

6 *Target 14: The importance of plant diversity and the need for its conservation incorporated into*
 7 *communication, education and public awareness programmes*

8 55. *Terms and technical rationale:* Communication, education and the raising of public awareness
 9 about the importance of plant diversity are crucial for the achievement of all the targets of the strategy.
 10 The concept of plants underpinning the functioning biosphere needs to be widely understood by all
 11 sectors of society. This target is understood to refer to both informal and formal education at all levels,
 12 including primary, secondary and tertiary education. Key target audiences include not only children and
 13 other students, but also policy-makers and the public in general. Consideration should be given to
 14 developing specific indicators to monitor progress towards achievement of the overall target. It may be
 15 helpful to develop materials [indicators] for specific target audiences. Given the strategic importance of
 16 education about plant conservation, this issue should be included not only in environmental curricula, but
 17 should also be included in broader areas of mainstream education policy. A key message is the fact that
 18 climate change is a biological and socio-economic issue as well as a meteorological phenomenon.

19 56. *Progress:* The publication of the GSPC brochure and its translation into 10 languages is a key
 20 achievement, allowing easy access to the text of the Strategy for policy makers. However there is still a
 21 lack of awareness of the GSPC at the policy level in many countries. Issues to be addressed include the
 22 over-emphasis on animals and neglect of plants in environmental education programmes, a need for
 23 increased teacher-training relative to plant diversity, a lack of opportunity to experience nature first hand
 24 and messages being lost under an overwhelming level of advertising in all media. The on-line
 25 consultation suggests that indigenous and local communities, the business sector and media were least
 26 aware of the Strategy. This is an enabling target and as such it is difficult to set milestones or measure
 27 successes. In the light of climate change, this target remains a priority. We need to refocus our
 28 communication strategy to address livelihoods, ecosystem products and services. The following
 29 milestones could serve as steps towards the 2020 target:

30 (a) Develop key messages for a communication/marketing plan for the Strategy by 2015;

31 (b) Encourage Parties to incorporate plant conservation into national climate change, or other
 32 resource management documents or strategies.

33 57. *Justification for change:* Whilst no change in the target wording has been made, there is an urgent
 34 need to mainstream the Strategy and reach important sectors, including indigenous and local
 35 communities, the business sector, media and policy makers.

36 ***Objective V: The capacities and public engagement necessary to implement the Strategy have been***
 37 ***developed***

38 *Target 15: The number of trained people working with appropriate facilities in plant conservation*
 39 *increased, according to national needs, to achieve the targets of this Strategy*

40 58. *Terms and technical rationale.* The achievement of the targets included in the Strategy will
 41 require very considerable capacity-building, particularly to address the need for conservation practitioners
 42 trained in a range of disciplines, with access to adequate facilities. In addition to training programmes, the
 43 achievement of this target will require long-term commitment to maintaining infrastructure. "Appropriate
 44 facilities" are understood to include adequate technological, institutional and financial resources.

1 Capacity-building should be based on national needs assessments. It is likely that the number of trained
2 people working in plant conservation world-wide will need to double. Given the current geographical
3 disparity between biodiversity and expertise, this is likely to involve considerably more than a doubling
4 of capacity in many developing countries, small island developing States and countries with economies in
5 transition. Increased capacity should be understood to include not only in-service training, but also the
6 training of additional staff and other stakeholders and decision makers, particularly at the community
7 level.

8 59. *Progress.* This target remains fundamental for the achievement of the Strategy, overall there has
9 been limited commitment and leadership from all sectors. While there is no global baseline from which
10 progress can be measured, and despite relatively few countries having conducted needs assessments,
11 several global programmes have nevertheless made considerable progress in increasing the number of
12 trained people in plant conservation, particularly in developing countries. The target needs to be made
13 more measurable, baselines defined and a coordination and monitoring framework recommended. The
14 focus should not only be on numbers but also quality. National needs assessments may be an initial
15 priority. Plant science needs to be bolstered in all related disciplines, especially at tertiary level education,
16 so that various sectors such as forestry, horticulture, *inter alia* value the significance and importance of
17 plant conservation. Where capacity and facilities already exist, knowledge transfer and succession must
18 be secured. Accelerated and increased investment in Target 15 is critical for the overall achievement of all
19 the targets by 2020, but the lack of a lead agency for this target hampers progress. The following
20 milestones could serve as steps towards the 2020 target:

21 (a) Institutions strengthened with appropriate resources to teach whole plant science;

22 (b) Secure the transfer of knowledge and skills related to plant conservation.

