

<u>Standing Committee II -</u> <u>Sustainable Development,</u> <u>Finance and Trade</u>

C-II/111/DR-am 22 September 2004

THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS IN PRESERVING BIODIVERSITY

Amendments to the revised draft resolution submitted within the statutory deadline by the delegations of Algeria, Belgium, Cameroon, Canada, Cuba, Egypt, India, Japan, Norway, Romania, the Sudan, Sweden and the United Kingdom^{*}

PREAMBLE

Paragraph 1

Amend the tenth bullet point as follows:

(...)

 International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources, 1983 (superseded by the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources, 2001);
(...)

(Canada)

Add the following new bullet point at the end of the paragraph:

(1) *Recalling* the:

[...]

• Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, 1992,

(Japan)

Add the following new bullet points at the end of the paragraph:

(1) *Recalling* the:

[...]

- Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity, 2000,
- International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, 2001
- Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),

(Norway)

^{*} The delegation of Venezuela also submitted, shortly before the statutory deadline, a series of proposed amendments in Spanish, explaining that a translated version would soon follow. They will be circulated as soon as they are available in French and English.

Add the following new bullet point at the end of the paragraph:

- (1) *Recalling the:*
 - [...]
 - International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, 2001

(Sweden)

New paragraphs 1bis and 1ter

Add two new paragraphs after paragraph 1 to read as follows:

(1bis) *Recalling also* the:

- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe's Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, 1991, and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment, 2003;
- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe's Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters, 1998;
- Council of Europe's Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, 1979;

(Romania)

(1ter) *Recalling* the Brasilia Plan of Action adopted by the Inter-Parliamentary Conference on Environment and Development (Brasilia, 23-27 November 1992);

(Romania)

Paragraph 2

Amend to read as follows:

(2) Acknowledging the work of the World Conservation Union (IUCN) aimed at completing the difficult task of establishing the status of global diversity biodiversity,

(Canada)

Paragraph 3

Amend to read as follows:

(3) *Recognising* that the intrinsic value of biodiversity – variability within and among living organisms and the systems they inhabit – is critical to the survival of the planet and the species that inhabit it as humankind has known them,

(Canada)

Paragraph 4

Amend to read as follows:

(4) Also recognising that the conservation of biodiversity is a necessary condition for sustainable development insofar as such efforts contribute to poverty alleviation, food security, the provision of fresh water, **biomass energy**, soil conservation and human health,

(Algeria)

Amend to read as follows:

(4) Also recognising that the conservation of biodiversity is a **prerequisite** necessary condition for sustainable development insofar as such efforts **are vital for** contribute to poverty alleviation, food security, the provision of fresh water, soil conservation and human health,

New paragraphs 4bis and 4ter

Add two new paragraphs after paragraph 4 to read as follows:

(4bis) *Stressing* the importance of biosphere reserves, including transboundary biosphere reserves, in achieving the goals of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

(Romania)

(Sweden)

(4ter) Acknowledging, in this respect, the role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's Man and the Biosphere Programme and the Seville Strategy for Biosphere Reserves in promoting the preservation and sustainable use of biodiversity;

(Romania)

Paragraph 5

Amend to read as follows:

(5) *Recalling* that the current rate of biodiversity loss, as caused by human action, represents the first significant extinction event **caused by a species** in the Earth's history,

(Canada)

Amend to read as follows:

(5) *Recalling* that the current rate of biodiversity loss, as caused by human action, represents the first significant extinction event is unprecedented in the Earth's history,

(United Kingdom)

(Norway)

Amend to read as follows:

Delete the paragraph.

(7) *Convinced* that an improvement of the definition improved public understanding of the term "biodiversity", as used in the Convention on Biological Diversity, will heighten its practical use in some national and local conservation strategies,

(Canada)

Paragraph 8

Paragraph 7

Delete the paragraph.

(Cuba)

Amend to read as follows:

(8) *Noting* that the Convention on Biological Diversity does not clearly refer to the core causes of biodiversity loss, **including inter alia population growth and unsustainable production and consumption patterns**,

(Canada)

Paragraph 9

Amend to read as follows:

(9) Also noting that the greatest threats to biodiversity resulting from human activity are habitat loss, climate change, invasive **alien** species, over-exploitation and pollution,

(Canada)

Amend to read as

New paragraph 10bis

Add a new paragraph after paragraph 10 to read as follows:

(10bis) Underscoring that in a transboundary context the sound management of natural resources and the preservation of biodiversity and ecological balance require consultations and the full cooperation and coordination of efforts between neighbouring States, within the applicable international, regional and bilateral legal framework;

(Romania)

Paragraph 11

Amend to read as follows:

