Annex

Part I. Developments and issues under the CBD relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, and the role of seafood in global food security

INTRODUCTION

1. This note consists of brief descriptions ofthe work carried out under the Convention on Biological
Diversity (CBD) in the following areas related to ocean affairs and the law ofthe sea, in focusing on those relating to the role of seafood in global food security: (i) Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets; (ii) improving sustainable management of fisheries; (iii) supporting the implementation of other agreements and plans of action for sustainable fisheries; (iv) collaboration, capacity-building, and biodiversity mainstreaming; and (v) relevant expert processes.

2. This contribution includes a detailed description of the work carried out under the CBD, within
the framework of the elaborated Programme of Work on marine and coastal biological diversity (annex I to decision VIL/5), related to the role of seafood in global food security, as well as an executive summary of the full contribution, as per the guidance provided.

3. Executive Summary

Work under the CBD has focused on sustainable fisheries to support global food security. This
focus on sustainable fisheries is embodied in the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and especially in Aichi Biodiversity Target 6, which aims to ensure that, by 2020, all fish and invertebrate stocks and aquatic plants are managed and harvested sustainably, legally and applying ecosystem-based approaches. in 2010, the Conference of the Parties (COP) adopted decision X/29 (http://www.cbd,int/doc/decisions/cop-10/cop-lO-dec-29-en.pdf), in which COP identified means to achieve this target, including by implementing the ecosystem approach, eliminating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, minimizing the detrimental impacts of fishing practices, and mitigating and managing by-catch. COP in its decision X/29 further encouraged Parties and other Governments to implement United Nations General Assembly resolution 64/72 on bottom fishing and deep-sea fish stocks and also urged them to consider ratifying the FAO agreement on Port States measures to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, and to implement the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement, as well as relevant FAO international plans of action and to develop national or regional plans of action or equivalent. As a means to facilitate the achievement of Aichi Biodiversity Target 6 and other Targets relevant to marine and coastal biodiversity, the Sustainable Ocean Initiative, which is coordinated by the SCBD in collaboration with various partners, was created in 2010 as a platform to build partnerships and enhance capacity.

In 2012, COP adopted decision XI/18, in which COP encouraged inter-agency collaboration between biodiversity and fisheries bodies and the participation by a range of experts on biodiversity, indigenous and local communities in fisheries management, and invited fisheries management bodies to integrate biodiversity considerations into their work.

The CBD Secretariat has also convened expert processes on sustainable fisheries. In 2011, the
CBD Secretariat convened, in collaboration with FAO, UNEP and the Fisheries Experts Group of the IUCN Commission of Ecosystem Management, a Joint Expert Meeting on Addressing Biodiversity Concerns in Sustainable Fisheries. The meeting reviewed and proposed options to address biodiversity concerns in fisheries management. This meeting drew on the results of the CBD Secretariat’s collaboration

STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020 AND THE AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS

4. Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. The vision of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-
2020, which was adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting in 2010 (COP 10), is that “by 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people.” The Strategic Plan aims to achieve this vision through twenty Aichi Biodiversity Targets (http://www.cbd.int/sp/targets/), which provide guidance on the measures and enabling conditions needed to improve conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. The critical role of seafood in global food security can be supported through the achievement of a combination of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, in the context of the Strategic Plan. During COP 10, Parties committed to review, and as appropriate update and revise, their national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs), in line with the Strategic Plan. In light of this decision, the CBD Secretariat, with the support of the Japan Biodiversity Fund, organized a series of sub-regional workshops to assist Parties to revise their NBSAPs and to include national targets. In addition, in 2013 a global workshop was organized to review the revision process (http://www.cbd.int/nbsap/workshops/global/default.shtml). As of June 2013, over 130 Parties eligible for assistance from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), as the Financial Mechanism of the CBD, have initiated the process of accessing and using GEF Enabling Activity (EA) funds, and other funds, to facilitate this process of updating NBSAPs, in addition to developing their 5th National Reports and strengthening their Clearing-House Mechanisms (CHMs).

5. Aichi Biodiversity Target 6. The CBD’ s focus on sustainable fisheries is embodied in Aichi
Biodiversity Target 6. Aichi Biodiversity Target 6 aims to ensure that, 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.

6. The other Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Aichi Biodiversity Target 6 is one of the targets under Goal
B of the Strategic Plan: “Reduce the direct pressures on biodiversity and promote sustainable use.” Other targets of particular relevance to marine biodiversity are Targets 8, 9, and 10. Aichi Biodiversity Target 8 aims to ensure that, by 2020, pollution, including from excess nutrients, has been brought to levels that are not detrimental to ecosystem function and biodiversity. The focus of Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 is to ensure that, by 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment. Aichi Biodiversity Target 10 aims to ensure that, 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. As well, Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 facilitates countries to expedite their current efforts to protect important fish habitat and

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Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and relevant international and regional organizations, including regional fisheries management organizations, as appropriate, and in accordance with international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, to ensure the sustainability of fisheries, by managing the impacts of fisheries on species and the wider ecosystem to achieve the outcomes of Target 6 of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, by implementing the ecosystem approach; eliminating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing; minimizing the detrimental impacts of fishing practices; mitigating and managing by-catches sustainably and reducing discards, in order to attain a sustainable exploitation level of marine fishery resources and thereby contributing to a good environmental status in marine and coastal waters (paragraph 13(g)).

8. Sustainable fisheries in the context of coastal communities. COP, in its decision Xi29, also encouraged Parties and other Governments to take appropriate measures, where necessary, to improve the sustainability of harvesting of coastal and inshore marine resources so that overfishing is avoided; such measures should be undertaken together with coastal communities dependent on these resources, and mindful of socio-economic constraints, with the

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and meaningful participation by a wide range of experts on biodiversity, indigenous and local communities, taking into consideration Article 8(j) and 10(c) of the Convention, and relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, in the fisheries management process (paragraph 2).

12. Sustainable Ocean Initiative. In decision X/29, COP emphasized the need for training and capacity-building of developing country Parties through workshops that contribute to sharing experiences and knowledge related to the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity (paragraph 37). Pursuant to this need, the Sustainable Ocean Initiative (SOI) was formed on the margins of the tenth meeting of the COP in 2010. SOT, which is coordinated by the SCBD in collaboration with various partners, provides a global platform to build partnerships and enhance capacity to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets related to marine and coastal biodiversity. SOT is focused especially on facilitating information sharing, creating partnerships for targeted capacity-building to support implementation, enhancing interactive