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Second meeting

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Item 4 of the provisional agenda*

OUTLINE OF THE COMPOSITE REPORT ON THE STATUS AND TRENDS REGARDING THE KNOWLEDGE, INNOVATIONS AND PRACTICES OF INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Note by the Executive Secretary

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its fifth meeting, held in Nairobi in May 2000, the Conference of the Parties, in paragraph 1 of decision V/16, endorsed the programme of work for the implementation of Article 8(j) and related provisions as contained in the annex to the decision.

2. In task 5, element 2 of the work programme (Status and trends in relation to Article 8(j) and related provisions), to be undertaken in the first phase of the programme of work, the Executive Secretary was requested to prepare, for the second meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-Sessional Working Group on the Implementation of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions:

(a) An outline of a composite report on the status and trends regarding the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities; and

(b) A plan and a timetable for its preparation.

3. The outline, plan and timetable are to be based, *inter alia*, on advice submitted by Parties, Governments, indigenous and local communities and other relevant organizations regarding sources and availability of information on these matters.

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4. Pursuant to that request, the present document contains a proposal for the outline of the composite report and a plan and timetable for its preparation for the consideration of the second meeting of the Working Group. The outline, plan and timetable are contained in the annex to this note.

5. The note also provides an overview of sources of information relevant to the task and their availability. Ways and means have been proposed for the completion of the task, and possible sources of funding to assist the compilation of the report have also been identified.

II. CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING THE SIZE AND SCOPE OF THE REPORT

6. An accurate and comprehensive assessment of the status and trends with regard to the state of the respect, preservation and maintenance of knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity is essential to the formulation of policies, plans and strategies at international, regional, national and local levels for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.

7. One of the most important considerations concerning the composite report is its scope and size, as this will have a direct bearing on the amount of time and resources needed to complete the task. Two factors that have a significant bearing on the elements to be addressed in the report are:

(a) The size and diversity of the global population that make up the world's indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles; and

(b) The fact that, because of a multitude of factors operating at international, national and local levels, traditional knowledge relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity is being lost at an appalling rate—a trend that appears to be accelerating.

8. To date, no definition of what or who constitutes an indigenous or local community embodying a traditional lifestyle has been advanced for the purposes of the Convention, although definitional matters will be addressed as part of task 12 of the programme of work. Under one possible interpretation, an indigenous or local community embodying a traditional lifestyle could refer to a community that has not adopted practices for biological resource conservation and use based on modern scientific, technological and commercial methods of natural resource management, but relies primarily on its age-old traditional methods and practices. This interpretation would probably include most of those people referred to by the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) as “resource-poor farmers”, and estimated to number globally, some 1.4 billion people. The Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Commission on Human Rights, using its own criteria, estimates that there are approximately 600 million indigenous people worldwide. A proportion of these could also be described as resource-poor farmers. However, by combining these two estimates, it is possible that the “indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles” referred to in the Convention could constitute somewhere between 1.5 and 2 billion people, or between a quarter and a third of the world's population.

9. With regard to the second factor, a number of recent studies have shown a direct correlation between biological and cultural and linguistic diversity—the implication being that a loss of cultural diversity will also have a direct impact on biological diversity through the loss of traditional knowledge and customary practices that are essential for the maintenance of many of the world's ecosystems or of particular biological resources essential to human food and medicinal security.

10. According to estimates by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), indigenous people comprise between 70 and 80 per cent of the world's estimated 6,000 cultures and speak most of the estimated 6,700 languages in the world today. Most of the world's linguistic diversity is carried by very small communities of indigenous and minority people. It is estimated that half of the world's languages—the codifications, the storehouses of peoples' intellectual heritages and frameworks for each society's unique understanding of life—will disappear within a century. Nearly 2,500 languages are in danger of immediate extinction; and an even higher number are losing the ecological contexts that keep them as vibrant languages. The consequences of such mass extinction of our cultural and linguistic diversity to the conservation and sustainable use of many of the world's ecosystems are incalculable.