(11) *Recalling* the commitments undertaken at the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the Seventh Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity aimed at reducing **significantly** the current rate of biodiversity loss by 2010,

(Canada)

Amend to read as follows:

(11) *Recalling* the commitments undertaken at the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the Seventh Sixth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity aimed at reducing the current rate of biodiversity loss by 2010,

(Norway)

Paragraph 12

Amend to read as follows:

(12) *Recalling* in particular the programme of work on protected areas adopted during the most recent meeting of the **Seventh** Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,

Paragraph 13

Amend to read as follows:

(13) *Recalling* that in situ conservation efforts in protected areas are, by themselves, insufficient to stem the loss of biodiversity,

(United Kingdom)

(Norway)

Paragraph 15

Amend to read as follows:

(15) *Recalling* in particular paragraph 44r of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg, 2002) aimed in particular at enhancing synergy and mutual supportiveness between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the policies and international trade agreements of the World Trade Organization (WTO),

(Canada)

New paragraph 15bis

Add a new paragraph after paragraph 15 to read as follows:

(15bis) *Considering* the Policy Statement adopted on 16 May 2002 at the High Level Meeting of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, on the need to integrate the Rio Conventions into cooperation activities for development,

(Algeria)

Paragraph 16

Amend to read as follows:

(16) *Considering Recalling* the entry into force of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity,

(United Kingdom)

Paragraph 17

Delete the paragraph.

(Cuba)

(Belgium)

(Sudan)

(United Kingdom)

(Canada)

Paragraph 18

Amend to read as follows:

(18) *Concerned* that the commercialisation of biodiversity, in particular in respect of genetic resources and traditional knowledge, may perpetuate historically inequitable relationships between the developed and developing countries (including States with tropical forests),

Amend to read as follows:

(18) *Concerned* that the commercialisation of biodiversity may perpetuate historically inequitable relationships between the developed and developing countries (including States with tropical forests), by forcing the peasants in the developing countries to pay royalties for the right to use the genetic materials pirated from their fields and forests,

Amend to read as follows:

(18) *Concerned* that the commercialisation of biodiversity may perpetuate historically inequitable relationships between the developed and developing countries (including States with tropical forests) and aware that the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity is the forum which considers these issues and endeavours to find workable and equitable solutions,

New paragraph 18bis

Add a new paragraph after paragraph 18 to read as follows:

(18bis) Acknowledging that, in the absence of a clear regime that provides for equitable sharing, scientific research on biodiversity that could lead to improved conservation has been unnecessarily impeded by some overly strict and broad regulation,

Add a new paragraph after paragraph 18 to read as follows:

Realising that by enforcing a global patent regime for genetic materials, the (18bis) World Trade Organization (WTO) has created a monopoly over the related knowledge, seeds and biodiversity, and impoverished millions of indigenous farmers in the Third World countries by creating dependency on giant agrochemical companies and forcing them to buy what they would otherwise produce for themselves,

(Sudan)

(Canada)

Paragraph 19

Amend to read as follows:

(19) Noting that providers of genetic resources and traditional knowledge have no means with which to prevent their misuse by multinational corporations,

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Amend to read as follows:

(19) *Noting* that providers of genetic resources and traditional knowledge have no means with which to prevent their misuse by multinational corporations share in their benefits on mutually agreed terms,

Amend to read as follows:

(19) *Noting* that providers of genetic resources and traditional knowledge have no means with which to prevent their misuse by **irresponsible regimes and** multinational corporations,

Amend to read as follows:

(19) Noting that providers of genetic resources and traditional knowledge have no means limited means with which to prevent their misuse by multinational corporations and that existing mechanisms such as national legislation, the Bonn Guidelines on Access to Genetic Resources and Fair and Equitable Sharing of the Benefits arising out of their utilization, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and recent developments in the international treaty on plant genetic resources for food and agriculture should be implemented and developed as the main mechanisms to address these shortcomings,

(United Kingdom)

Paragraph 20

Delete the paragraph.

