



The Assistant Director-General
for Natural Sciences

United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
des Nations Unies
pour l'éducation,
la science et la culture

Organización
de las Naciones Unidas
para la Educación,
la Ciencia y la Cultura

Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

To Permanent Delegates
and Observers to UNESCO

Ref.: SC/EES/MCG/5864/528

Sir/Madam,

Following the successful conclusion of the 22nd session of the International Co-ordinating Council (ICC) of the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme, I am pleased to invite you to the fourth consultation of the International Support Group (ISG) for the Madrid Action Plan and the Secretariat of the MAB Programme, which will take place on Monday **27 September 2010 from 3 p.m. to 5.30 p.m., in Room XVI** (Bonvin building). Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in English and French.

Please find attached the provisional agenda for the meeting. As you may recall the ICC, at its 22nd session held in UNESCO Headquarters (Paris), from 31 May to 4 June 2010, established a working group, under the Chairmanship of the ICC Vice-Chair for the Arab Region, the Distinguished Delegate of Egypt to UNESCO a.i., Mr Mohamed El-Zahaby, to review all amendments and proposals to the Statutory Documents of the MAB Programme. The five Statutory Documents to be reviewed by the working group, which were presented to the Third Consultation between the ISG and the Secretariat of the MAB on 8 July 2010, are once again attached for your information.

Following the Third Consultation some Member States sent written suggestions and comments on some of the documents. These will be shared with all Delegates at the Fourth Consultation of the ISG for discussion, decision on the next steps and a time frame for completion of the work of review and finalization of the documents.

For ease of reference, please note that all documents relevant to this meeting can be found at the following Internet link:

http://portal.unesco.org/science/en/ev.php-URL_ID=7084&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

I should be grateful if you could kindly confirm the participation of your Delegation at your earliest convenience to mab@unesco.org (phone 01 45 68 41 51, fax 01 45 68 58 04).

Please accept, Sir/Madam, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Gretchen Kalonji

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme and the World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR)

Fourth Consultation between the International Support Group (ISG) for the implementation of the Madrid Action Plan and the Secretariat of the MAB Programme

UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, Room XVI (Bonvin Building)
27 September 2010, 15:00 - 17:30

http://portal.unesco.org/science/en/ev.php-URL_ID=7084&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

Provisional Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting by the Chairperson of the Fourth Consultation between ISG and the MAB Secretariat, Mr Mohammed El-Zahaby
2. Information from the MAB Secretariat on comments, observations and suggestions received from Member States to statutory documents of the MAB Programme since the conclusion of the Third Consultation of the ISG on 8 July 2010
3. Discussion on information provided in agenda item 2 above
4. Next steps in finalizing revisions and amendments to the statutory documents of the MAB Programme
5. Other matters
6. Closure of the meeting

Annexe 1

**STATUTES OF THE INTERNATIONAL CO-ORDINATING COUNCIL
OF THE PROGRAMME ON MAN AND THE BIOSPHERE
(MAB)**

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Article I

An International Co-ordinating Council of the Programme on 'Man and the Biosphere' (hereinafter called 'Council') is hereby set up within the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (hereinafter UNESCO).

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1. The Council shall be composed of thirty-four Member States of UNESCO, elected by the General Conference at its ordinary sessions, taking due account of equitable geographical distribution, of the need to ensure appropriate rotation, of the representativeness of these States from the viewpoint of ecology, biodiversity and cultural diversity in the various regional groups of UNESCO, and of the importance of their scientific contribution to the Programme on Man and the Biosphere (hereinafter the "MAB Programme").
2. The term of office of the members of the Council shall begin at the close of the ordinary session of the General Conference at which they are elected and shall expire at the close of the second ordinary session of the Conference following it.
3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 2 above, the term of office of one half of the members designated at the first election shall expire at the close of the first ordinary session of the General Conference following the session during which they were elected. The names of these members shall be drawn by lot after the first election by the President of the General Conference, it being understood that the outgoing members shall be replaced by members belonging to the same regional group.
4. Members of the Council shall be immediately eligible for re-election for one additional period of four years.
5. The Council may make recommendations concerning its own membership to the General Conference.
6. The persons appointed by Member States as their representatives on the Council shall preferably be experts in the field covered by the MAB Programme and chosen from among those persons playing a major part in the implementation of the activities related to the MAB Programme in the said Member States.

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Article III

1. The Council shall normally meet in plenary session once every 12-18 months. Extraordinary sessions may be convened under conditions specified in the Rules of Procedure.
2. Each Council member shall have one vote but it may send as many experts or advisers as it deems necessary to sessions of the Council.
3. The Council shall adopt its own Rules of Procedure.

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Article IV

1. The Council shall be responsible for guiding and supervising the planning and the implementation of the MAB Programme, for studying proposals concerning development and modifications of this Programme, for recommending scientific and international co-operation projects of interest to all or to a large number of countries, and assessing priorities among such projects for co-ordinating international co-operation of Member States in the framework of the Programme for assisting in the development of national and regional projects related to the Programme, and for taking any practical or scientific measures that may be required for the successful implementation of the MAB Programme. Such measures may include the submission of specific proposals to the General Conference on the implementation of the MAB Programme for consideration and approval by this body.
2. In carrying out its activities, the Council shall make full use of the facilities offered by the agreements or working arrangements between UNESCO and the other intergovernmental organizations mentioned in Article VII, paragraph 2.
3. The Council may consult on scientific questions with all appropriate international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations with which UNESCO maintains official relations.
4. The Council shall, wherever necessary, attempt to co-ordinate the MAB Programme with other international scientific programmes.

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Supprimé : The International Council for Science (ICSU) and its affiliate unions and associations and the World Conservation Union (IUCN) may give advice to the Council on matters of a scientific or technical character.

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Article V

1. The Council may set up *ad hoc* committees for the study of specific problems. Membership of such *ad hoc* committees shall also be open to Member States of UNESCO, which are not represented in the Council.
2. The Council may delegate to any such committee the powers that it may need in order to fully give effect to the terms of reference set for the work of the committee by the Council.
3. Taking into account other relevant international activities, the Council may establish as required working groups of specialists to examine certain aspects of the MAB Programme. These working groups, whose members shall serve in a personal capacity, may include nationals of Member States of UNESCO which are not represented on the Council.

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Article VI

1. At the beginning of its first session, the Council shall elect a chairman, ~~four~~ vice-chairmen ~~and a rapporteur~~. These shall form the Council's Bureau.

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2. The Bureau shall discharge such duties as the Council may lay upon it.
3. Meeting of the Bureau may be convened in between meetings of the Council, at the request of the Council itself, of the Director-General of UNESCO or ~~by consensus of the members~~ of the said Bureau.

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4. The Council shall elect a new Bureau whenever its own membership is changed by the General conference in accordance with Article II, above. The members of the Bureau who are representatives of Member States of UNESCO shall remain in office until a new Bureau has been elected.

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Article VII

1. Representatives of the Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO which are not members of the Council may nevertheless attend, as observers, meeting of the Council and its committees.

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2. Representatives of the United Nations, ~~as well as other intergovernmental organizations of the U.N. system such as~~ the Food and Agriculture Organization, ~~the World Meteorological Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme~~ may take part, without the right to vote, in all meetings of the Council, of its committees and of its working groups.

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3. Representatives of ~~international nongovernmental organizations who are invited by the Council and/or the Director-General of UNESCO~~ may take part, without the right to vote in all meetings of the Council, of its committees and of working groups.

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4. The Council shall determine the conditions under which ~~organizations other than those foreseen in paragraphs 2 and 3 above~~ will be invited to attend its meetings, without the right to vote, whenever questions of common interest are discussed.

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Article VIII

1. The secretariat of the Council shall be provided by the Director-General of UNESCO, who shall ~~place at the Council's disposal the staff and other means required for its operation.~~ Staff members of the other organizations mentioned in Article VII, paragraph 2, above may be assigned to the secretariat by agreement with the said organizations.