11. Given the large body of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity maintained by indigenous and local communities, and the diverse threats to its maintenance and preservation, it is suggested that the composite report on the status and trends regarding the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles needs to present a thorough and comprehensive analysis as the necessary basis for informed decision-making, policy formulation and implementation, and strategic planning for the conservation and sustainable use of the world's biological diversity by the Conference of the Parties, Parties and Governments, intergovernmental agencies, regional economic integration organizations, indigenous and local communities, and relevant scientific and non-governmental organizations. However, in presenting such an analysis, it is noted that the possible impacts of intellectual property protection systems on the protection, preservation, maintenance and application of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices have been the subject of a number of analyses. ^{1/} An assessment of mechanisms for the protection of traditional knowledge has also been prepared in a note by the Executive Secretary for the Working Group on Article 8(j) (UNEP/CBD/WG8J/2/7). Accordingly, the impacts of intellectual property systems on the protection of traditional knowledge in this report is not further considered in the present report.

III. OUTLINE OF COMPOSITE REPORT: RATIONALE

12. As noted above, the traditional biodiversity-related knowledge of indigenous and local communities and the languages that sustain it are being lost at an accelerating rate. Many communities fear that much of this precious knowledge will be lost with the passing of the current generation of Elders. The erosion of this knowledge creates an irrevocable loss to our storehouse of knowledge of the Earth's biological diversity, its conservation, management and sustainable use and represents a grave threat to world food and medicinal security and indigenous and local community livelihoods. It is therefore imperative that the various global, socio-economic, political, gender, familial and cultural factors which lead to this loss are understood so that positive measures to counteract them can be put in place. There is also a need to know the current state of the respect, preservation and maintenance of traditional biodiversity-related knowledge and the status of its application in those ecosystems currently used and traditionally maintained by indigenous and local communities.

^{1/} See, for example, the report of the Executive Secretary on progress in the integration of relevant tasks of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and related provisions into the thematic programmes of the Convention on Biological Diversity (UNEP/CBD/WG8J/1/2) and *Intellectual Property Needs and Expectations of Traditional Knowledge Holders: World Intellectual Property Organization Report on Fact-Finding Missions on Intellectual Property and Traditional Knowledge (1998-1999)* (WIPO, 2001, Geneva).

13. It is proposed that the composite report would describe the current situation of respect, preservation and maintenance of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity at the global level, and identify what is required to ensure their continued maintenance and application, thereby laying the foundation for some form of global plan of action to reverse the loss of this vast body of knowledge essential to the maintenance of much of the planet's biological diversity.

14. It is also anticipated that, for the purposes of the Convention, the report will provide baseline data and information - both quantitative and qualitative - by which future trends in the maintenance, preservation and application of traditional biodiversity-related knowledge, innovations and practices might be monitored and assessed.

IV. SOURCES AND AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION

15. It is suggested that the composite report should be primarily compiled from inputs from Parties, Governments and organizations representing indigenous and local communities, that is, a report that is both country and stakeholder driven. Therefore, in order to address this task, Parties, Governments, indigenous and local communities and other relevant organizations are to submit the information and advice to the Executive Secretary, and Parties are to include in their national reports information on the current state of implementation of Article 8(j).

National reports

16. National reports and other relevant information (such as reports of national linguistic surveys) submitted by Parties will ensure comprehensive coverage of the status and trends relating to traditional knowledge, innovations and practices in terms of its state of preservation; recognition and incorporation within national biological diversity programmes and strategies; and national measures being undertaken to enhance and secure respect, preservation and maintenance of traditional knowledge.