23 *Target 16: Networks for plant conservation activities established or strengthened at national, regional*
24 *and international levels*

25 60. *Terms and technical rationale:* Networks can enhance communication and provide a mechanism
26 to exchange information, know-how and technology. Networks will provide an important component in
27 the coordination of effort among many stakeholders for the achievement of all the targets of the strategy.
28 They will also help to avoid duplication of effort and to optimize the efficient allocation of resources.
29 Effective networks provide a means to develop common approaches to plant conservation problems, to
30 share policies and priorities and to help disseminate the implementation of all such policies at different
31 levels. They can also help to strengthen links between different sectors relevant to conservation, e.g. the
32 botanical, environmental, agricultural, forest and educational sectors. Networks provide an essential link
33 between on-the-ground conservation action and coordination, monitoring and policy development at all
34 levels. This target is understood to include the broadening of participation in existing networks, as well as
35 the establishment, where necessary, of new networks.

36 61. *Progress.* At the global level the establishment of the GPPC has made a good start at bringing
37 together the plant conservation community, however greater efforts are needed to engage the other sectors
38 such as agriculture, industry, education, forestry, water management, Indigenous and Local Communities
39 communication. There is still a lack of cross-sectoral networks, with limited institutional integration and a
40 lack of mainstreaming. Where national responses have been prepared, this has helped provide a focus for
41 networking amongst the stakeholders. Need for networks at all levels (Global Partnership for Plant
42 Conservation and others). The following milestones could serve as steps towards the 2020 target:

43 (a) Structures and model information systems relevant to networks, as well as new
44 technologies (electronic networks) for participation as part of the toolkit available through the target 3
45 portal available by 2015;

1 (b) Increased membership of the GPPC by members from other sectors, e.g. agriculture,
2 industry, education, forestry, water management, Indigenous and Local Communities and communication
3 by 2015.

4 **G. THE STRATEGY AS A FRAMEWORK**

5 62. The Strategy is not intended to be a “programme of work” analogous to existing thematic and cross-
6 cutting programmes of work under the Convention. It does not, therefore, contain detailed activities,
7 expected outputs, etc. Rather, the Strategy provides a framework by means of setting outcome-orientated
8 targets (these differ from the “process” targets used so far under the Convention). It is envisaged that the
9 activities necessary to reach those targets could be developed within this framework. In many cases,
10 activities are already under way, or envisaged in existing initiatives. These include:

11 (a) Activities aimed at plant conservation within national biodiversity strategies and action
12 plans and relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies. In this respect, Parties and
13 Governments may wish to report on the incorporation of the Strategy in their national plans, programmes
14 and policies;

15 (b) Relevant activities under the programmes of work of the Convention on Biological
16 Diversity, including those relating to agricultural biodiversity, forest biological diversity, inland water
17 biological diversity, marine and coastal biological diversity, and dry and sub-humid lands, as well as
18 activities involving cross-cutting issues such as access and benefit-sharing, sustainable use, indicators,
19 alien species, the Global Taxonomy Initiative, and issues related to Article 8(j).

20 **H. FURTHER WORK REQUIRED TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT THE STRATEGY**

21 63. Measures to implement the Strategy will need to be put in place at international, national, and
22 subnational levels. This will include development of national targets and their incorporation into relevant
23 plans, programmes and initiatives, including national biodiversity strategies and action plans. National
24 targets will vary from country to country according to differences in levels of plant diversity and national
25 priorities. Multilateral and bilateral funding agencies should consider putting in place policies and
26 procedures to ensure that their funding activities are supportive of and do not run counter to the strategy
27 and its targets.

28 64. For each target, the scope of activities may need to be clarified and sub-targets, or milestones,
29 developed. In order to monitor progress towards achieving the targets, baseline data and a series of
30 indicators may need to be developed. This would draw upon relevant national and international data sets
31 (such as national "red lists"), and make full use of the clearing-house mechanism.

32 65. Regional components of the Strategy might be developed, perhaps using a biogeographical approach.

33 66. In addition to the Parties to the Convention, the design, development and implementation of the
34 strategy should involve a range of actors, including:

35 (a) International initiatives (e.g., international conventions, intergovernmental organizations,
36 United Nations agencies, multilateral aid agencies);

37 (b) Conservation and research organizations (including protected-area management boards,
38 botanic gardens, gene banks, universities, research institutes, non-governmental organizations and
39 networks of non-governmental organizations);

40 (c) Communities and major groups (including indigenous and local communities, farmers,
41 women, youth);

1 (d) Governments (central, regional, local authorities);

2 (e) The private sector.

3 67. In order to promote implementation of the strategy and facilitate cooperation between these initiatives,
4 the Executive Secretary will collaborate with relevant stakeholders. To ensure full participation, the actors
5 mentioned in paragraph 21 above should reflect not only United Nations geographical regions but also
6 biogeographical regions. This collaboration will aim at avoiding duplication of effort, promote
7 collaboration and synergies among existing initiatives, and facilitate analysis of the status, trends, and
8 effectiveness of different measures on the conservation and sustainable use of plant diversity.
9 Consideration might also be given to the establishment of a flexible coordination mechanism.

10

11