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2. The secretariat shall provide the necessary services for the sessions of the Council and meetings of its Bureau, committees and working groups.

Arrangements may be made with other organizations mentioned in Article VII, paragraph 2, for providing specialized services to particular working groups of the Council.

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3. The secretariat shall take any day-to-day measures required in order to co-ordinate the execution of the international programmes recommended by the Council, it shall fix the date of the Council's sessions in consultation with and agreement of the Bureau, and shall take all steps required to convene such sessions.

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4. The secretariat shall assemble all proposals sent in by members of the Council, other Member States of UNESCO and the international organizations concerned with regard to the formulation of the international projects under the MAB Programme and shall prepare them for examination by the Council; it shall maintain liaison with the national committees established by Member States for the execution of the MAB Programme in accordance with the invitation contained in resolution 2.3131 adopted by the General Conference at its sixteenth session, and inform them of the Council's recommendations.

5. In addition to the services to be rendered to the Council, the secretariat shall cooperate closely with the secretariats of the international governmental and non-governmental organizations mentioned in Article VII, paragraphs 2 and 3 above; it shall for this purpose take part in inter-secretariat co-ordination meetings as necessary.

Article IX

1. The International programmes of observation and investigation recommended by the Council to Member States for concerted action on their part, shall be financed by the participating Member States, according to the commitments which each State is willing to make. The Council may, however, make recommendations to UNESCO and to the other organizations mentioned in Article VII, paragraphs 2 and 3 above, concerning assistance to Member States for the development of environmental observation and research or the implementation of some particular aspect of the Programme. If the said organizations accept such recommendations and if the Member States concerned signify their agreement, these organizations shall undertake to finance the related activities in accordance with the provisions of their respective constitutions and regulations.

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2. Member States shall bear the expense of participation of their representatives in sessions of the Council and its committees. The running expenses of the Council and its subsidiary organs shall be financed from funds appropriated for this purpose by the General Conference of UNESCO, as well as from such additional resources as may be made available by other organizations of the United Nations system.

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3. The Council sessions shall take place in the premises of UNESCO Headquarters. However, upon invitation by a UNESCO Member State and the acceptance of that invitation by the Council of a majority of the Members of the Council, a Session of the Council may take place in the Member State extending the invitation. In this case, the expenses of convening that session of the Council

and its subsidiary organs shall be borne by the Member State that extended the invitation.

4. Voluntary contributions may be accepted and established as trust funds in accordance with the Financial Regulations of UNESCO and administrated by the Director-General of UNESCO. The Council shall make recommendations to the Director-General on the allocation of such contributions for international projects under the MAB Programme.

Article X

The Council shall submit reports on its activities to the General Conference of UNESCO at each of its ordinary sessions. These reports shall be communicated for information to the other international organizations mentioned in Article VII, paragraphs 2 and 3 above and other interested parties as deemed appropriate by the Council.

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**RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE
INTERNATIONAL CO-ORDINATING COUNCIL
OF THE PROGRAMME ON MAN AND THE BIOSPHERE**

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Gauche**I. MEMBERSHIP**

- (1) The International Co-ordinating Council of the Programme on Man and the Biosphere (hereinafter called the Council) is composed of thirty-four Member States of UNESCO, elected by the General Conference at each of its ordinary sessions in accordance with Article 2 of the Statutes of the Council.
- (2) Each State member of the Council shall notify the Secretariat of UNESCO of the names of its designated representative as well as of advisers and experts.

II. SESSIONS**1. Date and place**

- (1) The first session of the Council shall be convened by the Director-General of UNESCO. The place and date of that session shall be communicated in advance to all interested Member States and organizations.
- (2) Other sessions shall be convened by the Secretariat of the Council in consultation with and agreement of the Bureau of the Council.
- (3) The Council shall meet at the Headquarters of UNESCO or elsewhere if so decided by a majority of the members.
- (4) Meetings of the Bureau of the Council may be convened in between meetings of the Council at the request of the Council itself, of the Director-General of UNESCO or by consensus of the members of the said Bureau.
- (5) Extraordinary sessions of the Council shall be convened by a two-thirds majority of the Council.

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III. AGENDA**2. Provisional agenda**

- (1) The provisional agenda of the first session of the Council shall be prepared

by the Director-General of UNESCO.

- (2) The provisional agenda of the following sessions of the Council shall be prepared by the Secretariat of the Council in consultation with the members of the Bureau.
- (3) The provisional agenda shall be communicated to the members of the Council at least one month before the opening of each session. Supprimé : two
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- (4) The provisional agenda shall be communicated at the same time to Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO which are not members of the Council as well as to the United Nations, FAO, JUCN, ICSU, UNU, WWF and ISSC. Supprimé : WHO, the
- (5) The provisional agenda of a session of the Council shall include:
 - all items whose inclusion has been decided by the Council;
 - all items proposed by States members of the Council;
 - all items proposed by the United Nations or by its agencies;
 - all items proposed by the Director-General of UNESCO.

3. Adoption of the agenda

At the beginning of each session, the Council shall adopt the agenda for that session.

4. Amendments, deletions and new items

The Council may, during a session, modify the order of items of the agenda or add or delete items. A majority of two-thirds shall be required for the addition or deletion of items during a session.

IV. OFFICERS

5. Election of chairman, vice-chairmen and rapporteur

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- (1) At the beginning of its first session, the Council shall elect a chairman, four vice-chairmen and a rapporteur; these shall form the Council's Bureau. Supprimé : and five
- (2) Thereafter the chairman, the vice-chairmen and the rapporteur shall be elected in accordance with Article 6, paragraph 4 of the Statutes of the Council. Supprimé : and
- (3) Members of the Bureau are eligible for one additional period of four years. Supprimé : re-election

6. General powers of the chairman

- (1) In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him elsewhere by these rules, the chairman shall have the following powers: he shall declare the opening and closing of meetings, direct the discussions ensure observance of these rules, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and

announce decisions. He shall rule on points of order and subject to these rules shall control the proceedings and the maintenance of order.

- (2) If the chairman is so incapacitated that he can no longer hold office, a vice-chairman shall become chairman for the unexpired portion of the term of office. If that vice-chairman also or is so incapacitated that he can no longer hold office, another vice-chairman shall become chairman for the unexpired portion of the term of office.

7. Functions of vice-chairman

In the absence of the chairman during a session, his functions shall be exercised in turn by the vice-chairman.

V. COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

8. *Ad hoc* committees

- (1) *Ad hoc* committees set up by the Council in accordance with Article 5 of the Statutes of the Council shall meet in accordance with the decisions of the Council or of the Bureau.
- (2) These *ad hoc* committees shall elect their own chairman, vice-chairmen and, if necessary, their own rapporteur.

9. Working groups

- (1) Working groups set up by the Council in accordance with Article 5 of the Statutes of the Council shall meet in accordance with the decisions of the Council or of the Bureau.
- (2) These working groups shall elect their own chairman, vice-chairmen and, if necessary, their own rapporteur.

10. Rules of procedure

These rules of procedure shall apply to the proceedings of committees and working groups unless the Council decides otherwise.

VI. SECRETARIAT

- (1) The Director-General shall place at the disposal of the Council a member of the Secretariat of UNESCO who shall act as Secretary of the Council and the staff and other means required for its operation.
- (2) The Secretary of the Council shall attend all meetings of the Council and the Bureau.

- (3) The Secretary or his representative may make oral as well as written statements to the Council, its ad hoc committees and working groups and to the Bureau concerning any question under consideration.
- (4) Staff members of the other organizations mentioned in Article 7, paragraph 2, of the Statutes of the Council may be assigned to the Secretariat in accordance with Article 8, paragraph 1, of these Statutes.

VII. LANGUAGES

11. Working languages

English, French and Spanish shall be the working languages of the Council.

Working documents are produced in English and French.

12. Use of other languages

Any representative may make a speech in a language other than the working languages currently in use for a particular session of the Council of a committee or a working group on the condition that he provides for the interpretation of his speech into one or the other of the said working languages.