Agency reports

17. Consistent with the ways and means for undertaking the programme of work identified in section IV of the annex to decision V/16, the Executive Secretary is to consult with and invite relevant international organizations to contribute to the undertaking of task 5, also with a view to avoiding duplication and to encourage synergies. Accordingly, information relevant to task 5 is to be sought from international agencies such as the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), the World Trade Organization (WTO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the World Health Organization (WHO), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNCHR), UNESCO, the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and from the secretariats of environment-related conventions such as the Convention to Combat Desertification, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, the Convention on Migratory Species, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, the World Heritage Convention, and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

18. In recent years, many United Nations agencies such as UNEP, FAO, UNCHR, WIPO, ILO, UNESCO and WHO, and intergovernmental agencies and processes have undertaken surveys and

studies, and compiled reports concerning issues relevant to task 5. As examples of these reports, the following can be cited:

(a) Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *The State of the World's Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture*. (FAO, Rome, 1998);

(b) Oloka-Onyango J and Udagama D, *The realization of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: Globalization and its Impact on the Full Enjoyment of Human Rights: Preliminary Report*. (Commission on Human Rights, Geneva, document E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/13, 15 June 2000);

(c) Posey DA (ed), *Cultural and Spiritual Values of Biodiversity: A Complementary Contribution to the Global Biodiversity Assessment*. (Intermediate Technology Publications, London and United Nations Environment Programme, Nairobi, 1999);

(d) World Intellectual Property Organization, *Intellectual Property Needs and Expectations of Traditional Knowledge Holders: World Intellectual Property Organization Report on Fact-finding Missions on Intellectual Property and Traditional Knowledge (1998-1999)*. (WIPO, Geneva, 2001).

Indigenous and local community assessments

19. Indigenous and local community organizations are best placed to provide assessments of the host of issues that affect the respect, preservation, maintenance and application of their traditional knowledge, innovations and practices. In many countries, peak organizations representing indigenous and local communities have undertaken relevant studies, and proposed policy initiatives and strategies for incorporation into national biological diversity action plans. Many indigenous and local communities also have major responsibilities with government agencies for the management of protected areas under joint or co-operative arrangements. In addition there is also a wealth of anthropological studies and assessments of the issues confronting indigenous and local communities as they seek to maintain their cultural identities in an increasingly globalized society.

Reports by non-governmental organizations

20. As with international agencies, a number of non-governmental organizations such as the World-Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), Terralingua, the African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS), the Rural Advancement Foundation International (RAFI), Cultural Survival International and the Third World Network, have also published important studies, reports and other information relevant to task 5. One such example is the recent study published by the WWF and Terralingua:

Oviedo G, Maffi L and Larsen PB, *Indigenous and Traditional Peoples of the World and Ecoregion Conservation: An Integrated Approach to Conserving the World's Biological and Cultural Diversity*. (WWF International and Terralingua, Gland, Switzerland, 2000).

V. WAYS AND MEANS FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE COMPOSITE REPORT

A. Option for the preparation of the composite report

21. With regard to the compilation of the composite report, and in light of the comments made in section II above regarding its possible size and scope, the Working Group on Article 8(j) may wish to consider the following option for the preparation of the report.

22. A consultant be employed by the Secretariat, for a period of 15 months, to prepare a report of some 100-150 pages, including the executive summary (10-15 pages for the benefit of policy makers) and recommendations for distribution to Parties and Governments, relevant intergovernmental agencies, indigenous and local communities and relevant organizations for their consideration prior to the third meeting of the Working Group on Article 8(j).

23. The report would be based substantially on inputs from Parties and organizations representing indigenous and local communities, that is, the report will be largely Party and stakeholder driven, although other published sources would not be omitted. The report would make particular use of national reports, cases studies, other data submitted to the Executive Secretary in response to various decisions of the Conference of the Parties, and other relevant published information (see section IV above). Work would essentially entail desktop analysis of this information. The report would also have the particular advantage of using the most up-to-date information provided by Parties and indigenous and local community organizations that has not been previously compiled.

B. Guidelines for submission of information

24. To assist in the preparation of the composite report, guidelines based on the proposed content of the report should be prepared to assist in the submission of information by Parties and Governments, indigenous and local community organizations and other relevant organizations. The guidelines should indicate the range of subjects and types of questions that might be addressed. While all information submitted should be publicly available, the scope and content of the information submitted should be determined by the contributor. The guidelines should not be designed to solicit comprehensive or standardized quantitative data.

