



CBD



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BUREAU OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE
PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY SERVING AS THE
MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE
CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

Kanazawa, Japan
19 December 2010

MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE BUREAU OF THE FIFTH CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY HELD IN KANAZAWA, JAPAN ON 19 DECEMBER 2010

INTRODUCTION

1. The first meeting of the Bureau of the fifth Conference of Parties serving as the meeting of Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COP-MOP 5) was held on 19 December 2010 in ANA Crown Plaza Hotel, Kanazawa, Japan. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Hidenori Murakami, representing the President of COP-MOP 5.

The following Bureau members attended the meeting:

1. Ms. Snezana Prokic (Serbia) - Member
2. Mr. Ioseb Kartsivadze (Georgia) - Member
3. Mr. Spencer Thomas (Grenada) – Member
4. Ms. Kauna Betty Schroder (Namibia) – Member
5. Ms. Ines Verleye (Belgium) - Member
6. Mr. Andrew Bignell (New Zealand) – Member
7. Mr. Seoung Suho (Republic of Korea) representing Mr. Chan-woo Kim – Member

Absent with apologies:

1. Mr. Ariel Reynaldo Alvarez Morales (Mexico) – Member
2. Dr. Akram Eissa Darwich (Syria) - Member

2. The meeting was also attended by Ms. Sanka Barudanovic, SBSTTA Chair; Mr. M. F. Farooqui, COP 11 Representative; Mr. Masamichi Saigo and Mr. Norihito Hamato of the COP-MOP Presidency; Mr. Kazuaki Hoshino of the COP Presidency and Mr. Masaru Oshima of the Government of Japan. The Executive Secretary of the Convention, Dr. Ahmed Djoghlaif, Mr. Charles Gbedemah, Biosafety Division of the Secretariat, Mr. Atsuhiro Yoshinaka, Mr. David Cooper and Ms. Noriko Moriwake all of the CBD Secretariat were in

attendance. Mr. Carlos Martin-Novella representing the secretariat of UNEP attended the meeting as observer.

ITEM 1: OPENING OF THE MEETING

3. The meeting was declared open at 5.30 p.m. by the President extending a warm welcome to all participants and expressing his appreciation to members for their contributions towards the success of COP-MOP 5. He underscored the success of COP-MOP 5 which he noted was crowned by the adoption of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress. The Executive Secretary expressed his gratitude to the Government of Japan and to the COP-MOP President, Mr. Michihiko Kano, for his exemplary leadership during the COP-MOP.

ITEM 2: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

4. The Bureau then adopted the agenda below, as introduced by the Secretariat:

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Draft Biosafety Programme of Work including proposed Calendar of Biosafety meetings, 2011 - 2012
4. Ceremony for the opening for signature of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress.
5. Date and venue for scheduled bureau meeting(s) in 2011
6. Other matters

ITEM 3: DRAFT BIOSAFETY PROGRAMME OF WORK INCLUDING PROPOSED CALENDER OF BIOSAFETY MEETINGS, 2011 - 2012

5. In introducing the agenda item, the Secretariat noted that there are three documents on the draft programme of work: the base document that links decisions with activities, the list of meetings derived from the activities and the updated document that shows details of the funds needed for the execution of the activities arranged according to priority. The Secretariat further noted the first four proposed prioritized activities as follows: Promotion of awareness and ratification of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress, the assessment and review process, risk assessment and management and socio-economic issues. The Secretariat also stated among the activities, are those that were carried over from previous decisions of the COP-MOP.

6. It was further noted that the document that links activities with funds indicates the mandates for the activities, their objectives, expected outcomes and the budget.

7. The Secretariat pointed out that the aim of the document that links funds to activities is to help raise funds that have been approved through the voluntary budget since in the last biennium only 28 per cent of the approved funds could be realized from donors. It is hoped that the early preparation of the programme of work could help raise the needed funds. The Secretariat further noted that since there exists a mandate in decision BS-V/16 paragraph 2(a) in which Parties were urged to review and align their national actions plans and programmes relevant to the implementation of the Protocol to their National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), as appropriate, there exists possibilities for synergies for the use of resources in collaboration with the Japanese Fund activities. It is noted that the Japan Fund focuses its activities mainly on the review of NBSAPs.