VIII. REPORTS AND DOCUMENTS

13. Reports

- (1) The Secretariat shall submit a report to each session of the Council.
- (2) The Council shall submit reports on its activities to each ordinary session of the General Conference of UNESCO.
- (3) Copies of these reports shall be circulated by the Director-General of UNESCO in accordance with Article 10 of the Statutes of the Council.

14. Documents

The working documents of each session of the Council shall, as a rule, be communicated to the members one month before the opening of each session.

IX. MEETINGS

15. Quorum

- (1) A simple majority of the States members of the Council shall constitute a quorum.
- (2) At meetings of subsidiary bodies of the Council a quorum shall be constituted by a simple majority of the States members of the Council which are members of the body in question.

16. Publicity of meetings

All meeting of the council shall be open to the public unless the Council decides otherwise.

X. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

17. Right to speak

Council Members may, with the authorization of the chairman, make oral or written statements before the Council and its committees. Experts and observers may, with the authorization of the chairman, make oral or written statements before the Council and its committees after the debates have been closed and votes have taken place. This applies as well to sessions of the Bureau.

18. Order of speeches

The chairman shall call upon speakers in the order in which the Council Members have expressed the desire to speak.

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19. Time-limit on speeches

The Council may limit the time to be allowed to each speaker.

20. Points of order

During the discussion on any matter, a Council Member may at any time raise a point of order and the point of order shall be forthwith decided by the chairman. Any Council Member may appeal against the ruling of the chairman which can only be overruled by a majority of the Council Members present and voting. A Council Member may not in raising a point of order speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

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21. Suspension, adjournment, closure

Any Council Member may, at any time, propose the suspension, adjournment or closure of a meeting or of a debate. Such a motion shall be put to the vote immediately. The order of priority of such motions shall be as follows:

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- a) suspension of the meeting;
- b) adjournment of the meeting;

- c) adjournment of the debate on the item under discussion;
- d) closure of the debate on the item under discussion.

XI. VOTING

22. Voting rights

Each State member of the Council shall have one vote.

23. Simple majority

- (1) Unless otherwise provided in these rules, decisions shall be taken by a simple majority of the members present and voting.
- (2) For the purpose of these rules, the phrase “members present and voting” means members casting an affirmative or negative vote. Members who abstain from voting are considered as not voting.

24. Show of hands and roll-call

Voting shall normally be by show of hands, except that any member may request a roll-call. The vote and abstention of each member participating in a roll-call shall be inserted in the report.

25. Voting on amendments

- (1) When an amendment to a proposal is moved the amendment shall be voted on first.
- (2) When two or more amendments to a proposal are moved, the Council shall first vote on the amendment deemed by the chairman furthest removed from the original proposal and then on the amendment next furthest therefrom, and so on, until all amendments have been put to a vote. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended proposal shall then be voted on. If no amendment is adopted, the proposal shall be put to the vote on its original form.
- (3) A motion is considered an amendment to a proposal if it adds to, deletes from or revises part of that proposal.

26. Secret ballot

All elections shall be decided by secret ballot unless, in the absence of objections, the Council decides otherwise.

27. Equally divided votes

If a vote is equally divided on matters other than elections, the proposal shall be regarded as rejected.

XII. SPECIAL PROCEDURES

28. Special consultation by correspondence

Should the approval of the council be required for measures of exceptional urgency and importance while the Council is not in session, the chairman may, by means of the secretariat, consult the members by correspondence. The proposed measure shall be adopted if it is approved by two-thirds of the members.

XIII. AMENDMENT

29. Amendment

These rules of procedure, except when they reproduce provisions of the Council Statutes or decisions of the General Conference, may be amended by a decision of the Council taken by a simple majority of the members present and voting, provided that the proposal for amendment has been placed on the agenda.

30. Suspension

Suspension of any of these rules shall require a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting.

Annex 3

**STATUTES OF THE INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FOR BIOSPHERE RESERVES**

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Article 1

An International Advisory Committee for Biosphere Reserves, hereinafter referred to as the Committee, and established in accordance with the Work Plan for sub-programme II.2.3 in the Draft Programme and Budget for 1992-93 (26 C/5), is recognized as the primary scientific and technical Committee body advising the International Co-ordinating Council (ICC) of the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme and its World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR) and the Director General of UNESCO on matters pertaining to the WNBR.

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Article 2

1. The Committee shall advise the Director-General of UNESCO and the MAB-ICC on scientific and technical matters concerning the nomination of new sites and, changes and periodic reviews of sites already included in the WNBR, as well as the development, operation and monitoring of the WNBR which they constitute in accordance with the Seville Strategy and the Statutory Framework for the WNBR. The Committee shall also advise the Director-General of UNESCO on any other aspects of the MAB Programme as requested by the Director-general or the MAB-ICC.

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2. In the performance of its task, the Committee shall be guided by the Recommendations of the MAB-ICC and by the Seville Strategy and the Statutory Framework of the WNBR adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO at its 28th session under resolution 2.4 and the Madrid Action Plan adopted by the 20th session of the MAB-ICC in February 2008 in Madrid, Spain.

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Article 3

1 The Committee shall be composed of twelve members, serving in a personal capacity. The members shall be appointed by the Director-General, after consultation with the Member States and or the National Committees/focal points for the MAB Programme of the countries concerned.

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2. The terms of office of members shall be four years. Terms of office of members may be renewed for one additional period of four years by the Director General. In event of death or resignation of a member of the Committee, the Director-General shall appoint a replacement for the remainder of the term.

Supprimé : The Director-General, in appointing the first members of the Committee, shall designate six members whose first term of office shall cease two years after their appointment.

3. The members of the Committee shall be selected for their scientific qualifications and for their experience in promoting and implementing the biosphere reserve **concept**. Special attention shall be given to the inclusion of women. Membership of the Committee shall be in accordance with the principle of equitable geographical representation and take account of the biogeographical diversity of the world.

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4. **The** Director-General may invite to sessions of the Committee, as consultant-observers, persons who by reason of their functions or knowledge can assist the work of the Committee.

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5. . Representatives of the United Nations Environment Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the International Council for Science and the World Conservation Union (IUCN) shall be invited to participate in the sessions

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The Director-General may extend invitations to send observers to meetings of advisory committees to:

- a) Organizations of the United Nations system with which UNESCO has not concluded mutual representation agreements;
- b) Intergovernmental organizations; and
- c) International non-governmental organizations, in accordance with Directives concerning UNESCO's relations with international non-governmental organizations.

The United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system with which UNESCO has concluded mutual representation agreements may send representatives to meetings of the Committees.

5. Member States and Associate Members of UNESCO may send observers to meetings of advisory committees.

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(CHANGE IN ORDER of PARAs 4 AND 5 ABOVE)

Article 4

1. The Director-General shall normally convene the Committee once a year.
2. Each member of the Committee shall have one vote.
3. The Committee shall adopt its own Rules of Procedure that shall be submitted to the Director-General for approval.

Article 5

1. At each of its sessions, the Committee shall elect a chairperson, two vice-chairpersons, and a rapporteur, who shall form the Bureau of the Committee and who shall remain in office until the following session.

2. The Chairperson or acting Chairperson shall represent the Committee at the meetings of the MAB-ICC and its Bureau.

Article 6

The travel and subsistence expenses of the members of the Committee, as referred in paragraph 1 of Article 3, shall normally be borne by UNESCO, in accordance with the provisions of its travel rules.

Article 7

1. The Director-General shall designate members of the UNESCO Secretariat to represent him/her on the Committee and its Bureau.
2. The Secretariat of the Committee shall be ~~the Secretariat of the MAB Programme of UNESCO.~~

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Article 8

1. The agenda for the sessions of the Committee shall be drawn up by the Director-General, normally after consulting the Chairperson.
2. After each session, the Committee shall present a report on its work and its recommendations to the Director-General. The Director-General shall inform the Executive Board and the ~~MAB-ICC~~ of the results of the Committee's proceedings.