VI. SOURCES OF FUNDING

25. Consistent with the ways and means for undertaking the programme of work identified in section IV of the annex to decision V/16, Parties, Governments, and international, regional and national organizations are to provide appropriate financial support for the implementation of task 5.

VII. SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATIONS

26. The Working Group may wish to recommend that the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting:

(a) *Endorses* the (draft) outline of the composite report on the status and trends regarding the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles, and the plan and timetable for its preparation as contained in the annex to the present note; and

(b) *Requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare guidelines, based on the outline of the composite report contained in the annex, for the submission of information by Parties and Governments, indigenous and local community organizations and other relevant organizations to assist in the preparation of the report, and to make the guidelines available by September 2002.

*Annex***DRAFT OUTLINE OF THE COMPOSITE REPORT ON THE STATUS AND TRENDS REGARDING THE KNOWLEDGE, INNOVATIONS AND PRACTICES OF INDIGENOUS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES EMBODYING TRADITIONAL LIFESTYLES, AND THE PLAN AND TIMETABLE FOR ITS PREPARATION****A. (DRAFT) OUTLINE OF THE COMPOSITE REPORT**

The following is an indicative list of possible topics and sub-topics that could be addressed in the composite report.

1. *The relationship between biological cultural and linguistic diversity*

A number of studies have highlighted the fact that many of the centres of highest biological diversity are also places of high cultural and linguistic diversity, and have demonstrated that the relationship between biological, cultural and linguistic diversity is mutually dependent in many of these regions. A decrease in the diversity of any of these components could lead to a loss of traditional knowledge and therefore diminish humanity's capacity to conserve and sustainably use many of the Earth's vital ecosystems. It is proposed that the issues raised with respect to the continued maintenance and application of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices by virtue of the nature of the relationships between biological, cultural and linguistic diversity be addressed under the following headings:

- 1.1 Diversity: the key to a sustainable future
- 1.2 Loss of local languages as a factor in the loss of traditional knowledge
- 1.3 Loss of biological diversity as a factor in the loss of traditional knowledge
- 1.4 Cessation of cultural practices relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity as a factor in the loss of traditional knowledge

2. *The state of the retention of traditional biodiversity-related knowledge*

The state of retention of traditional knowledge varies considerably from country to country and within countries; in relation to global food and medicinal security; and across and within major ecosystem categories. In many indigenous and local communities, some traditional practices relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources have ceased as a result of such factors as loss of land, disappearance of subsistence species from local ecosystems, and national programmes for modernization and resettlement. However, the knowledge of those practices still remains making their reintroduction, in relevant circumstances, a practical option. In this section, it is proposed, under the following headings, to assess the state of retention of traditional knowledge in relation to three important biological diversity sectors (food and medicine, and conservation and sustainable use of fauna) and in relation to the major ecosystem categories, and also assess the feasibility of re-establishing traditional practices associated with the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity in situations where the knowledge of those practices still survives.

- 2.1 Status of traditional knowledge of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA)
- 2.2 Status of traditional knowledge of animals and micro-organisms for food and other purposes
- 2.3 Status of traditional medicinal knowledge
- 2.4 Status of traditional knowledge systems concerning major ecosystem categories:
 - 2.4.1 Forests
 - 2.4.2 Dryland ecosystems
 - 2.4.3 Marine and coastal ecosystems
 - 2.4.4 Inland waters
 - 2.4.5 Mountain ecosystems
 - 2.4.6 Arctic ecosystems
- 2.5 Knowledge versus practice: state of retention of traditional knowledge concerning practices relevant to the customary management, conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity that are no longer maintained
- 2.6 Using existing traditional knowledge to maintain customary practices relevant for the management, conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity

3. Identification of global processes that threaten the maintenance, preservation and application of traditional knowledge