Amend to read as follows:

(20) Observing that while a number of Member States require assistance to save conserve their remaining biodiversity reserves, in particular genomes and genes of social, scientific or economic importance, inter alia through the maintenance of seed banks, only a few (10) have to date called upon the services of the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI),

(Canada)

Amend to read as follows:

(20) Observing that while a number of States require assistance to save their remaining biodiversity reserves to safeguard, through ex situ measures, elements of their biodiversity, in particular for example through the maintenance of seed banks, only a few (10) have to date called upon the services of the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI),

(United Kingdom)

New paragraph 21bis

Add a new paragraph after paragraph 21 to read as follows:

(21bis) *Stressing* the need for a comprehensive and accurate environmental impact assessment to be conducted before any project that may affect biodiversity is undertaken;

(Cuba)

(Sweden)

(Canada)

Paragraph 22

Amend to read as follows:

(22) *Concerned* that world leaders have neither given political priority to biodiversity, nor mandated and adequately funded an international organisation such as UNEP to coordinate the current scattered collection of environmental treaty instruments, including the Convention on **Biological Diversity** Biodiversity,

Amend to read as follows:

(22) *Concerned* that world leaders have neither given political priority to biodiversity, nor mandated and adequately funded **programmes** an international organisation such as UNEP to coordinate the current scattered collection of environmental treaty instruments, including the Convention on Biodiversity,

Add the following paragraphs at the end of the preamble:

Conscious of the lack of awareness in international public opinion of the fate of people living in tropical rainforest areas,

Concerned that this lack of awareness does not sufficiently take into consideration their aspiration for a better life,

Emphasising the inadequacy of the measures and means available to bring the countries that have not yet acceded to international conventions and treaties for the protection and preservation of biological diversity to ratify such instruments,

Emphasising the devastating and dangerous role of the industries of the wealthy countries, which emit toxic gases and waste and deadly radiation, in the environmental pollution of today's ecosystem. The ozone hole, which threatens all wildlife and human life on the planet as well as biological diversity, is the best illustration,

Noting that preserving biological diversity and combating environmental pollution are prerequisites for ensuring the safety and security of humankind, as basic factors of a global security concept that transcends purely policing functions and includes political, economic, social, cultural and environmental dimensions,

Observing the painful reality of most developing countries, which are the main producers of natural resources, following the lasting and excessive export of their natural wealth by multinational corporations, especially as such countries have difficulty in replacing or renewing their resources because they lag in technological fields and lack an environmental culture,

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(India)

(Cameroon)

(Cameroon)

(Egypt)

(Egypt)

(Egypt)

(Canada)

Highlighting the need to establish a close link between environmental and development questions so as to ensure a healthy life for present and future generations,

(Egypt)

Emphasising the loss of vegetation, the extension of arid areas, the transformation of productive lands into unproductive lands and the disappearance of forests and wild plants, with the consequence that several species have gone extinct or are threatened with extinction,

(Egypt)

OPERATIVE PART

New operative paragraph before paragraph 1

Add a new operative paragraph to read as follows:

- Calls on States that have not yet done so to ratify the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, as well as the other biodiversity-related treaties and agreements adopted at international and regional levels;

(Romania)

Operative paragraph 1

Amend to read as follows:

 Calls on governments to take more effective action in implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity in order to reduce achieve the target set by the World Summit on Sustainable Development of reducing significantly the current rate of biodiversity loss by 2010;

(United Kingdom)

Operative paragraph 2

Amend to read as follows:

2. *Encourages* governments to implement **effectively** other international agreements related to biodiversity and to improve coordination in order better to meet the goals of the Convention;

(Canada)

Amend to read as follows:

2. *Encourages* governments effectively to implement the other international and regional agreements related to biodiversity and to improve coordination in order better to meet the goals of the Convention;

(Romania)

New operative paragraph 2bis

Add a new paragraph after operative paragraph 2 to read as follows:

2bis. *Recommends* that all States foster cooperation among the countries in their regions which share cross-border resources, in the interest of the conservation of biodiversity that is considered characteristic thereof, through the sharing and exchanging of information and knowledge about such resources;

(Japan)

Operative paragraph 3

Amend to read as follows:

3. Urges governments to focus their efforts on the immediate implementation of the programme of work on protected areas, with a view to establishing, by 2010 in terrestrial areas and by 2012 in marine areas, a comprehensive, effectively managed and ecologically representative national and regional systems of protected areas;

(Canada)

Operative paragraph 4

Amend to read as follows:

4. *Recommends* that governments recognise *inter alia* population growth and current global economic structures as major impediments to reducing significantly the loss of biodiversity unsustainable production and consumption patterns as core causes of biodiversity loss;

(Canada)

Operative paragraph 5

Amend to read as follows:

5. Urges governments to address the mechanisms of biodiversity loss, inter alia by examining and coordinating methods to reduce invasive **alien** species and by addressing climate change by fully and effectively implementing the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

(Canada)

Amend to read as follows:

 Urges governments to address the mechanisms causes of biodiversity loss, inter alia by examining and coordinating methods to reduce invasive species and by addressing climate change by fully and effectively implementing the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

(United Kingdom)

Operative paragraph 6

Amend to read as follows:

