Appendix 1

The Convention on Biological Diversity Voluntary Guidelines on Safeguards in Biodiversity Financing Mechanisms (CBD 2014)

The Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity Decision 12 urges Parties, other Governments, business organizations and other stakeholders to take the voluntary guidelines on safeguards into account and urges Parties to consider undertaking, as appropriate, a review and assessment of existing legislation and policies governing biodiversity financing mechanisms:

"15. Adopts the voluntary guidelines on safeguards in biodiversity financing mechanisms, as contained in annex III to the present decision;

16. Urges Parties, other Governments, business organizations and other stakeholders to take the voluntary guidelines on safeguards in biodiversity financing mechanisms into account when selecting, designing and implementing biodiversity financing mechanisms, and when developing instrument-specific safeguards for them, with a view to effectively harnessing their positive effects and avoiding or mitigating negative effects;

17. Urges Parties to consider undertaking, as appropriate, a review and assessment of existing legislation and policies governing biodiversity financing mechanisms, with a view to identifying opportunities for mainstreaming biodiversity and strengthening current policies and their complementary safeguards, and to make information on this work available to the Executive Secretary, including practical experiences and lessons learned;

18. Requests the Executive Secretary to compile a synthesis of the information provided by Parties pursuant to paragraph 17 above, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Implementation, at its first meeting" (UNEP/CBD/COP/DEC/XII/3)

"VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES ON SAFEGUARDS IN BIODIVERSITY FINANCING MECHANISMS (CBD 2014a)

(a) The role of biodiversity and ecosystem functions for local livelihoods and resilience, as well as biodiversity's intrinsic values, should be recognized in the selection, design and implementation of biodiversity financing mechanisms;

(b) Rights and responsibilities of actors and/or stakeholders in biodiversity financing mechanisms should be carefully defined, at national level, in a fair and equitable manner, with the effective participation of all actors concerned, including the prior informed consent or approval and involvement of indigenous and local communities, taking into account, the Convention on Biological Diversity and its relevant decisions, guidance and principles and, as appropriate, the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;[1]

(c) Safeguards in biodiversity financing mechanisms should be grounded in local circumstances, be developed consistent with relevant country-driven/specific processes as well as national legislation and priorities, and take into account relevant international agreements, declarations and guidance, developed under the Convention on Biological Diversity and as appropriate, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, international human rights treaties and the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, among others;

(d) Appropriate and effective institutional frameworks are of utmost importance for safeguards to be operational and should be put in place, including enforcement and evaluation mechanisms that will ensure transparency and accountability, as well as compliance with relevant safeguards." (UNEP/CBD/COP/DEC/XII/3, Annex III)

[1] General Assembly resolution 61/295.