Recent studies have identified a number of global processes that may threaten the maintenance of traditional knowledge. These include the liberalization of trade at international and regional level; the enhanced dominance of a few major languages at the expense of local languages in order to accommodate the needs of modern communications, information and data processing network; and the growth and influence of transnational corporations. Cheaper access to and more extensive use of international travel has also increased indigenous and local community exposure to foreign influences, demands for local goods and services and intrusions on their ways of life. Similarly, more widely available mass media information and entertainment programmes, often reflecting alien cultures and values, have also provided new cultural influences that have challenged traditional values and mores, particularly among the young. Such global influences should be assessed in terms of the threats and opportunities that they bring to indigenous and local communities, and it is proposed that they be addressed under the following headings:

- 3.1 International and regional trade liberalization
- 3.2 Impacts of communications, information and entertainment technologies on local cultures and languages
- 3.3 Impacts of the commercial sector with particular attention to the influence of transnational corporations

- 3.4 Cultural and eco-tourism
- 3.5 Commodification of cultures and its impact on traditionally used components of biological diversity and associated traditional knowledge

4. *Identification of national processes that threaten the maintenance, preservation and application of traditional knowledge*

Many of the processes that may continue to threaten the maintenance and survival of traditional knowledge have their roots in the histories of many countries, for example, in the processes of colonization involving conflict, introduced diseases, dispossession of territories, resettlement, forced assimilation, and marginalization of indigenous and local communities. Some studies have indicated that national development programmes and policies, modernization of agricultural production and other natural resource-based industries, education and training programmes, and employment strategies often do not take into sufficient account the needs of indigenous and local communities. Similarly, there has been a lack of effective indigenous and local community involvement in the design of the necessary policies and programmes to enable such communities to protect their traditional knowledge or to capitalize on their innovative capacities for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity within the national and global economies. It is proposed that these issues could be addressed as follows:

- 4.1 Demographic factors
- 4.2 National development policies/programmes
- 4.3 Education, training and employment policies/programmes
- 4.4 National programmes for modernization through the development, transfer and adoption of new technologies
- 4.5 Identification of activities, actions, policies and legislative and administrative procedures that may discourage the respect, preservation and maintenance of traditional biodiversity-related knowledge

5. *Identification of processes at the local community level that threaten the maintenance, preservation and application of traditional knowledge*

A number of factors that may threaten the maintenance of traditional knowledge also occur at the local community level, by disrupting the processes of intergenerational transmission of languages, cultural traditions and skills. The significance of these factors will vary from country to country, but they generally include changes to patterns of settlement; the movement of young people to cities for employment, education and lifestyle opportunities; introduction of new technologies, foods and medicines making people less reliant on traditional ways; low levels of life expectancy brought about by changes in lifestyle and new epidemics such as HIV-AIDS; and a host of new cultural influences disseminated through modern media. Many indigenous and local communities, while having a solid natural resource base and the traditional knowledge to conserve and use it sustainably, nevertheless, do not have sufficient capacity to be able to develop these assets for the benefit of their communities in today's economy. In some instances, this situation has encouraged the development of these assets by outside interests to the detriment of the communities and has resulted in their further marginalization and pauperization. These issues would be explored under the following headings:

- 5.1 Territorial factors and factors affecting communal lands
- 5.2 Cultural factors
- 5.3 Economic factors (including the relationship between poverty and ecosystem stress)
- 5.4 Social factors (including demographic, gender and familial factors)
- 5.5 Constraints on the exercise of customary laws relevant to the management, conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity
- 5.6 Lack of capacity to manage contemporary threats to biological diversity resulting from development, over-use and socio-economic pressures generated outside the community.
- 5.7 The impact of HIV-AIDS on the maintenance of traditional knowledge systems

6. *Identification and assessment of measures to reverse the loss of traditional knowledge and promote its retention, preservation and application*