6. Further recommends that in the Convention on Biological Diversity, the aspect of sovereignty over biological resources be resolved in order to allow an international body to act in reas where resources transcend national borders. To this end, urges all Member States of the United Nations to authorise and adequately fund UNEP to upgrade it so that it may serve as the focal point for activities related to biodiversity;

(Canada)

Amend to read as follows:

6. Further recommends that in urges all members to decide on mutually agreed terms, on a bilateral basis, about their use of and access to biological resources, as the Convention on Biological Diversity the aspect of sovereignty over biological resources be resolved in order to allow an international body to act in areas where resources transcend national borders. To this end, urges all Member States of the United Nations to authorise and adequately fund UNEP to upgrade it so that it may serve as the focal point for activities related to biological resources and are responsible for conserving them in a sustainable manner.

(India)

Amend to read as follows:

 Further recommends that in the Convention on Biological Diversity, the aspect of sovereignty over biological resources be resolved in order to allow an international body to act in areas where resources transcend national borders. To this end, urges all Member States of the United Nations to authorise and adequately fund UNEP to upgrade it so that it may serve as the focal point for activities related to biodiversity;

(United Kingdom)

New operative paragraph 6bis

Add a new paragraph after operative paragraph 6 to read as follows:

6bis. In view of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)'s important role in promoting closer cooperation between multilateral environmental agencies, including those in the biodiversity and chemical clusters, *urges* Member States of the United Nations to ensure that UNEP is adequately and predictably funded, in the short term through wider application of the indicative scale of contributions to its main Environment Fund;

(United Kingdom)

Operative paragraph 7

Amend to read as follows:

 Recommends that all Member States do their utmost to save remaining biodiversity reserves conserve genomes and genes of social, scientific or economic importance, and where appropriate, that they apply for the assistance of he International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI);

(Canada)

Amend to read as follows:

7. Recommends that all States do their utmost to save remaining biodiversity reserves do their utmost to conserve their biodiversity, using in situ and ex situ methods where appropriate and, that they apply for the assistance of the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI);

(United Kingdom)

Operative paragraph 8

Amend the two bullet points to read as follows:

(...)

- Fostering the ecosystems approach developed by the Convention on Biological Diversity as a key concept for the management of soils, water and living organisms integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way, and
- Incorporating the objectives of biodiversity conservation in sectors such as agriculture, fisheries, forest management, water management and transportation;

(Canada)

Amend to read as follows:

8. *Calls on* governments to take more effective action in general in implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity over and above actions in the specific domain of protected areas, by: through existing and functioning thematic programmes and intersectoral activities, by:...

(Cuba)

Amend the last bullet point to read as follows:

 Incorporating the objectives of biodiversity conservation in sectors such as agriculture, forest management, water management and transportation, and in general in social and economic plans and programmes;

(Cuba)

Amend the last bullet point to read as follows:

• Incorporating the objectives of biodiversity conservation in sectors such as agriculture, forest management, **fisheries**, water management and transportation;

(Sweden)

Operative paragraph 9

Amend to read as follows:

9. *Encourages* governments to commit themselves actively to the establishment of an international regime on access to genetic resources and the **concerted and fair** sharing of benefits;

Operative paragraph 11

Delete the paragraph.

(Romania)

(Algeria)

Amend to read as follows:

11. *Invites* governments which have not yet done so to ratify and implement consider in an expeditious manner the ratification of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety or to otherwise implement timely and effective procedures that are in accordance with the objectives of the Protocol;

(Canada)

Amend to read as follows:

11. *Invites* governments which have not yet done so to ratify and implement the **Convention on Biological Diversity and its** Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;

(Sweden)

Operative paragraph 12

Amend to read as follows:

12. Urges governments to give full consideration in their trade policies to the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety recognizing the objective of mutual supportiveness of trade and environmental protection agreements in achieving sustainable development;

(Canada)

Operative paragraph 13

Amend to read as follows:

13. Calls on governments parties to strengthen their efforts at all levels for the full implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, in particular through increased allocations of the human, financial and technical resources required, both in developed and developing countries;

(Canada)

New operative paragraphs 13bis and 13ter

Add two new paragraphs after operative paragraph 13 to read as follows:

13bis. *Further calls* for coordinated actions by the countries concerned with a view to protecting natural habitats situated in border areas, particularly transboundary biosphere reserves, in conformity with the multilateral and bilateral agreements and legally binding instruments to which they are parties;

(Romania)

13ter. Urges these countries to notify and consult with each other on projects that might have adverse effects on shared natural resources, and to make sure that comprehensive environmental impact assessments, in accordance with international standards, including the appropriate public consultation and an evaluation of the transboundary impact, are conducted before implementing such projects;

(Romania)

Operative paragraph 15

Amend the second bullet point to read as follows:

(...)