Supprimé : International Co-ordinating Council of the

Supprimé : Programme

Article 9

The Executive Board may terminate the mandate and amend the Statutes of the Committee on its own initiative, or following proposals of the Director-General.

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ANNEX 4

Implementing the MAB Programme and Promoting Actions of the World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR)

Background

1. The UNESCO Programme on Man and the Biosphere (MAB) was launched in response to the much-felt need for interdisciplinary scientific co-operation in the early days of the international environmental movement of the 1960s. The Biosphere Conference of UNESCO (1968) was a major contributor to the insights and ideas that shaped the design of the MAB Programme.
2. In 1971, Mr René Maheu, Director-General of UNESCO, informed the First International Coordinating Council (ICC) session that the General Conference had decided that the MAB Programme should focus “on the general study of the structure and functioning of the biosphere and its ecological regions, on the systematic observation of the changes brought about by man in the biosphere and its resources, on the study of the overall effects of these changes upon the human species itself and on the education and information to be provided on these subjects”. This MAB vision from times when the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment and the establishment of UNEP were both in process for their realization in 1972 is as valid today as it was then.
3. Our understanding of the “changes brought about by man in the biosphere and its resources” and the “overall effects of these changes upon the human species itself” are perhaps broader and deeper today than in 1971. For example, climate change and global warming consequences are understood, and their implications for the future of human-environment relations better appreciated today than in the late 1960s when MAB was conceived. Sustainable development, a notion that calls for a greater integration of economic, ecological and social dimensions of the use of natural, including biological resources, has attained consensus as a global priority for international co-operation. MAB which emphasized an integrated approach to natural resource use and conservation can be counted among those UN initiatives that provided conceptual antecedents to the currently accepted concept of sustainable development.
4. However, the architecture of international environmental relations have considerably changed since the early 1970s: the number of UN and UNESCO Member States have nearly tripled; the role of civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations, the private sector and place-specific stakeholder participation in addressing issues and problems of environment and development have been encouraged and promoted.
5. The MAB Programme itself, as it prepares to commemorate its 40th anniversary at the time of the 23rd session of the ICC in 2011, has undergone changes. The original 14 projects that covered ecosystem ecology, conservation of natural areas and impacts of large infrastructure, pollution and other human interventions on the environment have coalesced around two principal operational pillars as established by the 21st session of the ICC in May 2009: networks promoting interdisciplinary scientific co-operation in drylands, mountains, urban areas, coastal zones and small islands, forests and other natural and human-modified ecosystems ; and the World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR) currently comprising 553 sites in 107 countries. The concept of biosphere reserve, originally applied to promoting community involvement in the management of conservation areas has evolved into covering land/seascapes that contribute to addressing regional sustainability issues. Sustainable development is foreseen as a relationship between the three functions of a biosphere reserve: namely biodiversity conservation on the one hand and socio-economic well-being of human

communities on the other and research and monitoring dedicated to learning and knowledge building for promoting sustainable and mutually-beneficial interactions between the two.

Implementing the MAB Programme and activities of the WNBR at the national level

6. As one of UNESCO's intergovernmental scientific programme (ISP), implementing the MAB Programme and the activities of the WNBR at the national level should ideally be considered a key priority by National Commissions for UNESCO. UNESCO is unique among UN specialized agencies in having these Commissions mandated to co-ordinate national activities that aim to integrate initiatives originating from a range of development sectors to contribute to sustainable development, including the attaining of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

7. In implementing the MAB Programme as well as context-specific activities at the level of biosphere reserves to illustrate the role of these sites as learning centres and places for sustainable development the responsible authorities at the national and sub-national (i.e. provincial and local) levels must take into consideration opportunities offered under a variety of other internationally-sponsored initiatives for building synergies and promoting co-operation. International initiatives of significant importance to the MAB Programme and the activities of the WNBR include:

- UNESCO actions of the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (UN DESD; 2005-2014); activities of other UNESCO ISPs such the International Oceanographic Commission (IOC) and the International Hydrological Programme (IHP) as well as relevant other UNESCO Conventions, e.g. activities related to the implementation of the World Heritage Convention (1972);
- National level activities within the context of the "Rio (1992) Conventions", namely the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), UN Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the UN Convention for Combating desertification (UNCCD);
- National level activities of other relevant Conventions, e.g. Convention on Migratory Species, as well as UN sponsored initiatives on forests, fisheries, agriculture and other natural resources based development sectors;
- Agenda 21 and local agenda 21 that are co-ordinated by the national and sub-national levels of Government in co-operation with the UN Resident Co-ordinator and/or UNDP Representative of the country;
- UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) and other in-country planning and programming dialogue co-ordinated by the UN, including those related to One UN planning in the eight (8) pilot countries (Albania, Cap Verde, Mozambique, Pakistan, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uruguay and Viet Nam).

8. Since the launch of the MAB Programme international co-operation and national planning and implementation modalities have changed considerably. Most bi- and multi-lateral donor negotiations for identification of programmes and projects are initiated at the national level. Furthermore sub-national levels of Government, at provincial and local levels in many emerging and developing economies, enjoy considerable freedom with regard to decision making on questions of natural resources use, biodiversity conservation, participatory planning and stakeholder negotiations and many other dimensions of environment and development that are of interest to the work of the MAB Programme and the activities of the WNBR.

9. The increasing role of the private sector to contribute towards environmental, conservation and sustainable development initiatives has both global as well as national/local dimensions. Even global and multi-national enterprises may look for partnerships that are country- and sometimes place-specific rather than for global ones. Danone, a French multinational, has initiated biosphere reserve-related co-operation through its German branch in Germany and in co-operation with the German National Commission for UNESCO. The success of the Danone-UNESCO partnership benefiting Germany is now being analyzed by the

Danone Headquarters in France for possible expansion of the co-operation into other countries including France. Another interesting example is that of the Shell Corporation partnership with the Smithsonian Institution for the creation of protected areas and biodiversity conservation in Gabon where one of the sites, the Gamba Complex, is being considered for possible nomination as a biosphere reserve. Shell's interest in Gabon where they have significant interest in oil exploitation is related to its commitment to safeguarding the country's tropical forest resources from being exploited in an unsustainable manner when Gabon's oil resources cease to be a major source of revenue for the country. Shell in Qatar has already supported the establishment of the Al Reem Biosphere Reserve in that country and is continuing to support activities for the preparation of a management plan for Al Reem Biosphere Reserve of Qatar.

10. Furthermore, the attainment of sustainable development principles, MDGs and many other global environment and development targets, requires active collaboration between the scientific community and the decision makers at all levels including representatives of local communities whose livelihoods and well-being are dependent on the management of biosphere reserve land/seascapes. Sustainable development practice too calls for closer co-operation between the scientific and academic communities and the line-Ministries and Departments of the Government as well as partnerships involving civil society organizations and private sector interests. Implementing the MAB Programme and activities of the WNBR must therefore take into consideration this full spectrum of partnerships and coalition building that is critical for effective implementation at the national, provincial and local levels.

MAB National Committees and Focal Points

11. The decision to create a MAB National Committee or a MAB National Focal Point and the means for its establishment depend on the internal organization of each Member State. Where a decision is made to establish a Focal Point instead of a National Committee it is worthwhile considering the pros and cons of placing the Focal Point in a National Ministry/Department, an academic or research and training institution or any other public, civil society or private sector body. Given the intergovernmental nature of the MAB Programme situating the Focal Point in a National Government Office dealing with sustainable development planning and/or execution may be the most desirable option.

