



Convention on Biological Diversity

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MEETING OF THE BUREAU OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

Fifth meeting (teleconference)

15 July 2020

MINUTES OF THE MEETING (TELECONFERENCE) OF THE BUREAU OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

INTRODUCTION

1. A meeting via teleconference of the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) was held on Wednesday 15 July 2020, from 8:00 to 10:30 (Montreal time).
2. The meeting was attended by the following members of the Bureau: Mr. Hesiquio Benitez Diaz (Mexico), Chair, Mrs. Marie-May Muzungaile (Seychelles), Mr. Larbi Sbai (Morocco), Mrs. Senka Barudanovic (Bosnia-Herzegovina), Mr. Dzmitry Lukashanets (Belarus), Mr. Adams Toussaint (Saint-Lucia), Mrs. Helena Brown (Antigua & Barbuda), Ms. Gwen Sisor (Palau), Mrs. Marina von Weissenberg (Finland), Mrs. Tia Stevens (Australia) and. Apologies were received from Mr. Moustafa Fouda (Egypt), Mrs. Kongchay Phimmakong (Lao People's Democratic Republic), Mr. Volodymyr Domashlinets (Ukraine) and Mr. Gaute Voigt-Hanssen (Norway).
3. The meeting was supported by the CBD Secretariat including Mr. Alexander Shestakov, Mrs. Véronique Allain, Mrs. Kathryn Garforth, Mrs. Marianela Araya and Mr. Joe Appiott.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

4. The Chair of SBSTTA opened the meeting and presented key points for discussion.

ITEM 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA FOR MEETING

5. SBSTTA Chair presented an agenda for the meeting. Agenda was adopted as proposed.

ITEM 3. UPDATE ON AGENDA ITEM 3

Peer review process and information webinars

6. The Secretariat provided an update on the status of documents for this agenda item. Three documents are posted on-line for peer review until July 25 (<https://www.cbd.int/sbstta24/review.shtml>). The whole final package of documents including those updated after review is expected to be available for Parties by the end of August.

7. In response to questions the Secretariat further provided clarifications on the documents in relation to indicators and annotations to terms and concepts used in the language of updated goals and targets.

8. The Bureau members commented on the period for peer review with some views on extension of the review period. However, the Secretariat stressed the point of the previous requests from Parties and the Bureau itself to issue all documents as early as possible and way before the standard 6 weeks prior to the meeting. After peer review, the documents will also need to be sent to editing and translation. The Bureau agreed to keep the current period for peer review.

9. The Secretariat provided an update on the first phase of the SBSTTA-24 information webinars. This phase covered agenda item 3 and was organized by the SBSTTA Chair in cooperation with the OEWG co-chairs and the Secretariat through four webinars covering all time zones. All four webinars were attended by a **total of 1039 people** (781 participants + 208 YouTube views + 50 Facebook Live views). The general statistics and the notes for each webinar were shared with the Bureau. Many Bureau members attended the webinars. The presentation and the webinar recording are available on the CBD website (<https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/02f2/6d21/eb2ac766e55419c135116fc2/sbstta-24-co-chairs-briefing-2020-67-en.pdf>).

Ideas on contact group ToRs

10. The Bureau exchanged opinions on approaches to organize the entire discussion on this agenda item from the plenary to the contact group and outcomes expected from the SBSTTA. The Secretariat provided information on plans for organization, mid-September 2020, of a series of virtual meetings of relevance to SBSTTA-24 and SBI-3. Of particular relevance to SBSTTA-24 are:

- (a) Consider option for nominating two groups of co-chairs;
- (b) Develop a detailed plan internal for the Bureau for the organization of discussion on item 3;
- (c) Develop a scenario note for parties to be shared in advance of the meeting describing the organization of the discussion;
- (d) Consider the identification of specific questions to be addressed during the discussion, including the information on expected outcomes;
- (e) Consider organizing the webinar on peer review results prior to the meeting (in October).

11. The SBSTTA Chair will work with the Secretariat to develop a draft plan and a draft scenario for the organisation of work on this agenda item to present to the Bureau for its consideration at the next meeting.

Update on related meetings

12. The Secretariat provided a brief update on some recent meeting relevant to this agenda item including:
- (a) COFI-34 FAO Virtual Dialogue on Post 2020 GBF mean for Fisheries and Aquaculture 15 July. Recording is available at <http://www.fao.org/webcast/home/en/item/5324/icode/>;
 - (b) Pre HLPF session on post 2020 SDG targets (6 July). This event explored delivery on those SDG targets with 2020 deadline. You may see all materials at <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&type=13&nr=3304&menu=1634>;
 - (c) HLPF side event on Post 2020 GBF (14 July). This side event was designed by the SCBD together with the OEWG co-chairs. You may see presentations at <https://youtu.be/uCMJwI3jB9Y>.
13. The Bureau asked the Secretariat to provide for a consolidated calendar of upcoming events and make it available to the Bureau members for planning their attendance.

