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Environment and sustainable development:
Convention on Biological Diversity

Indonesia^{*}: draft resolution

Convention on Biological Diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/201 of 18 December 1997 on the Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant resolutions relating to the Convention,

Recalling also the provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity,¹

Recalling further Agenda 21,² particularly its chapter 15 on the Convention on Biological Diversity and related chapters,

Having considered the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity,³

Deeply concerned by the continued loss of world's biological diversity and recognizing the contribution of indigenous and local communities in the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources,

Noting with concern the lack of progress in the negotiation process to reconcile the relevant articles of the Convention and the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights with the issue of equitable sharing of benefits from the use of biological resources, as contained in the Convention,

^{*} On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

¹ See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

² *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

³ A/53/451, annex.

Encouraged by the work carried out to date under the Convention,
Noting with satisfaction that most States have ratified or acceded to the Convention,

Taking note with appreciation of the generous offer of the Government of Colombia to host the sixth meeting of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group on Biosafety and the extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties which will take place in Cartagena de Indias, 15–19 and 22–23 February 1999, respectively,

Recalling its invitation to the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to report to the General Assembly on the result of future meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention,

Noting the utility of organizing regular timely briefings by the Bureau of the Second Committee on the various issues pertaining to the subject of biological diversity,

1. *Welcomes* the results of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Bratislava from 4 to 16 May 1998, as reflected in the report of the meeting,⁴ submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 51/182 of 16 December 1996, and in that context, reaffirms the need to take concrete action to fulfil the objectives contained in article 1 of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

2. *Takes note* of the decision of the fourth Conference of the Parties on the programme of work and the thematic approach adopted to guide its work in the development of the Convention for the foreseeable future;

3. *Expresses grave concern* at the evolution of technologies such as terminator technologies which would adversely affect farmers and local communities in developing countries;

4. *Expresses also deep concern* at the granting of proprietary patents before the prior informed consent of developing countries has been obtained and before mutually beneficial arrangements have been made on flow-back benefits and resources to the developing countries concerned which are the storehouses of biodiversity and traditional knowledge;

5. *Recognizes* the important role that indigenous and local communities play in the conservation and sustainable use of biological resources and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the use of traditional knowledge, as contained in the relevant articles of the Convention, and in this regard, calls on the secretariats of the Convention and the World Trade Organization to undertake the necessary consultations with member countries of the Convention and the World Trade Organization with a view to addressing properly the relationship between the relevant articles of the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights and the Convention;

6. *Encourages* those States that have not yet ratified the Convention to do so as soon as possible;

7. *Invites* all funding institutions, bilateral and multilateral donors, regional funding institutions and non-governmental organizations to cooperate with the secretariat of the Convention in the implementation of the programme of work;

8. *Calls upon* States parties to the Convention urgently to settle any arrears and pay their contributions in full and in a timely manner so as to ensure continuity in the cash flows required to finance ongoing work of the Conference of the Parties, the subsidiary bodies and the Convention secretariat;

⁴ UNEP/CDB/COP/4/27.

9. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to report to the General Assembly on the results of future meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and on the outcome of the consultations carried out with other relevant institutions;

10. *Requests* the Bureau of the Second Committee, in coordination with the Secretariat, to continue organizing regular timely briefings on the various issues pertinent to biological diversity;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-fourth session the sub-item entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity".