12. In most cases the establishment of a MAB National Committee has more advantages over the definition of a Focal Point in the sense that it allows for representation from all concerned sectors and communities to participate in planning, designing and implementing initiatives and activities. The designation, composition and functioning of MAB National Committees vary from one country to another. But an idealized MAB National Committee may include:

- Chair, Secretary and other critical functions of the MAB National Committee being embedded directly or indirectly in a Ministry, Department or other public sector body responsible for environment, conservation and/or sustainable development;
- Representatives of the MAB National Committee should include either the Secretary-General or his/her representative of the National Commission for UNESCO of the same country;
- The MAB National Committee may invite representation from other concerned public sector Ministries and Departments and in particular Ministry of Education, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Science and Technology and Ministry of Tourism;
- A strong interdisciplinary scientific presence in the MAB National Committee is very important for the Committee to fully meet its national and international obligations. While natural sciences disciplines ranging from biology and ecology are critical more and more the presence of economists and other social scientists are equally important. Representatives with applied sciences background in wildlife management, forestry, agriculture and other such communities of practice with direct links to sustainable development practice are also recommended;

- Representatives from the private sector and civil society organizations are increasingly critical building partnerships and alliances for the implementation of the MAB Programme and activities of the WNBR at the national and biosphere site level;
- MAB National Committees must devise ways to fully involve co-ordinators and managers in their work. Biosphere reserves are often situated far away from capital cities where most MAB National Committees convene. MAB National Committees and National Commissions for UNESCO may use biosphere reserves as places for convening their meetings thereby obtaining direct knowledge of the effectiveness of biosphere reserve functions and also enabling communities in the biosphere reserves to better understand the national and international dimensions of the MAB Programme;
- MAB National Committees are critical for the full participation of biosphere reserves in national, sub-regional, regional and global as well as ecosystem and thematic networks in order to share experience, knowledge, lessons and information and data as appropriate. Modern information and communication technologies provide significant opportunities to link communities of practitioners to share biosphere reserve specific experience with regard to common themes, issues and problems; MAB National Committees have a critical role to play in realizing this potential;
- An effective MAB National Committee is one that enjoys considerable support and interest within the Government as well as civil society and private sectors. Representation in the Committee would also come from a range of stakeholder groups dedicated to science and sustainable development. An effective MAB National Committee would also be an important link between the MAB Secretariat headquartered in Paris as well as for regional, cluster or national UNESCO Offices that execute MAB and WNBR activities in consultation with the MAB Secretariat in Paris, and biosphere reserves and the various stakeholder groups at the national and sub-national levels.

13. Compared to the early days of the MAB Programme in the 1970s and 1980s a proactive and energetic MAB National Committee and National Commission for UNESCO are critical ingredients for the success of MAB and WNBR not only nationally but also regionally and globally. In the Madrid Action Plan (MAP) for Biosphere Reserves (2008-2013) more than 50% of the 31 targets identify National Commissions for UNESCO and/or MAB National Committees as the responsible or lead actor(s). Hence a committed MAB National Committee and National Commission for UNESCO are necessary conditions for the successful implementation of the MAP during 2008-2013 and beyond.

Annex 5
Links between the Madrid Action Plan (MAP), the Seville Strategy and the Statutory Framework of Biosphere Reserves
January 2009

TARGET	ACTIONS	TIME	SUCCESS INDICATOR	RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTION	PARTNER	STRATEGIE DE SEVILLE et CADRE STATUTAIRE
1. Effective implementation of the Seville Strategy	1.1 Assess the achievements of the Seville Strategy	2010	Assessment document of the Seville Strategy	MAB Secretariat	MAB National Committees, MAB Bureau, MAB Networks, BRs, IUCN, UNDP and TNC	<i>Provided by SS Objective IV.2.23, which proposes indicators</i>
	1.2 Compile and synthesize first-hand information on the functioning of BRs, which should then be shared inter-regionally and globally	2013	Compiled information	MAB Secretariat, MAB Regional Networks and MAB National Committees	WNBR	<i>SS Objective IV.1.1 & IV.2 (in particular 4 & 5)</i>
	1.3 Create and implement a system of recognizing performance of the Seville Strategy	2010	Performance recognition system created, adopted by MAB-ICC, and disseminated	Secretariat in cooperation with Regional Networks, MAB National Committees and MAB Bureau	MAB Bureau, MAB Networks, BRs, IUCN, UNDP and TNC	<i>Direct application of SS</i>
2. Increased cooperation and	1.4 Update the nomination and periodic review forms for BRs	2010	Updated forms available	MAB Secretariat	MAB Bureau	<i>SS Objectives IV.1.2 & IV.2.2 & SF Article 5</i>
	2.1 Utilize BRs in UNESCO Intergovernmental	2013	Number of BRs working together with UNESCO programmes	MAB Secretariat, MAB National Committees, National	MAB Bureau, UNESCO Programmes	<i>SS Objective IV.2.5</i>

TARGET	ACTIONS	TIME	SUCCESS INDICATOR	RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTION	PARTNER	STRATEGIE DE SEVILLE et CADRE STATUTAIRE
coordination of biosphere reserves with existing international programmes and initiatives	Scientific Programmes (ISPs)		(IHP, DESD, IOC, IGCP, MOST, IBSP, etc.).	Commissions for UNESCO	(IHP, IOC, IGCP MOST, IBSP, etc.).	
	2.2 Work closely with the authorities responsible for the implementation of relevant biodiversity and environmental multilateral agreements to ensure coordination between international designations at the national level.	2010	Number of BRs working with international initiatives (CBD, CMS, UNCCD, UNFCCC, IGBP, MA follow-up, etc.) Number of activities in UNESCO incorporating BRs as a tool for linking WH site conservation with sustainable development of the broader region; levels of financial and human resources to developing and implementing joint projects linking WH sites, Ramsar sites and BRs	MAB National Committees, National Commissions for UNESCO	International initiatives (CBD, CMS, ISDR, UNCCD, UNFCCC, IGBP etc.) UNESCO Science Sector, WHC and Ramsar Convention, Executive Board of UNESCO All UNESCO intersectoral Programmes such as DESD, EFA, UNESCO Chairs, Associated Schools Network,	SF Article 2.2

TARGET	ACTIONS	TIME	SUCCESS INDICATOR	RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTION	PARTNER	STRATEGIE DE SEVILLE et CADRE STATUTAIRE
					TWAS, Executive Board of UNESCO.	
3. Integrated information & communication strategy	3. Creation of a web-based information clearinghouse and information centre, to exchange and share technology, research, training, education and cooperation opportunities, findings and experience, and to help to solve problems at local, regional and international levels.	2013	Functioning information clearinghouse mechanism. Number and variety of publications (print, web-based etc.) and communications in UN as well other regional and nationally important languages. Current template of WNBR map adapted to produce region and ecosystem specific maps as and when needed.	MAB Secretariat	Regional, Sub-regional, Country and Thematic Networks in co-operation with MAB National Committees and BR administrations as appropriate, and PALNet-IUCN, and other relevant information networks.	SS Objective IV.2 & SF Article 6
	3.2 Produce regional, sub-regional, country- and ecosystem-specific publications on biosphere reserves, MAB and other related themes.	2009 et 2013	Number of publications	MAB Secretariat, MAB National Committees, individual BRs	Regional Networks in collaboration with Thematic Networks	SS Objective IV.2.7 & SF Articles 6 & 8
	3.3 Elaboration of a map presenting the WNBR	2009	World map	MAB Secretariat	Private/public organizations	SS Objective IV.2.7 & SF Articles 6 & 8

TARGET	ACTIONS	TIME	SUCCESS INDICATOR	RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTION	PARTNER	STRATEGIE DE SEVILLE et CADRE STATUTAIRE
	according to ecosystem types, including human-impacted ecosystems such as rural and urban areas.					
	3.4 Creation of a journalism award directed at the mass communication media for their role on promoting the importance of BRs.	2010	Number of awards provided	UNESCO Member States	UNESCO Member States	<i>SS Objective IV.2.7 & SF Articles 6 & 8</i>
	3.5 Develop an integrated international promotion and communication strategy targeting the general public	2010	Number of publications	MAB Secretariat	Individual BRs, UNESCO Communication and Information Sector, UNESCO regional offices	<i>SS Objective III.3 & V.2</i>
4. Participatory regional networks that are managed in a manner assuring adequate representation of biosphere reserve managers/coordinators	4.1 Develop a structure, strategy and action plan for each regional network to meet their responsibilities within the MAB Programme and regularly report to MAB National Committees and individual BRs. 4.2 Ensure that each network has partnerships and long-term financing mechanisms from within its membership to ensure	2009	Number of regions completing and implementing structure, strategy and action plan. Number of individual BRs participating in regional network activities. Number of networks funded	Regional Networks	UNESCO Field Offices, National Commissions for UNESCO, MAB National Committees and individual BRs.	<i>SF Article 8</i>
		2010		Regional and Thematic Networks, MAB Secretariat, MAB National Committees, National Commissions	Governmental institutions, national and international NGOs, private	<i>SF Article 8</i>

