



Convention on Biological Diversity

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ENGLISH ONLY

AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON
SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS
Ljubljana, 9-13 October 2017

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

INTRODUCTION

1. The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP) decided, at its sixth meeting, to establish an Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Socio-economic Considerations (AHTEG) to develop conceptual clarity in the context of paragraph 1 of Article 26 of the Protocol (decision BS-VI/13). The AHTEG met in Seoul in February 2014 and agreed on “Elements of a framework for conceptual clarity on socio-economic considerations”.¹
2. At its seventh meeting, in its decision BS-VII/13, the meeting of the Parties took note of the report of the AHTEG and decided to extend the AHTEG. Due to insufficient funds, a face-to-face meeting of the AHTEG could not be held prior to the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol. Through an online discussion, the AHTEG undertook certain aspects of its mandate, resulting in a revised Framework for Conceptual Clarity.²
3. At its eighth meeting, in its decision CP-VIII/13, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties took note of the revised Framework for Conceptual Clarity. The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties also decided to extend the mandate of the AHTEG, replacing any experts, as needed, including indigenous peoples and local communities as observers, subject to the availability of funds, to work on the guidelines envisaged under the outcomes for operational objective 1.7 of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.
4. Furthermore, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties urged Parties to provide the necessary funds for a face-to-face meeting of the AHTEG, ensuring the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, supported by such online discussions as may be necessary to achieve its mandate.
5. With the generous support from the Governments of Finland, France and the Netherlands and following the offer of the Government of Slovenia to host the meeting, the second meeting of the AHTEG will be held in Ljubljana from 9 to 13 October 2017.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

6. The meeting will be opened by a representative of Slovenia at 9.30 a.m. on Monday, 9 October 2017. A representative of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity will also make opening remarks.

¹ Report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Socio-economic Considerations, UNEP/CBD/BS/AHTEG-SEC/1/3, annex.

² UNEP/CBD/BS/COP-MOP/8/13, annex.

ITEM 2. ORGANIZATION OF THE MEETING

2.1. Adoption of the agenda

7. The AHTEG will be invited to adopt its agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda proposed by the Executive Secretary (CBD/CP/SEC//2017/1/1).

2.1. Organization of work

8. The AHTEG will be invited to consider the proposed organization of work as contained in annex I below.

9. The language of the meeting will be English. It is proposed that the meeting be conducted in plenary, breaking into smaller groups if needed.

ITEM 3. GUIDANCE ON THE ASSESSMENT OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF ARTICLE 26 OF THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

10. Under this agenda item, the AHTEG will consider the development of guidance on socio-economic considerations, as envisaged under the outcomes for operational objective 1.7 of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, that is: “on the basis of research and information exchange, to provide relevant guidance on socio-economic considerations that may be taken into account in reaching decisions on the import of living modified organisms”.

11. Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations and indigenous peoples and local communities were invited, through notification 2017-39 of 1 May 2017, to submit, as appropriate, any existing guidance documents on socio-economic considerations, as well as information on any experience with taking socio-economic considerations into account in decision-making on living modified organisms. In decision CP-VIII/15, paragraph 2, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties encouraged Parties to make use of the Biosafety Clearing-House to share experiences on national processes and best practices related to socio-economic considerations in decision-making related to living modified organisms, as appropriate, and in accordance with national legislation. The submissions received have been made available on the portal on socio-economic considerations.³ Additional resource materials will be made available to the AHTEG on the portal in order to facilitate the discussions under this agenda.⁴

12. To facilitate the work of the AHTEG, the co-Chairs have prepared a text entitled “Draft Guidance on the assessment of socio-economic considerations in the context of Article 26 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety”, which is contained in CBD/CP/SEC/AHTEG/2017/1/2. The document also contains an explanatory note in which the co-Chairs provide information on the development of the guidance document.

ITEM 4. OTHER MATTERS

13. Members of the AHTEG may wish to raise and discuss any other matters relevant to the work of the AHTEG as set out in decision CP-VIII/13.

ITEM 5. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

14. The AHTEG will be invited to adopt its report for submission to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its ninth meeting for its consideration and appropriate action.

³ http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/cpb_art26_submissions/AHTEG2.shtml

⁴ https://bch.cbd.int/cpb_art26_reference/AHTEG2

ITEM 6. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

15. The meeting is expected to close at 1 p.m. on Friday, 13 October 2017.

*Annex I***PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK**

Date/time	Activity
Monday 9 October 2017	
9.30 – 10 a.m.	<i>Agenda item:</i> 1. Opening of the workshop
10 – 10.30 a.m.	<i>Agenda item:</i> 2. Organizational matters: 2.1. Adoption of the agenda; 2.3. Organization of work.
10.30 – 10.45 a.m.	Coffee/tea break
10.45 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.	<i>Agenda item:</i> 3. Guidance on the assessment of socio-economic considerations in the context of Article 26 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.
12.30 – 2 p.m.	Lunch break
2 – 3.30 p.m.	Agenda item 3 (continued)
3.30 – 3.45 p.m.	Coffee/tea break
3.45 – 5 p.m.	Agenda item 3 (<i>continued</i>)
Tuesday 10 October 2017	
9.30 – 10.45 a.m.	Agenda item 3 (<i>continued</i>)
10.45 – 11 a.m.	Coffee/tea break
11 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.	Agenda item 3 (<i>continued</i>)
12.30 – 2 p.m.	Lunch break
2 – 3.30 p.m.	Agenda item 3 (<i>continued</i>)
3.30 – 3.45 p.m.	Coffee/tea break
3.45 – 5 p.m.	Agenda item 3 (<i>continued</i>)

Date/time	Activity
Wednesday 11 October 2017 9.30 – 10.45 a.m.	Agenda item 3 (<i>continued</i>)
10.45 – 11 a.m.	Coffee/tea break
11 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.	Agenda item 3 (<i>continued</i>)
12.30 – 2 p.m.	Lunch
2 – 3.30 p.m.	Agenda item 3 (<i>continued</i>)
3.30 – 3.45 p.m.	Coffee/tea break
3.45 – 5 p.m.	Agenda item 3 (<i>continued</i>)
Thursday 12 October 2017 9.30 – 10.45 a.m.	Agenda item 3 (<i>continued</i>)
10.45 – 11 a.m.	Coffee/tea break
11 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.	Agenda item 3 (<i>continued</i>)
12.30 – 2 p.m.	Lunch
2 – 03.30 p.m.	Agenda item 3 (<i>continued</i>)
3.30 – 3.45 p.m.	Coffee/tea break
3.45 – 5 p.m.	Agenda item 3 (<i>continued</i>)
Friday 13 October 2017 9 – 9.30 a.m.	Agenda item: 4. Other matters
9.30 – 10.45 a.m.	Agenda item: 5. Adoption of the report
10.45 – 11 a.m.	Coffee/tea break
11 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.	Agenda item 5 (<i>continued</i>)
12:30 – 1 p.m.	Agenda item 6. Closure of the meeting