

more cost-effective than trying to tackle them once they have become established and threaten biodiversity and human health. Human, animal and plant health controls have been established but need to be implemented more effectively. The World Trade Organization should be working with the CBD and the World Health Organization to address issues of invasive alien species that

The actions that we take today will affect our health tomorrow. At the national level, governments have a responsibility to coordinate the activities of their agencies and to ensure that their policies do not have implications for human health, animal health and plant health. In the transport, tourism, trade, protected areas, wildlife management, water supply and other relevant fields.

We already have several tools available to use in our campaign to conserve medicinal biodiversity. Protected areas are important for conserving medicinal species and should explicitly recognise those species found within them, identify their range and populations, and educate the public about their importance. A national system of protected areas can serve as an antidote to habitat destruction and a means of adapting to climate change as well as maintain ecosystem functions. Nearly all countries have protected area systems but these need to be expanded and managed more effectively if they are to make the maximum contribution to biodiversity conservation and human health.

Indigenous peoples have identified almost all of the medicinal species that exist within their territories and many still depend on them for their healthcare, yet the traditional knowledge which is passed on from generation to generation may be even more seriously threatened than biodiversity. We therefore need stronger efforts to conserve the

entire package of both medicinal biodiversity and cultural knowledge. Central to this is implementation of CBD provisions on access to genetic resources and benefit sharing.

Different stakeholder groups naturally have different interests in medicinal species. Those concerned with nature conservation focus on habitat protection, susta

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ge. To date, health issues have
adequate attention by the Parties to
vention. And actions taken in
ion should complement and
e taken in others.

nd the domain of environmental
alth and biodiversity need to be
into development cooperation at
national and national level. All
actions should understand and
le of ecosystem services in deliv-
l sustainable development.

ns must be protected from
y such as infrastructure develop-
potential impacts are fully under-
ground level, habitat destruction
ation can increase the spread of
st be avoided. Proposed resource
ects such as forestry and mining
pment of human settlements in
disturbed habitats should also
increased risk of disease.

ce has shown that preventing
potentially harmful species is