8. The members welcome the documents and agreed that at a later date, the Bureau should devote a special session to developing a strategy for mobilizing funds for biosafety activities. It was also agreed that special sessions of the Bureau meeting should be held prior to COP-MOP meetings to examine carefully the details of budgets and activities with a view to mobilizing funds for intersessional work for the Protocol.

9. The COP-MOP Presidency announced its intention to make voluntary financial contribution in support for intersessional activities during the 2011-2012 biennium which should become available in 2011.

10. The COP Presidency also informed the meeting that the planned activities of NBSAP workshops under the Japan Fund can also cover other major issues including those under the Biosafety Protocol.

11. The Executive Secretary informed the Bureau that in order for the Secretariat to prepare effectively for activities that have been approved through the voluntary budget, it is important that the funds are lodged with the Secretariat at least six months before the intended date of the activity. He further paid tribute to the Government of Japan for its financial contribution to the work of the Convention during this biennium and urge other donors to emulate the Japanese example in providing funds for approved activities in a predictable manner. He further noted that the Secretariat will explore the possibilities of harmonizing some of the activities of biosafety with those of the Convention under the Japan Fund to ensure synergies in a cost effective manner.

12. The Executive Secretary also noted that the approved activities by the COP-MOP far outweigh the funds that are made available. He further stated that the processes of decision making on budget and overall programme activities are disconnected. He recommended that a mechanism be devised to ensure that funds match the intended activities in a predictable manner.

13. The Chair of the Bureau meeting reiterated the challenges facing the Secretariat in getting the necessary funds for the intersession activities noted that the bureau must work together in finding a lasting solution to these problems for the effective implementation of the Protocol.

ITEM 4: CEREMONY FOR THE OPENING FOR SIGNATURE OF THE NAGOYA-KUALA LUMPUR SUPPLEMENTARY PROTOCOL ON LIABILITY AND REDRESS

14. The Secretariat introduced the agenda item by noting that the Supplementary Protocol is the second liability and redress treaty to be concluded within the context of a multilateral environment agreement next to the 1999 Protocol on Liability and Compensation to the Basel Convention on Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes. The Basel Protocol enters into force if ratified or acceded to by 20 Parties to the Convention. However, to date, only 10 instruments of ratification or accession have been deposited. The Secretariat therefore recommended that awareness needs to be raised in facilitating the early entry into force of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress. The elaborate proposal as detailed in the programme of work is therefore aimed at achieving the early ratification of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

15. The Secretariat informed the Bureau that the Supplementary Protocol has been forwarded to the Treaty section in New York in all the six UN languages for further processing and circulation to the Parties. A ceremony for the opening for signature of the Nagoya-Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress is planned from 7 March 2011 to 6 March 2012 in collaboration with Rio+20 Committee. The Executive Secretary explained that the planned activities of briefing officials of foreign ministries and parliamentarians are to promote early ratification of the Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress.

ITEM 5: DATE AND VENUE FOR SCHEDULED BUREAU MEETING(S) IN 2011

16. It was agreed that the next Bureau meeting will be held back-to-back with the Convention Bureau meeting scheduled for Montreal on 5 June 2011 at the margins of the first meeting of the Open-ended Ad hoc Intergovernmental Committee for the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and Equitable Benefit-sharing Arising from their Utilization.

ITEM 6: OTHER MATTERS

17. The Bureau discussed the issue of the 14 Parties who have participated in the COP-MOP but have as yet not fully met the requirements for full credentials. It was agreed that the Executive Secretary pursues the matter with the individual Parties for an early resolution. The members also agreed to pursue the issue with the Parties in their respective regions.

18. The Executive Secretary reported that on 15 December 2010, the Government of Quebec agreed to provide the additional office space in the same building to accommodate the increasing number of staff starting from March 2011. He expressed his gratitude to the Government of Canada and the Province of Quebec for providing the additional office space. He also informed the Bureau that negotiations are advanced for the provision of a new building to be named after the Convention and used as offices by the Secretariat.

19. The Bureau member from Namibia, on behalf of Africa, expressed her gratitude to the Secretariat for the enormous work it is putting into raising the profile of biodiversity globally.

ITEM 8: CLOSURE

20. The meeting was closed at 6:50 p.m. on Sunday 19 December 2010.