ITEM 4. UPDATE ON PREPARATION FOR THE OTHER AGENDA ITEMS

Progress on pre-session documents

14. The Secretariat informed the Bureau on progress in developing pre-session and information documents for agenda item 4-10 (status of documents is presented in Annex 1). The Secretariat informed the Bureau about:
- (a) documents on agenda items 4, 5, 6 and 7 are on-line;
 - (b) delay on document on agenda items 8 and 9 with documents expected in August;
 - (c) document on item 10 is finalized, shared with the Bureau and is ready for editing with an expectation to be published by the end of July.
15. The Secretariat requested the advice from the Bureau on language in annexes in pre-session document for agenda item 10 as per email sent to the Bureau on July 10. The Bureau members were of a view that any language developed by the AHTEG and reflected in its report should be kept in the pre-session document. Thus the document on item 10 will go to the editors as it is.
- Organisation of briefing virtual meetings for agenda items 4-10*

16. The Secretariat presented to the Bureau the proposal for organization of preparatory information on-line meetings (webinars) to introduce SBSTTA agenda items 4 to 10 (not for negotiations). The Bureau members stressed the need for transparent process in preparation of documents and apply the same approach to providing information on documents for all agenda items. The Bureau members volunteered to lead particular agenda items in SBSTTA 24 and were also invited to participate in the webinars.
17. The Bureau agreed with the proposal (Annex 2). The Secretariat will proceed with the organization of these webinars accordingly. The Bureau decided to check the status of preparation at its next meeting.

ITEM 5. OTHER MATTERS

18. The Bureau agreed to continue virtual meetings on a monthly basis and conduct next meeting on Tuesday 25 August 2020.
19. The following elements of the agenda were suggested:
- (a) Preparation for the information webinars on agenda items 4-10;
 - (b) Outcomes of peer review process of documents for agenda item 3;

- (c) Preparation of scenario note for agenda item 3;
- (d) Organisation and co-chairs for potential contact groups;
- (e) Update on dates of SBSTTA-24 meeting.

ITEM 6. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

20. The teleconference was closed at 10:30 (Montreal time) on 15 July 2020.

Annex 1

UPDATE ON PROGRESS ON PRE-SESSION DOCUMENTS FOR SBSTTA-24

(status as of July 15)

AGENDA ITEM #	TOPIC	DOCUMENTS POSTED BY	ANY INTERVENTION BEFORE SBSTTA-24	DATE
3	Post-2020 global biodiversity framework:			
	• Main pre-session document (Doc3)	August		
	• Doc3/Add.1 (monitoring framework)	Posted for peer review (final version in August)	4 briefing virtual meetings (based on time zones)	30 June, 2, 3, 7 July 2020
	• 3 InfoDocs (indicators; annotations to terms and concepts; links to SDGs)	Posted for peer review (final version in August)		
• Background document. Updated elements of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework	August	SBSTTA/SBI virtual preparatory meeting	18 September 2020	
4	Synthetic biology	Posted on-line	briefing virtual meeting	1 September 2020
5	Risk assessment and risk management	Posted on-line	briefing virtual meeting	1 September 2020
6	Marine environment	Posted on-line	briefing virtual meeting	1 September 2020
7	Soil biodiversity	Posted on-line	briefing virtual meeting	2 September 2020
8	IPBES	August	briefing virtual meeting	2 September 2020
9	Biodiversity and health	August	briefing virtual meeting	2 September 2020
10	Invasive alien species	sent to editors (on-line end July)	briefing virtual meeting	2 September 2020

Annex 2

PHASE 2 OF INFORMATION VIRTUAL BRIEFING MEETINGS FOR SBSTTA-24
AGENDA ITEMS 4-10

The second phase of preparatory virtual information briefing meetings for the SBSTTA-24 will cover agenda items 4-10 to support Parties and stakeholders in preparation for SBSTTA-24 meeting.

The process:

- The preparatory information briefing virtual meetings for SBSTTA-24 were introduced through notification (SCBD/SSSF/AS/VA/88886 (2020-043) <https://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2020/ntf-2020-043-sbstta-en.pdf>);
- Additional notification will be issued to introduce details for webinars on agenda items 4-10;
- 2 days over a period of 3 hours each day including time for questions and short breaks;
- Slide presentation and recorded presentation for each agenda item will be also available on the CBD website under r SBSTTA-24;
- Meetings will be organised in English only;
- Webinars will be opened to r all;
- Webinars will be recorded.

The content of the presentation for each agenda item:

- Organisation of the reading (introduction of agenda item; chairing of the session; expectation for the first reading plenary) - by the SBSTTA Chair
- Introduction of the pre-session document (mandate from the COP; structure of the document; processes leading to the development of document (if any); key recommendations) – by SCBD
- Introduction of information documents developed by the Secretariat (if relevant to this agenda item) – by SCBD

Organsiation of the meetings

	<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Agenda items</i>
Day 1	Tuesday, 1 September 2020	7:00-9:15 (Montreal time)	4, 5, 6
Day 2	Wednesday, 2 September 2020	7:00-9:30 (Montreal time)	7, 8, 9, 10

Proposed agenda of the webinar:

Day 1

- Introduction by the SBSTTA Chair, 5 min
- Item 4 (15 min presentation of the pre-session document; 20 min for Q&A)
- Break 5 min
- Item 5 (15 min presentation of the pre-session document; 20 min for Q&A)
- Break 5 min
- Item 6 (20 min presentation of the pre-session document; 20 min for Q&A)

Day 2

- Introduction by the SBSTTA Chair, 5 min
- Item 7 (15 min presentation of the pre-session document; 20 min for Q&A)
- Break 5 min
- Item 8 (15 min presentation of the pre-session document; 20 min for Q&A)
- Break 5 min
- Item 9 (15 min presentation of the pre-session document; 20 min for Q&A)
- Break 5 min
- Item 10 (15 min presentation of the pre-session document; 20 min for Q&A)

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