National reports to date have revealed a range of measures that have been taken in various countries at national and local levels to stem the loss of traditional knowledge. Such measures include legislation governing access to genetic resources that also requires the prior informed consent of affected indigenous and local communities; recognition of customary systems of land tenure; establishment of traditional knowledge registers; introduction of *sui generis* laws to protect traditional knowledge; language programmes to recover and/or maintain local languages; constitutional recognition of the rights of indigenous and local communities with empowerment at the local level to enact various laws that can be used to protect the interests of the community; wider application of traditional knowledge with the consent and involvement of its holders in a range of biodiversity conservation and sustainable use measures; repatriation by museums and other holding institutions of important objects and associated information to communities of origin; and the establishment of codes of ethics to guide conduct of researchers. While measures differ from country to country and among communities, a mix of appropriate initiatives is emerging that can facilitate the revival and maintenance of traditional knowledge and cultural practices relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity. It is proposed that these initiatives be assessed under the following headings:

- 6.1 Legislative (including policy and administrative) measures
- 6.2 Incentive measures
- 6.3 Capacity-building measures
- 6.4 Repatriation of information to communities of origin
- 6.5 Strategic planning for conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity within the context of community development planning

7. *Trends regarding the recognition and implementation of Article 8(j) and related provisions*

While measures taken in support of Article 8(j) and related provisions both internationally and nationally are relatively recent, it may be possible to discern trends in terms of which measures are proving

more effective, how they are being monitored, and what improvements can be made. Many indigenous and local communities have also taken their own initiatives to preserve, protect and promote the use of their traditional knowledge. It is proposed that these trends be analysed according to the following headings:

- 7.1 International trends
 - 7.1.1 Intergovernmental agencies and processes
 - 7.1.2 Non-governmental organizations
- 7.2 The role of the World Bank and the regional development banks
- 7.3 National trends
- 7.4 Trends at the local level
- 7.5 Private sector trends
- 7.6 Integration of traditional knowledge (including indigenous knowledge) and contemporary scientific management practices for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity

8. *Conclusions: lessons learned and identification of best practices for the maintenance, preservation and application of traditional knowledge*

The report would include conclusions based on the findings emerging from the consideration of the previous topics and subtopics.

B. PLAN FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE REPORT

The objective is to produce a composite report on the status and trends regarding the knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity for the consideration of the third meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Intersessional Working Group on the Implementation of Article 8(j) so that the Working Group can make recommendations for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting.

Accordingly, the following stages are proposed for the preparation of the report.

(a) *Stage 1:* Selection and appointment of consultant to prepare the report; the consultant should be engaged as soon as possible after the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

(b) *Stage 2:* Based on the decision of the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting regarding the outline of the report, address the elements of the report. This stage will entail literature surveys, extraction and analysis of information, and preparation of a written report for each of the elements (chapters) identified in the outline. Research and the writing up of the chapters should be completed within 12 months of starting (i.e., September 2003);

(c) *Stage 3:* The separate chapters of the composite report are to be edited, and the introduction and concluding chapters, and the executive summary and recommendations are to be

prepared by the consultant. The executive summary and recommendations should be prepared in a format suitable for presentation to the Ad Hoc Working Group on Article 8(j) for consideration at its third meeting. This stage should be completed by 31 December 2003, with the distribution of the executive summary and recommendations to Parties, indigenous and local communities, and relevant organizations;

(d) *Stage 4:* Review of the composite report by the Ad Hoc Working Group on Article 8(j) at its third meeting. It is assumed here that the third meeting would take place in February or March 2004 to enable sufficient time for the preparation and presentation of the report;

(e) *Stage 5:* Consideration of the composite report by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting, taking into account recommendations from the third meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Article 8(j).

C. OVERVIEW OF TIMETABLE FOR PREPARATION OF THE COMPOSITE REPORT

Stage	Task	Responsibility	Duration	Deadline	Meeting
Stage 1	Appointment of consultant to prepare report	Executive Secretary		30 September 2002	
Stage 2	Compile the chapters of report	Consultant	12 months	30 September 2003	
Stage 3	Complete report and distribute to Parties, etc.	Consultant and Executive Secretary	3 months	31 December 2003	
Stage 4	Review of report	Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-Sessional Working Group on Article 8(j)			Third meeting of the Working Group
Stage 5	Consideration of report and recommendations	Conference of the Parties			Seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties
