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## POPULAR SCIENCE ARTICLE

### CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY FOR POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND PRESERVING THE FRAGILE BIODIVERSITY

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Biodiversity means the variability among living organisms from all sources and the ecosystem of which they are part. About 13 million species are found and 1.75 million species are identified, Biological resources are the mainstay of our economical development several international conventions and treaties related to biodiversity are under enforcement, Nepal has adopted some of them. Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), 1992 is the most important international convention related to biodiversity which brought new era in the field of biodiversity. The agreed text of CBD was adopted by the conference of UNEP on 22 May, 1992 in Nairobi, Kenya. More than 100 countries and many international organizations participated the conference. Ministry of Forestry and Soil conservation is the focal point of CBD. Main features of CBD are conservation of Biological diversity is a common concern of humankind, state have a sovereign right over their biological resources. The objectives of CBD are conservation of biological diversity, fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources, transfer of required technologies and appropriate funding. The beneficiaries of CBD are that the gene rich countries have sovereign rights on their biodiversity and their economy may rise. Farming communities will receive their share from the benefits of the biodiversity. The future generations will be more food secured by the conservation of biodiversity for future need. The scientific communities will be benefited by the conservation and improvement of genetic

resources. So, that in the long run all the people will be benefitted. The Nepal is rich in biodiversity, which is the basis of development of Nepal. WTO and UPOV may affect biodiversity negatively. CBD favours developing countries.

Biodiversity or bioresources is the sum total of life on earth it covers microorganisms to mammoth animals like elephant and man. Biodiversity is the basis for the continuous evolution of species. This diversity is also the backbone of human societies and cultures, in terms of the ecological functions it provides the myriad survival and the livelihood it meets. The millennium development goal has taken eight goals for poverty and hunger achieve universal primary education, promote gender inequality and empower women reduce child mortality, improve maternal health, combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases ensure environmental sustainability, develop global partnership for development. The National Environment Tribunals Act 1995 was enacted to provide the strict liability for damages arising out of any accident occurring while handling any hazardous substance and for the establishment of a National Environment tribunal for effective and expeditious disposal of case arising from such accidents with a view to giving relief and compensation for damages to person, property and the environment and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

Over the last century population market pressures and the development of new agricultural technologies have encouraged

patterns of agricultural development tending towards agricultural intensification (i.e. increasing scales of monoculture production, intensive mechanical tillage, irrigation and the use of synthetic fertilizers, pest control agents and a restricted diversity of crop and livestock, varieties) often leading to natural resources degradation. Agriculture has an important role to play in responding to climate change, both mitigating its causes and adapting to its unavoidable impacts. Agriculture contributes to mitigation through minimizing GHG emission, sequestration atmospheric carbon and sustainably producing biofuels. The overall aim of the response to climate change to ensure food security and other essential human enterprises, while protecting ecosystems and their vital service climate change conditions are likely to be characterized by increase frequency of extreme events, such as heat waves, hail storms, excessive cold, drought with negative impacts on crop yields. Some of the anticipated costs of climate change are: Climate change will increase prices in 2050 by 90% for wheat, 12% for rice and 35% for maize. Irrigated wheat in yields in 2050 will be reduced by around 30% an irrigated rice yields by 15% in developing countries.

The conservation can be defined as “management of human use of biodiversity so that it may yield the greatest sustainable benefit to present generation while maintaining its potential to meet the needs and aspirations of future generation”. The primary goal of world conservation strategy is: maintenance of essential ecological processes and life support system on which human survival and economic activities depend, preservation of species and genetic diversity, sustainable use of species and ecosystems which support million of rural

communities as well as major industries. Thus a logical strategy for conservation of biodiversity should involve: protection, preservation, maintenance, exploitation, conservation and sustainable utilization of biodiversity.

Agriculture and biodiversity can be stated as the economic value of the reservoir of genetic traits present in wild varieties and traditionally grown land races is extremely important in improving crop performance. Improvement in crop plants over the last 250 years have been largely due to harnessing the genetic diversity present in wild and domestic crop plants. Inter breeding crops strains with different beneficial traits have been resulted more than doubling crop production in the last 50 years as the result of the green revolution. Crop diversity is also necessary to help the system recover when the dominant crop type is attacked by a disease. Biodiversity and ecosystems goods and services it provides are considered to be fundamental to healthy economic systems.

Bio-diversity plays an important role in hunger, poverty alleviation, they can be stated as: hunger and poverty alleviations efforts have frequently focussed on improving agricultural production inter-alia with a view to provide adequate but safe food to meet local demands as well as the exports. Recent years there have been arising demand for organic food providing more opportunities for tropical produce.

So, it may be concluded that biodiversity is in decline at all levels and geographical scales, but targeted response whether through protected areas or resource management and pollution prevention programmes—can reverse this trend for specific habitats or species.