TARGET	ACTIONS	TIME	SUCCESS INDICATOR	RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTION	PARTNER	STRATEGIE DE SEVILLE et CADRE STATUTAIRE
	sustainability of its operations and activities			for UNESCO	sector	
5. Enhanced cooperation between experts and practitioners in relevant key issues	5.1 Create and strengthen existing regional and interregional Thematic Networks formed around key ecosystems, such as mountains, freshwater, oceans, drylands, forests, urban areas, small islands	2010	Number of networks and extent of regional and thematic coverage	MAB Secretariat, Regional and Thematic Networks, individual BRs, other institutions	Diverse stakeholders at multiple scales	SF Article 8
6. Communication strategies for each biosphere reserve, integrated with national and higher levels	6.1 Implement a communication strategy on environmental, economic, social, spiritual, cultural and political importance and benefits of BRs and the WNBR, directed to national governments, policy makers, journalists, local communities and other target groups.	2010	Number of BRs that have developed and launched a communication strategy.	Regional Networks and individual BRs	UNESCO Communication and Information Sector, Bureau of Public Information, UNESCO Field Offices, MAB Programme Networks and Thematic Networks	SS Objective IV.2.7 & SF Article 6
	6.2 Create an incentive programme to recognize the efforts of communities, individuals, institutions, networks and nations in creating, managing and promoting BRs	2010	Number of incentives created.	MAB National Committees, National Commissions for UNESCO	Private and public institutions	SS Objective IV.2.7 & SF Article 6
7. Functional MAB National	7.1 Create or restructure MAB National Committees.	2008	Number of functioning MAB National Committees.	Member States, National Commissions for UNESCO, MAB	Diverse stakeholders at multiple scales	Beyond the scope of SS or SF (or even MAP that is

TARGET	ACTIONS	TIME	SUCCESS INDICATOR	RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTION	PARTNER	STRATEGIE DE SEVILLE et CADRE STATUTAIRE
Committees in each country, managed in a manner assuring adequate representation of biosphere reserve coordinators and other key stakeholders	7.2. Develop a structure, strategy and action plan for each MAB National Committee to assist BRs to meet their responsibilities within the MAB Programme, and support the planning phase for new nominations.	2013	Number of MAB National Committees restructured with strategies and action plans	National Committees, MAB Focal Points and other national Government authorities concerned with BRs MAB National Committees, National Commissions for UNESCO	Governmental institutions, civil society bodies	<i>supposed to deal with the World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNB)</i> <i>Beyond the scope of SS or SF (or even MAP that is supposed to deal with the World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNB))</i>
8. Increased linkages between biosphere reserve activities and sustainable development initiatives at multiple scales	8.1 Encourage and enable individual BRs to collaborate with UN-led policies, strategies and action plans towards sustainable development, as well as other initiatives outside the UN-system.	2010 et 2013	Number of BRs contributing to in-country UN and other initiatives on sustainable development.	MAB National Committees, individual BRs	Regional Networks and MAB Secretariat	SS Objective IV.2. 8
9. All biosphere reserves undertake periodic review and	9.1 Screen new BR proposals as well as devise schemes to support periodic review processes in view of the evolution of the mission and vision	2010 et 2013	Number of BRs that have undertaken necessary steps to update themselves to a post-Seville and MAP vision.	MAB National Committees, with support from Regional Networks	Regional and Thematic Networks, IUCN	SS Objectives IV.1.2 & IV.2.2 & SF Article 9 <i>(Except for</i>

TARGET	ACTIONS	TIME	SUCCESS INDICATOR	RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTION	PARTNER	STRATEGIE DE SEVILLE et CADRE STATUTAIRE
related actions to update zonation, management and other changes to meet Seville & MAP requirements and recommendations	contained in the MAP in particular through field-visits by teams of regional and national experts, in cooperation with the UNESCO Regional, Cluster and National Offices as appropriate.					field visits for periodic review that had been refused by several countries including India. However it could be done with the authorization of the concerned country. Conception somewhat different from that developed heretofore: auto-evaluation)
10. Open and participatory procedures and processes in the designation, planning and	10.1 Every BR should carry out a participatory planning process, such as Local Agenda 21, to guide BR implementation assuring "participatory management" especially for traditional, local and indigenous communities.	2012	Number of BRs with participatory approaches in place	Individual BRs	Thematic Networks, Regional Networks and national organizations	SS Objective IV.1.6 & SF Article 4.6

TARGET	ACTIONS	TIME	SUCCESS INDICATOR	RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTION	PARTNER	STRATEGIE DE SEVILLE et CADRE STATUTAIRE
implementat ion of their biosphere reserves	10.2 Every BR should establish a management committee comprising stakeholders representing different activity sectors of all three zones.	2013	Number of functioning BR management committees	Individual BRs	Public and private institutions including civil society.	<i>SS Objective IV.1.6 & SF 4.6</i>
11. Enhanced legal recognition of biosphere reserves where appropriate	11.1 Encourage States to include BRs in their own legislation		Number of countries which have incorporated BRs into their legislation	MAB Secretariat and MAB National Committees	UNESCO Field Offices	<i>Not provided but not contradictory to SS & SF</i>
12. Analysis of zonation of all biosphere reserves	12.1 Carry out a survey on the present zoning system of the WNBR (including the proportions of the different zones) and investigate how well they fulfil the three functions in each zone.	2010	Outcome of analysis submitted to ICC, and results and ICC recommendations published.	MAB Secretariat and Regional Networks	BR focal points/managers , MAB National Committees, Thematic Networks	<i>Action 12.1 is part of the SS implementation assessment and SS objective IV.1.10</i>
13. Functional zonation in all biosphere reserves established, particularly	13.1 Develop and apply practical tools and guidelines for zoning at the national level	2013	100% sites have functional BR zonation.	MAB National Committees, Regional Networks and individual BRs	MAB Secretariat, IUCN, national and international NGOs, academic institutions,	<i>SF Article 4.5</i>

TARGET	ACTIONS	TIME	SUCCESS INDICATOR	RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTION	PARTNER	STRATEGIE DE SEVILLE et CADRE STATUTAIRE
with regard to the transition area and the development function					Thematic Networks	
	13.2 Use BRs to manage large biome as a BR system and for extensive terrestrial and marine areas as a series of units linking up relatively small protected core areas with significantly larger buffer zones and transition areas.	2013	Number of BRs spatially extended	Individual BRs, MAB National Committees	Regional Networks, IUCN	<i>SF Article 4.5</i>
	13.3 Determine the most suitable zonation patterns and define performance standards for each zone. Ensure sufficient size of each zone for the BR functions and identify the contribution of each zone to the whole BR.	2013	Suitable zonation pattern for each BR defined	Individual BRs, MAB National Committees	Regional Networks, IUCN	<i>SF Article 4.5</i>
	13.4 Clearly define the outer boundary of the BR in determining the transition area through stakeholder consultation. (Each BR should consider natural, e.g. watershed, ecosystem, etc., as well as political and administrative boundaries in defining its	2013	Each BR has a clearly defined outer boundary	Individual BRs, MAB National Committees	Regional Networks	<i>Transition area is necessarily delimited here: contrary to SF that leaves one free to delimit it or not. SF is</i>

