



## ***PAN-EUROPEAN BIOLOGICAL AND LANDSCAPE DIVERSITY STRATEGY***

Geneva and Strasbourg, 3 May 2006

STRA CO (2006) 16

### **COUNCIL FOR THE PAN-EUROPEAN BIOLOGICAL AND LANDSCAPE DIVERSITY STRATEGY**

#### **PEBLDS Survey**

*Document prepared by  
the Joint Secretariat for PEBLDS*



## **Introduction**

At the 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the PEBLDS Council (Plitvice Lakes, Croatia, 22 February 2006) the Chair of the PEBLDS introduced STRA CO (2006) 3 (her letter to the PEBLDS Council dated 31 January 2006) which presented a proposal for simplifying and re-aligning the infrastructure of the PEBLDS process given the decreasing support for the Kyiv Action Plans and the PEBLDS work in general. This included streamlining the PEBLDS and integrating the Council meetings into the Biodiversity in Europe Conference process to review and assess the implementation of the Kyiv Resolution on Biodiversity and to prepare for the Meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD.

## **Objective of the Survey**

The PEBLDS Council at its 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting in Croatia discussed this letter from the Chair and the future of the PEBLDS. The members of the Council decided that it was necessary for the Joint Secretariat, in consultation with the Chair, to prepare a paper on options for streamlining the PEBLDS process for discussion at the next Bureau meeting. The Bureau then should provide the Council with recommendations on how to streamline the PEBLDS. The Chair has interpreted these discussions as a positive signal that the members of the PEBLDS continue to support the existence of the PEBLDS but in another and more streamlined structure than today.

Therefore, in order to present different options to the Council of the PEBLDS it is necessary to get a relevant, firm and honest feedback from the PEBLDS members. For your information, some further consultations took place in Curitiba in March during the 8<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Chair and Joint Secretariat met with representatives of the EECCA countries for discussions on the future of the PEBLDS as well.

On the basis of the discussions in Croatia and in Curitiba, the Joint Secretariat, in consultation with the Chair, have prepared the following survey. We kindly ask you to answer this survey to use as the basis for the preparation of the paper for the Bureau meeting in the fall and provide options for the Council as requested to be able to streamline and improve the PEBLDS process.

**Please send your answers and comments to the PEBLDS Joint Secretariat at UNEP/Regional Office for Europe (Fax: 4122 797 3420; E-mail: [debbi.varidel@unep.ch](mailto:debbi.varidel@unep.ch)) by 26 June 2006. Feel free to extend the space as much as you need for your comments.**

## 1. PEBLDS Priorities

Currently the PEBLDS fulfils two functions: following up on the implementation of the Kyiv Resolution on Biodiversity and positioning pan Europe for the debate and follow up to the decisions of the Meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD. How do you think PEBLDS could adequately fulfil these two roles?

- Monitoring exercise (the EEA assessment for the Environment for Europe Ministerial Conferences, 2010 Countdown Initiative)
- Policy debate through annual or biennial conferences
- Technical assistance to Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia to overcome obstacles in implementation of the Kyiv Resolution and/or the CBD
- Other, please explain:*

## 2. Working structure for PEBLDS

The current working structure of the PEBLDS consists of two Bureau meetings and one Council meeting each year. Every two years, the PEBLDS hosts an inter-governmental Biodiversity in Europe Conference. Do you think that the PEBLDS could be both financially and substantively more effective by adopting a different structure? Check all that apply in your opinion.

- Biodiversity in Europe conference (every year) with continuation of a Bureau to prepare the Conferences
- Biodiversity in Europe conference (every two years) with continuation of a Bureau to prepare the Conferences
- Workshops sub-regional and/or cross border
- Roundtable discussions
- Electronic conferences
- Projects
- No change in structure but a better balance between the bureau and the council (size of bureau/council)
- Other, please explain:*

### 3. Financial arrangements for the PEBLDS structure

The PEBLDS structure is currently supported by a core budget from the Council of Europe and a fund of ad hoc voluntary contributions from member governments managed by UNEP. What type of system would appeal to your government/organization for financial support?

- Voluntary indicative scale of contributions for core secretariat and meetings
- Continuation of system of ad hoc contributions
- Support to national/regional/sub-regional projects (such as through the Biodiversity Service)
- Normal UN scale according to a fixed budget for core tasks
- Other, please explain:*

### 4. PEBLDS Products

What are some of the outputs you would like to see produced and disseminated by the PEBLDS process? Please check all that apply in your opinion.

- Assessment reports
- Policy analysis reports
- Implementation reports
- Preparatory reports for the themes of the COP
- Reports on ongoing projects in support of Kyiv and CBD 2010 target
- Best practices (demonstration) and case studies
- Exchange of views on trends and needs for the European region
- Dissemination of relevant publications/issue oriented publications
- Communication and awareness materials on biodiversity (PEBLDS and CBD)
- Other, please explain:*

5. Does the PEBLDS contribute to your work for conserving and sustainably using biodiversity in your country?

Please explain:

***THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS!***