• Developing appropriate and country-specific economic and social incentives to foster the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, keeping in view local factors which influence biodiversity;

(...)

(India)

Amend to read as follows:

15. *Undertakes* to take *Calls for* action in the respective Member Parliaments aimed at:

(Romania)

(...)

Add three new bullets points to read as follows:

- Ensuring that the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity are integrated into national sectoral and cross-sectoral programmes and policies,
- Updating and developing, where needed, the legal framework which relates to the preservation and sustainable use of biodiversity,
- Promoting the necessary mechanisms to allow input from civil society organisations and special interest groups in the decision-making process related to biodiversity.

(Romania)

Add a new bullet point to read as follows:

15. *Undertakes* to take action in the respective parliaments aimed at:

(...)

 Preserving traditional knowledge in developing countries to avoid recurrent famines and starvation.

(Sudan)

Amend to read as follows:

15. Undertakes **Recommends that parliamentarians** to take action in their respective parliaments aimed at:

(...)

- Increasing knowledge, understanding and awareness, among civil society and decision-makers, of the relationship between conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, and economic growth and social welfare;
- Fostering and encouraging initiatives and projects at all levels that engage civil society and other relevant actors in the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, and that disseminate information to this end.

(Sweden)

Amend the first bullet point to read as follows:

- 15. *Undertakes* to take action in the respective parliaments aimed at:
 - Assessing the economic and social benefits associated with the sound management of ecosystems, so as to incorporate the economic and social value of goods and services provided by biodiversity in decisions involving public finance, policy, planning, and natural resource management;

(United Kingdom)

New operative paragraph 15bis

Add a new paragraph after operative paragraph 15 to read as follows:

15bis. Undertakes to develop inter-parliamentary cooperation as a means to promote international partnership in support of effective preservation and sustainable use of biodiversity worldwide;

(Romania)

Paragraphs to add at the end of the operative part

- *Recommends* that the concern for the protection of biological diversity take into account human development in tropical rainforest areas, which account for just 7 per cent of the world's landmass;

(Cameroon)

Proposes the establishment of compensatory funding schemes centred on the development priorities of tropical rainforest countries, including roads, electrification and access to clean water;

(Cameroon)

- Requests that the question of preserving biological diversity and combating environmental pollution be placed on the agenda of regional and international organisations, non-governmental organisations and civil society associations, as preserving biological diversity and combating environmental pollution are prerequisites for the stability of the world ecosystem and the very preservation of the human species;
- *Calls for* activation of the role of the Global Environment Fund, aimed at conserving biological diversity and combating environmental pollution, and for that purpose at providing the scientists, experts and technicians, as well as the required financing, continuously and in sufficient quantities;
- Requests that the subject of the environment and biological diversity be included in all economic reform and sustainable development programmes established by the world economic, financial and trade institutions, beginning with the International Monetary Fund. The protection of biological diversity must be a precondition established by the donors and the wealthy countries for their provision of loans, aid and technical and technological assistance to countries that jeopardise biological diversity;
- Urges the advanced countries to transfer the experience, biotechnologies and new discoveries in genetic engineering, which they have monopolised, to the poor countries, so as to assist in their development process and preserve their natural resources, along with the use of local knowledge and experience;
 - (Egypt)

(Egypt)

- *Recommends* that the term biological diversity should be defined completely and precisely so as to avoid any ambiguity and to make it possible to monitor the implementation of States' commitments under the relevant international treaties and conventions;
- *Recommends* that special committees be established for environmental affairs in parliaments where such committees do not yet exist, addressing exclusively the protection of biological diversity and the control of environmental pollution, and that the remit of existing committees be extended. It is incumbent upon the IPU, as the world organisation of parliaments, to adopt the idea of such a committee, as it has for the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians and the Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law;

(Egypt)

Requests parliamentarians to include appropriations in their countries' budgets for the protection, conservation and enrichment of biological diversity, so as to safeguard future generations;

(Egypt)

(Egypt)

(Egypt)

(Egypt)

- *Requests* that environmental awareness be built up by teaching the environment as a subject at school and at university, from elementary school through higher education.

(Egypt)

- Calls on governments to promote coherent international environmental governance, including increased cooperation and harmonisation between relevant organisations, programmes and conventions, in order to avoid overlapping and achieve synergies;

(Norway)

- *Calls on* governments to integrate the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies;

(Norway)

- *Recommends* that governments develop updated reporting systems on biodiversity in order to monitor progress in the implementation of the 2010 target for the reduction of biodiversity loss;

(Norway)