TARGET	ACTIONS	TIME	SUCCESS INDICATOR	RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTION	PARTNER	STRATEGIE DE SEVILLE et CADRE STATUTAIRE
	delimitation, and clearly explain the rationale behind that determination in the nomination/periodic review forms)					<i>more flexible.</i>
	13.5 Encourage national recognition of BR zonation schemes as an important planning tool for programmes linked to protected areas in production landscapes.	2013	Number of countries recognizing BR zonation scheme	Individual BRs, MAB National Committees	Regional Networks	<i>SF Article 4.3</i>
14. Co-operative conservation and development strategies for biosphere reserves	14.1 Use appropriate tools such as the Ecosystem Approach, gap analysis, the concept of corridors, ecological networks, etc. for (a) a better connectivity of ecologically-important sites and elements in the landscape, (b) a better inter-linkage of areas/zones and enhanced buffering, and (c) a better consistency in planning.	2013	BRs have well-designed plans with sufficient conditions for assuring financial and operational sustainability	Individual BRs	MAB National Thematic Networks	<i>SS Objective II.2.2 & SF Article 4.3 & 5, but explicit and more up to date</i>
15. Communication of biosphere reserve experiences on management and stakeholder	15.1 Undertake a critical analysis and synthesis of existing data based on experience of implementing the management plans/cooperation plans of BRs around the world, including their relationship to ecosystem	2013	Number of BRs which participate in international programmes Analysis document on the implementation of BR management plans	National Commissions for UNESCO, MAB National Committees WNBR	Regional and Thematic Networks, CBD, CSD, UNCCD, UNFCCC & others	<i>SS Objective III.5 & 9 ; and Objective IV.2.10</i>

TARGET	ACTIONS	TIME	SUCCESS INDICATOR	RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTION	PARTNER	STRATEGIE DE SEVILLE et CADRE STATUTAIRE
participation of ecosystem services to relevant policy constituencies within the UN bodies, regional development banks, national government and others	<p>services.</p> <p>15.2 Promote the MAB Programme's global network function through the systematic recording of policy-relevant case studies and ensuring their availability and dissemination.</p> <p>15.3 Develop actions to increase synergies among international, regional and national programmes currently developed and executed in parallel, such as CBD, Agenda 21 and One-UN activities</p>	2013	Document on case studies	Individual BRs, MAB National Committees, National Commissions for UNESCO, MAB Secretariat	CBD, IUCN	<i>SS Objective IV.1</i>
	<p>16.1 Coordinate with UNESCO Intergovernmental Science Programmes (ISPs) and other relevant international, regional and national authorities to promote policy-relevant research</p>	2012	Numbers of scientific articles, books on sustainability referring to BR or using the concept. Number of MS and Ph.Ds on BRs or related topics	MAB Secretariat, WNBR, Regional Networks	Universities and research centres associated with BRs. Collaboration with ISPs, UNU, IUCN, WCPA, and Thematic Networks	<i>SS III.1.6 but new as far as ISPs are concerned.</i>
	<p>16.2 Improve access to information and new ways to communicate knowledge to a large variety of non-scientific target groups.</p> <p>16.3 Strengthen the role of science in decision-</p>	2011	Number of outreach publications including Internet-based information material	MAB Secretariat, individual BRs, MAB National Committees, National Commissions for UNESCO	Universities, press and other mass media, Thematic Networks	<i>No contradiction but new formulation (non-scientific target groups)</i>
<p>16. A series of site-based policy-relevant research programmes</p>	<p>16.3 Strengthen the role of science in decision-</p>	2013	Research projects established in all BRs	Individual BRs, MAB National	Universities, research	<i>New formulation in</i>

TARGET	ACTIONS	TIME	SUCCESS INDICATOR	RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTION	PARTNER	STRATEGIE DE SEVILLE et CADRE STATUTAIRE
	making through problem-oriented, applied research in order to increase the availability of funding for both science and management, and ensure good science-informed participatory and collaborative management.			Committees, National Commissions for UNESCO	institutions, funding agencies	<i>the sense that applied science is linked to funding</i>
17. Trained biosphere reserve managers and other relevant stakeholder s	17.1 Provide training to BR managers on science-policy-practice interaction and participatory management for science and other relevant areas 17.2 Promote capacity enhancement programmes for BR administrators and managers, such as on adaptive management, including conflict resolution and negotiation skills.	2010 2011	Number of completed or active courses in the regions Training courses for BR managers in operation	MAB Secretariat, Regional and Thematic Networks MAB National Committees	Research institutes, higher education centres, international and national NGOs Universities, research institutions	SS Objective III.3 SS Objective III.3
18. Use of Biosphere Reserves by UNESCO Member States for their work with other ISPs, including IOC and MOST	18.1 Work with other ISPs to include the use of BRs as research and demonstration sites in their programmes. 18.2 Enhance the widespread use of BRs by IHP, IOC, IGCP and MOST for research, information generation and policy advice.	2010 2013	Number of ISP activities and initiatives focusing on BRs Number of BRs involved with other UNESCO ISP activities related to research, information generation and policy advice	Regional Networks MAB National Committees and Secretariat UNESCO ISPs (MAB, IHP, IOC, IGCP, MOST), individual BRs	IOC, IHP, IGCP IHP, IOC, IGCP, MOST	Not provided (ISPs) Not provided (ISPs)

TARGET	ACTIONS	TIME	SUCCESS INDICATOR	RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTION	PARTNER	STRATEGIE DE SEVILLE et CADRE STATUTAIRE
19. Biosphere Reserves to have research programme s on analyses of ecosystem services and their management through stakeholder participation	19.1 Mobilize scientific and non-scientific actors combining all knowledge systems in order to strengthen the scientific functions of BRs.	2012	Number of BRs having research programmes	BRs and MAB National Committees, Regional Networks	GEF, UNDP, EU, international NGOs, Thematic Networks, etc.	<i>The notion of services provided by ecosystems is new but included in research activities</i>
20. Biosphere reserves have research programmes linked to the development of the management plan and zoning	20.1 Ensure stakeholder involvement in the production of a research agenda to be incorporated in the management plan for the whole BR. 20.2 Use BRs as sites for applied, problem-oriented research for sustainable development linked to the zoning and management plan. Incorporate the results of applied ecological and socio-economic research into ecosystem management of all areas and link educational activities to	2013 2012	Number of BRs with defined and operational research programmes. Number of BRs with research agendas related to sustainable development	Individual BRs Individual BRs	Universities, research institutions, funding agencies Universities, research institutions, funding agencies	SS Objective III.4.6 SS Objective III.1.8

TARGET	ACTIONS	TIME	SUCCESS INDICATOR	RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTION	PARTNER	STRATEGIE DE SEVILLE et CADRE STATUTAIRE
	the different functions in all zones of BRs.					
21. Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (DESD) programme with educational and research institutions	21.1 Promote the BR as a learning site of excellence for sustainable development, for demonstrating trade-offs and balance amongst ecosystem services and functioning, human-environment interactions and well-being, in the framework of DESD.	2010	Number of schools associated with BRs through joint classes, school camps, curriculum development	Individual BRs	Associated Schools Project Network, UNESCO Education Sector	New DESD
22. Exchange of educational resources for widespread adaptation and application	22.1 Improve capacity of WNBRR with the aim of building strong learning organizations, alliances and empowering all stakeholders at each BR. 22.2 Provide appropriate staff and funding (a) to enable BR managers/coordinators to actively contribute to the WNBRR, i.e. translation of best practices report into local languages, and (b) to feed this information into the Internet website of UNESCO-MAB.	2010 et 2013	Number of education programmes; number and range of awareness and educational materials produced.	Individual BRs, WNBRR, Regional Networks	NGOs, academic institutions, research centres, and Thematic Networks	SS Objective III.3.4 & Objective III.4.6
		2012	Number of best practices reports translated into local languages	Individual BRs, MAB National Committees	National authorities, national and international NGOs, funding agencies	SS IV.2 & IV.1 1
23. A mechanism	23.1 Facilitate the integration of urban areas	2010 et	Number of BRs with interactions with	MAB Urban Group, Regional Networks	City Authorities,	Compatible with the texts

