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BUREAU OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON  
SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND  
TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE  
Montreal, Canada, 1 November 2015

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

1 November 2015

#### INTRODUCTION

1. The meeting of the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) took place in Montreal, Canada, at the office of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), on 1 November 2015. The meeting was attended by the Chair, eight members of the Bureau, and nine members of the Secretariat. Apologies were received from Ms. Shirin Karryeva from Turkmenistan. The list of participants is available in the Annex.

#### ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

2. The meeting was opened at 9 a.m. on 1 November 2015. The Chair of the Subsidiary Body, Mr. Andrew Bignell, welcomed participants to the meeting. The Executive Secretary of the CBD, Mr. Bráulio Ferreira de Souza Dias, welcomed the Bureau members and thanked them for their support in the preparation for SBSTTA 19. Mr. Dias gave introductory remarks on the agenda, including on the role of the new Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI) and its relationship to SBSTTA.

3. The Bureau adopted the proposed agenda for the meeting.

#### ITEM 2. PREPARATIONS FOR THE NINETEENTH AND TWENTIETH MEETINGS OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

4. The Secretariat introduced the documents for consideration under this agenda item, in particular the annotations to the provisional agenda (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/19/1/Add.1).

5. The Bureau considered the proposed organization of work for the nineteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body, and noted that all sessions would be held in Plenary. The Bureau noted that item 4.1 would be introduced by a representative of the World Health Organization via video, item 4.2 would be introduced by the lead author of the *Update on climate geoengineering in relation to the Convention on Biological Diversity: Potential impacts and regulatory framework*, and item 4.3 would be introduced by the Executive Secretary in his capacity as co-chair of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests.

6. The Bureau discussed the expected outcomes for each item on the agenda of SBSTTA 19 with a view to identifying potentially contentious issues. Mr. Robert Höft, on behalf of Mr. David Cooper, SBSTTA Secretary, provided an overview of the preparation process, and he provided an introduction to item 3, Strategic Scientific and Technical Issues related to the Implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, 2011-2020. Mr. David Coates provided an introduction to item 4.1, Biodiversity and Human Health, Ms. Simone Schiele introduced item 4.2 Climate-related Geoengineering and item 5, Work of the Subsidiary Body in light of the 2014-2018 Work Programme of IPBES and relationship with the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, and Ms. Catalina Santamaria provided an overview of item 4.3, Forest Biodiversity.

7. The Bureau discussed which agenda items would most likely require work in contact groups or Friends of the Chair groups in addition to their consideration in Plenary. Possible chairs for such groups were identified as Ms. Tone Solhaug of Norway, Ms. Malta Qwathekana of South Africa, Mr. Horst Korn of Germany and Mr. Mustafa Fouda, of Egypt. Bureau members noted potential issues that were raised in their respective regions.

8. With regard to item 3.1, members of the Bureau agreed that there would be a need to focus the recommendations under this item on overarching issues rather than details concerning individual sectors. The need to avoid duplicating previous decisions was noted. Also, with regard to item 3.1 the Environmental Affairs Officer for marine and coastal biodiversity, Ms. Jihyun Lee, noted that Parties could increase the efficiency of the work of the Secretariat in matters of communication by nominating a national focal point for marine and coastal biodiversity.

9. With regard to preparations for SBSTTA 20, Secretariat staff briefly introduced each of the main items to be discussed, as outlined in UNEP/SBSTTA/20/1/Add.1. The Chair reminded members that the Bureau had previously considered and agreed on the distribution of items between SBSTTA 19 and SBSTTA 20. Bureau members noted the need for resources to allow developing country Parties to attend SBSTTA 20.

#### **ITEM 6. OTHER MATTERS**

10. Under this agenda item, the Bureau addressed the election of officers at SBSTTA 19. As described in the annotated agenda of SBSTTA 19, the Subsidiary Body was to elect five new members to serve on the Bureau for a term commencing at the end of the nineteenth meeting and ending at the end of the twenty-first meeting of the Subsidiary Body, to replace the members from Cuba, Egypt, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea and Serbia. Therefore, the Chair urged Bureau members to consult with their regions with a view to selecting new nominees as soon as possible and to facilitate the election of new members.

11. Meetings of the Bureau were scheduled for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings throughout the nineteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body to oversee progress and the organization of work of the meeting. New Bureau members were to be introduced over a working lunch on Thursday, 5 November.

#### **ITEM 7. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

12. The meeting of the Bureau closed at 12:40 p.m. on 1 November 2015 and was followed by a joint meeting with the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m., during which the Chair of the SBSTTA Bureau provided an overview of SBSTTA 19 to the COP Bureau, and the Chair of the COP Bureau provided an overview of WG8(j) 9 to the SBSTTA Bureau. The Bureaux also discussed the division of tasks among SBSTTA and SBI and received information related to national reporting.

## ANNEX

## List of Participants

<i>SBSTTA Bureau</i>	
Mr. Andrew Bignell, New Zealand (Chair)	Ms. Malta (Nopasika) Qwathekana, South Africa
Ms. Eugenia Arguedas Montezuma, Costa Rica	Mr. Endang Sukara, Indonesia
Ms. Lourdes Coya de la Fuente, Cuba	Mr. Youngbae Suh, Republic of Korea
Mr. Mustafa Fouda, Egypt	Ms. Snezana Prokic, Serbia
Mr. Horst Korn, Germany	

<i>Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity</i>	
Mr. Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias Executive Secretary	Ms. Jihyun Lee Environmental Affairs Officer
Mr. Robert Höft Environmental Affairs Officer	Mr. Joseph Appiott Associate Programme Officer
Ms. Catalina Santamaria Programme Officer	Mr. David Coates Environmental Affairs Officer
Ms. Simone Schiele Junior Professional Officer	Ms. Jacqueline Grekin Programme Assistant
Mr. Charles Besancon Programme Officer	