

**Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity**  
**Eleventh meeting (COP11)**

Hyderabad, India, 8-19 October 2012

***Agenda Item 13.7: Global Strategy for Plant Conservation***

**Summary**

**WWF and TRAFFIC** welcome SBSTTA Recommendation XVI/10 in document UNEP/CBD/COP/11/2 and **urge Parties at CoP 11 to:**

- *Welcome* the progress in implementing Decision X/17
- *Promote* support from financial mechanism, and funding organizations for implementation of the GSPC
- *Invite* governments to identify National Focal Points for the GSPC and the develop national/sub-regional Strategies and targets
- *Strengthen* collaboration with the World Health Organization and specifically request the WHO to engage in the implementation of GSPC targets relating to human health.
- *Ensure* the sharing of experience from the successful implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation with other relevant programmes of work of the CBD

Specific text changes are outlined in the Annex to this position paper.

A full set of WWF position papers is available on [www.panda.org/cop11](http://www.panda.org/cop11)

## Rationale

The updated Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) was adopted at COP 10 (Decision X/17), and recommends further implementation of GSPC targets by Parties and other Governments. The fourth meeting of the Liaison Group on the GSPC, reviewed progress in implementing decision X/17 and suggested updating the terms and technical rationales for the GSPC targets through the working groups of the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation. The terms and technical rationales for GSPC Targets, and analysis of the relevance of the indicator framework for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets to GSPC Targets reporting were prepared for SBSTTA 16 (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/11).

The experiences of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation implementation, including its flexible coordination mechanism, are found relevant to other relevant programmes of work of the CBD, including biodiversity and agriculture, forests, health, and biodiversity and protected areas. WWF and TRAFFIC believe that the exploration of options of sharing the experiences between these various programmes of work could further support their implementation in the context of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

WWF and TRAFFIC believe the strengthening cooperation between the CBD and the World Health Organization (WHO) in the area of biodiversity and health has a particular relevance to the implementation of the GSPC. In particular, the revision of the *Guidelines on the Conservation of Medicinal Plants* by WHO, IUCN, WWF and TRAFFIC, is of particular relevance to the sustainable use of plant diversity, and, once revised, will provide a framework of general principles for Parties and other governments, NGOs, IGOs, and other stakeholders. WWF and TRAFFIC believe that inviting the World Health Organization to jointly collaborate and assist in implementing those targets of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation of relevance to human health will strengthen the interagency cooperation, and further support the GSPC implementation.

## Annex

### Suggested text changes to SBSTTA 16 recommendation XVI/10 (UNEP/CBD/COP/11/2)

The new text proposed by WWF is **in bold and underlined**.

*The Conference of the Parties:*

*“11. Reiterates the call in decisions X/17 and VII/10 inviting Parties and other Governments, where they have not done so, to identify national focal points for the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation **and to engage with partner organizations for development and implementation of national/sub-regional Strategies and targets**”*

**18. bis Requests the Executive Secretary to explore options for sharing the experience of the implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation with other relevant programmes of work of the CBD, including agriculture, forests, health and biodiversity and protected areas;**

**18 ter Welcome the strengthening collaboration between the Convention on Biological Diversity and the World Health Organization and requests the Secretariat, in view of the important contribution of plant biodiversity to human health systems, to invite the World Health Organization to jointly collaborate and assist in implementing those targets of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation of relevance to human health.**

*A full set of WWF position papers is available [on www.panda.org](http://www.panda.org)*

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**At COP 11**

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**Why we are here.**

To stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and  
to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.

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