



Convention on Biological Diversity

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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP MEETING
ON ADDRESSING THE RISKS ASSOCIATED
WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF ALIEN SPECIES
AS PETS, AQUARIUM AND TERRARIUM
SPECIES, AND AS LIVE BAIT AND LIVE FOOD
Geneva, 16-18 February 2011

REVISED ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Pursuant to the request by the Conference of the Parties in paragraph 3 (b) of decision X/38, the Executive Secretary is convening, with the generous support of the Governments of Spain and Japan, a meeting of the AHTEG on addressing the risks associated with the introduction of alien species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, as live bait and as live food, to be held in Geneva, from 16 to 18 February 2011.

2. In paragraph 2 of that decision and the annex thereto, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity established an ad hoc technical expert group (AHTEG) to: (i) suggest ways and means, including, *inter alia*, providing scientific and technical information, advice and guidance, on the possible development of standards by appropriate bodies that can be used at an international level to avoid spread of invasive alien species that current international standards do not cover; to address the identified gaps and to prevent the impacts and minimize the risks associated with the introduction of invasive alien species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, as live bait and live food; and (ii) identify and consider relevant, specific, and concrete tools, voluntary codes of practice, methodologies, guidance, best-practice examples and instruments, including possible regulatory mechanisms, for addressing the risks associated with the introduction of alien species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food, including for:

- (a) Controlling, monitoring, and prohibiting, where appropriate, export, import and transit, at local, national, and regional levels, taking into account national legislations, where applicable;
- (b) Controlling internet trade, associated transport, and other relevant pathways;
- (c) Developing and utilizing risk assessments and risk management;
- (d) Developing and utilizing early-detection and rapid response systems;
- (e) Regulating the export, import and transit of potentially invasive alien species traded as pets likely to be released;
- (f) Public awareness-raising and information dissemination;
- (g) Transboundary and where appropriate, regional cooperation and approaches.

3. In paragraph 3 (a) of the same decision, the Executive Secretary was requested to seek further submission from Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations on examples of best practices for

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addressing invasive alien species introduced as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food.

4. In addition, in paragraph 3 of the terms of reference annexed to decision X/38, the Conference of the Parties requested the AHTEG to consider ways to increase the interoperability of existing information resources, including databases and networks, of use in conducting risk and/or impact assessments and in developing early-detection and rapid response systems.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

5. The meeting will be opened at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, 16 February 2011, by a representative of the Executive Secretary, who will explain its purpose, mandate, and the expected outputs.

ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

2.1 Election of officers

6. After introducing themselves, participants will be invited to elect two co-chairs of the meeting, one from developing countries and another from not developing countries on the basis of proposal from the floor.

2.2 Adoption of the agenda

7. The Group will be invited to adopt the agenda for the meeting on the basis of the revised provisional agenda (UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-IAS/2/1) prepared by the Executive Secretary in line with decision X/38.

2.3 Organization of work

8. The meeting will be held in English only. The Group may wish to conduct all its deliberations on agenda items 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 in plenary. The co-chairs may convene small groups for consideration of specific issues in parallel with or in tandem with plenary sessions, as appropriate.

ITEM 3. SUBSTANTIVE ISSUE

3.1. Identification of relevant, specific, and concrete tools, voluntary codes of practice, methodologies, guidance, best-practice examples and instruments, including possible regulatory mechanisms for addressing the risks associated with the introduction of alien species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food

9. Under this agenda item, in accordance with paragraphs 2 (a)-(g) of the terms of reference annexed to decision X/38, participants will be invited to further identify the relevant, specific and concrete tools, voluntary codes of practice, methodologies, guidance, best-practice examples and instruments, including possible regulatory mechanisms for addressing the risks associated with the introduction of alien species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food, including the issues outlined in paragraph 2 above.

10. Sections IV and V of the note by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-IAS/2/2) provide the information on identified tools, voluntary code of practice, methodologies and annex I of the same document shows examples of species which are not covered by the existing international regulatory framework. Towards the identification of possible regulatory or voluntary mechanisms, the experts are expected to review the information in annexes I and annex II of the note by the Executive Secretary and improve the information to reflect to the development of a guidance under agenda items 3.2 and 3.3.

3.2. *Development of guidance on development of standards by appropriate bodies to address the risks associated with the introduction of alien species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, as live bait and live food*

11. Based on the outcomes of discussion on relevant, specific, and concrete tools, voluntary codes of practice, methodologies, guidance, best-practice examples and instruments under agenda item 3.1, the Group may wish to consider guidance on development of standards by appropriate international bodies. Section VI of the note by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-IAS/2/2) contains about information on the relevant international bodies which set standards or guidelines and in section VII the roadmap to develop guideline is indicated. The Group will be invited to determine the elements of guideline to be included and suggest the details of the guideline to address the risks associated with the introduction of alien species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, as live bait and live food.

3.3. *Consideration of ways to increase the interoperability of existing information resources including databases and networks, of use in conducting risk and/or impact assessments and in developing early-detection and rapid response systems*

12. In light of the need for databases and networks to conduct risk and/or impact assessments and to develop early-detection and rapid-response systems identified and/or specified under agenda items 3.1 and 3.2, the Group may wish to suggest how to improve interoperability of existing information resources and how to implement the specified systems in timely manner. The Group will be invited to review the information in section IV C of the note by the Executive Secretary and agree on the roadmap to develop the specified systems. Timeframe, funding resource and actors to implement the systems will be considered and recommended, as appropriate.

ITEM 4. OTHER MATTERS

13. Under this item, participants will be invited to raise other matters related to the subject matter of the meeting for discussion.

ITEM 5. ADOPTION OF REPORT

14. The Group will consider and adopt its report on the basis of the draft report of the meeting.

ITEM 6. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

15. It is expected that the meeting will be closed at 5 p.m. on Friday, 18 February 2011.

Annex

**PROVISIONAL LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP
ON ADDRESSING RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH INTRODUCTION OF ALIEN SPECIES AS
PETS, AQUARIUM AND TERRARIUM SPECIES, AS LIVE BAIT AND LIVE FOOD**

UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-IAS/2/1/Rev.1	Revised provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-IAS/2/1/Add.1/Rev.1	Revised annotations to the provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-IAS/2/2	Addressing the risks associated with the introduction of alien species as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food: note
UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-IAS/2/INF/1	Information provided by the relevant experts, organizations and industries

OTHER USEFUL DOCUMENTS

UNEP/CBD/COP/10/38	Invasive alien species introduced as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, and as live bait and live food.
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/14/16/Rev.1	Further work on gaps and inconsistencies in the international regulatory framework on invasive alien species, particularly species introduced as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, as live bait and live food, and best practices for addressing the risks associated with their introduction
CBD Technical Series No. 48	Pets, aquarium, and terrarium species: best practices for addressing risks to biodiversity
GISP	Best practices in pre-import risk screening for species of live animals in international trade.