TARGET	ACTIONS	TIME	SUCCESS INDICATOR	RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTION	PARTNER	STRATEGIE DE SEVILLE et CADRE STATUTAIRE
for biosphere reserves to address urban issues in a regional context	into BRs.	2013	urban areas.		ICLEI, professional planning institutions universities and research centres associated with BRs	
24. Use biosphere reserves as learning sites for research, adaptation, mitigation in relation to climate change	24.1 Use Mountain BRs as field observatories of global change impacts on the environment, economy and human well-being, based on the GLOCHAMORE Research Strategy. 24.2 Use of research results to assist countries in developing and implementing policies for sustainable mountain development. 24.3 Develop strategies for other ecosystems in collaboration with relevant national and international organizations. 24.4 Carry out training courses for different ecosystem types related to climate change, in	2012	Number of mountain BRs with active research and capacity enhancement programmes.	Individual BRs, MAB National Committees, Regional Networks	MRI, Organizations working on climate change, research, academic and outreach institutions, and Thematic Networks	<i>Compatible</i>
		2013	Number of countries with policies for sustainable mountain development.	Individual BRs, MAB National Committees, National Commissions for UNESCO, Regional Networks	MRI, IUCN	<i>Compatible</i>
		2011	Number of strategies applied	Individual BRs, MAB National Committees, National Commissions for UNESCO, Regional Networks	UNFCCC, CBD, UNCCD, and Thematic Networks	<i>Compatible</i>
		2010	Number of training courses carried out	Individual BRs, MAB National Committees, National Commissions for UNESCO, Regional Networks	UNFCCC, CBD, UNCCD, and Thematic Networks	<i>Compatible</i>

TARGET	ACTIONS	TIME	SUCCESS INDICATOR	RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTION	PARTNER	STRATEGIE DE SEVILLE et CADRE STATUTAIRE
	particular using the ERAIFT regional flagship project for tropical forests and certified forestry as a climate change mitigation approach.					
25. Improved financial mechanisms for biosphere reserves and regional networks	<p>25.1 Establish partnership agreements with relevant institutions/organizations to carry out Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) projects.</p> <p>25.2 Establish partnership agreements, such as for water, forest and carbon funds.</p> <p>25.3 Seek national and international support for BRs and Regional Networks with the organizations responsible for projects on biodiversity conservation, international waters, climate change, poverty reduction, etc.</p>	2013	<p>Number of regions launching PES projects</p> <p>Number of BRs involved</p> <p>Number of BRs with partnership agreements</p> <p>Number of BRs and Regional Networks with national and international support</p>	<p>MAB-ICC, Regional Networks</p> <p>MAB National Committees, Regional Networks</p> <p>MAB Secretariat, MAB National Committees, Regional Networks</p>	<p>GEF, UNDP, EU, international NGOs, universities, research centres, and Thematic Networks</p> <p>National and international donor agencies, GEF, UNDP, international NGOs, and Thematic Networks</p> <p>National and international donor agencies, GEF, UNDP, international NGOs, and Thematic Networks</p>	<p><i>New and compatible</i></p> <p><i>New and compatible</i></p> <p><i>SS Objective IV.1.15 :same spirit but more</i></p>
26. Improved	26.1 At least one pilot BR in each Regional Network	2013	Number of BRs developing	Regional Networks	Private sector, research, academic and	<i>SS Objective IV.1.15 :same spirit but more</i>

TARGET	ACTIONS	TIME	SUCCESS INDICATOR	RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTION	PARTNER	STRATEGIE DE SEVILLE et CADRE STATUTAIRE
generation of profits and livelihood benefits in biosphere reserves through sustainable production, harvesting, processing and marketing of biosphere reserve products	chosen to carry out an assessment of the economic contribution of BRs to local economies with the active involvement of local communities.		assessments in each region		outreach institutions, and Thematic Networks	<i>up to date</i>
	26.2 Further the work of the Task Force on Quality Economies by creating or strengthening partnerships with businesses to identify, develop and promote markets and fair trade for goods using the BR brand	2010	Number of BRs involved with the work of the Task Force on Quality Economies	MAB Secretariat, individual BRs, MAB National Committees	Private sector and Thematic Networks	<i>SS Objective IV.1.15: same spirit but more up to date</i>
	26.3 Promotion of alternative and sustainable livelihoods primarily targeting vulnerable populations within BRs such as local communities, minorities, indigenous and ethnic groups	2013	Number of BRs implementing sustainable alternative livelihoods to ensure ease of poverty	UNESCO Member States, individual BRs	National and international funding agencies, GEF, UNDP, etc.	<i>SS Objective II.1.8</i>
27. Increased involvement	27.1 Create or strengthen partnerships with	2013	Number of businesses actively involved in implementing the BR	BRs and MAB National Committees	Private sector	<i>SS Objective II.1.8</i>

TARGET	ACTIONS	TIME	SUCCESS INDICATOR	RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTION	PARTNER	STRATEGIE DE SEVILLE et CADRE STATUTAIRE
t, support and buy-in of private sector	businesses to identify, develop and promote markets and fair trade for goods and services in BRs and to support management and communication relating to BRs.		idea/ BR management Number of businesses actively involved in supporting activities indirectly in BRs.			
	27.2 Promote incentives for product labeling in BRs.	2012	Study available on local BR products	MAB Secretariat, individual BRs	Private sector	<i>SS Objective II.1.8</i>
28. Exchanges between biosphere reserves	28.1 Support study tours/site visits between stakeholder groups in BRs	2010 et 2013	Number of exchanges	Regional and Interregional Networks, Thematic Networks, individual BRs	Governmental authorities	<i>Included in exchanges</i>
	28.2 Encourage and enable twinning programmes between BRs sharing specific issues	2013	Number of twinning arrangements between BRs	Regional and Interregional Networks, Thematic Networks, individual BRs	Governmental authorities	<i>SS Objective IV.2.6 & 16</i>
	28.3 Encourage South-South cooperation and triangular South-North-South cooperation	2013	Number of cooperation agreements involving BRs	Regional and Interregional Networks, Thematic Networks, individual BRs	Governmental authorities	<i>SS Objective III.1.3 (but concerns only cooperation in research)</i>
29. Promote partnerships	29.1 Establish cooperation plans including all sectors of society to champion cooperative activities ranging from education and research to sustainable use of environmental goods and services.	2010	Number of partnerships established Number of BRs involved in partnerships	Individual BRs	Governmental authorities, private sector	<i>SS Objective III.3.1 & 5</i>
	29.2 Establish	2010	Number of	Individual BRs	Canada	<i>New and</i>

TARGET	ACTIONS	TIME	SUCCESS INDICATOR	RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTION	PARTNER	STRATEGIE DE SEVILLE et CADRE STATUTAIRE
	partnerships with regional economic and financial institutions.		cooperation plans established			<i>compatible (SS IV.1 & IV.2)</i>
30. Trans-boundary biosphere reserves	30.1 Support the development of new and strengthen existing transboundary BRs as well as other forms of transboundary cooperation 30.2 Update the nomination and periodic review forms for transboundary BRs	2013	Number of transboundary BRs established	MAB National Committees, Regional Networks	MAB National Committees, National Commissions for UNESCO	<i>SS Objective IV.2.6 & 16 Pamplona Recommendations</i>
		2013	Number of new and existing transboundary BRs with active transboundary cooperation Use of updated forms	BRs and MAB National Committees, Regional Networks, MAB Secretariat, WNBR	Academic institutions, international and national NGOs	<i>Does not concern the texts. Regular work of Secretariat. Ensure conformity with Pamplona Recommendations</i>
31. Promote Biosphere reserves for peace, security and conflict management	31.1 Promote and use BRs as mechanisms for peace and security.	2013	Number of BRs with programmes that promote peace and security	MAB Secretariat, WNBR, Regional Networks	Academic institutions, international and national NGOs, and Thematic Networks	<i>Conflict management SS Objective III-4.3 (but nothing on peace keeping and security)</i>

