



Convention on Biological Diversity

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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
Montreal, Canada
30 October 2011

MINUTES OF THE SECOND 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 MONTREAL, CANADA ON 30 OCTOBER 2011

INTRODUCTION

1. The second meeting of the Bureau of the fifth Conference of Parties serving as the Meeting of Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (COPMOP-5) was held on 30 October 2011 at the Secretariat office in Montreal, Canada. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Masamichi Saigo, representing the President of COPMOP-5.

2. 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. Mr. Ariel Reynaldo Alvarez Morales (Mexico) – Member
 5. Ms. Kauna Betty Schroder (Namibia) – Member
 6. Ms. Latifa Lakfifi (Morocco) - Member
 7. Ms. Ines Verleye (Belgium) - Member
 8. Mr. Andrew Bignell (New Zealand) – Member

Mr. Akram Eissa Darwich (Syria) was represented by Mr. Alhayek. Absent with apologies was Mr. Yeon-chul Yoo (Republic of Korea).

3. The meeting was also attended by Mr. M. F. Farooqui, COPMOP-6 / COP 11 Representative, as well as by Mr. Hiroki Sasaki of the COPMOP Presidency and Ms. Noriko Moriwake of the COP Presidency. The Executive Secretary of the Convention, Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaif and Mr. Charles Gbedemah, Biosafety Division of the CBD Secretariat were in attendance. Mr. Carlos Martin-Novella representing UNEP attended the meeting as an observer.

ITEM 1: OPENING OF THE MEETING

4. The meeting was declared open at 11:05 a.m. by the President, extending a warm welcome to all members and, on behalf of the COPMOP Presidency, expressed his gratitude and appreciation to the members for their support during the recent natural disaster in Japan. He announced the appointment of Mr. Hidenori Murakami, the former representative of the COPMOP President as the new Ambassador of Japan to Chile. He further noted that he was confident that he could count on the support of all members in the Bureau in the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol. The Executive Secretary paid special tribute to Mr. Hidenori Murakami for his leadership during the COPMOP5 in Nagoya and during his work as the representative of the COPMOP President.

ITEM 2: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

5. The Bureau then adopted the provisional agenda of the meeting as prepared by the Secretariat, in consultation with the Presidency, as follows:

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Status of the Programme of Work 2011 – 2012
4. Update on the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress
5. Status of the Voluntary Contributions in Support of Approved Activities of the Cartagena Protocol for the biennium 2011 -2012
6. Agenda for COP MOP 6, Hyderabad, India 1 – 5 October 2012
7. Date and venue for scheduled Bureau meeting(s) in 2012
8. Other matters
9. Closure of the meeting

ITEM 3: STATUS OF THE BIOSAFETY PROGRAMME OF WORK 2011 - 2012

6. In introducing the agenda item, the Secretariat presented the details of the activities under the Biosafety Clearing-house, Risk assessment and risk management, Cooperation with other organization, conventions and initiatives, Liability and Redress, Public awareness, education and participation, Capacity building and Handling, transport, packaging and identification. The Secretariat further noted that all the activities are on schedule within the timelines, as proposed in the programme of work presented at the first meeting of the Bureau of COPMOP5 in Kanazawa, Japan in December 2010.

7. In the follow-up discussions, the members expressed their satisfaction with the work of the Secretariat in keeping the programme of work on course. The members further noted that all efforts must be made by both the Secretariat and members of the Bureau to encourage all Parties to the Convention to ratify the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, as well encouraging Parties to the Cartagena Protocol to sign and subsequently ratify the

Supplementary Protocol on the Liability and Redress. Specifically on the latter, the members agreed that a joint letter be sent from the COPMOP-5 President, the incoming COPMOP-6 President and the CBD Executive Secretary to urge Parties to Cartagena Protocol to sign and subsequently ratify the Supplementary Protocol.

8. It was also recommended that, in order to give further visibility to the Protocols and increase ratifications, the Secretariat should organize side events at the margins of major environmental events, such as the forthcoming Rio+20 in Brazil to highlight achievements of the Cartagena Protocol.

9. It was recommended that the progress so far made in revamping the Biosafety Clearing-house must be reflected in measureable indices that should form an integral part of the general indicators under the information sharing focal area of the Strategic Plan of the Protocol for the appreciation of all stakeholders.

ITEM 4: UPDATE ON THE NAGOYA – KUALA LUMPUR SUPPLEMENTARY PROTOCOL ON LIABILITY AND REDRESS

10. The Secretariat introduced the agenda item by noting that the Supplementary Protocol opened for signature at the United Nations Headquarters on the 7 March 2011. To date, the Supplementary Protocol has been signed by 35 Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. The Secretariat indicated that, in order to promote signature and early entry into force of the Supplementary Protocol, a paper and a video presentation on the Protocol have been prepared and circulated. A one-page fact sheet on the Protocol has also been made available to stakeholders.

11. The Secretariat also held briefing sessions involving Permanent Missions and other representatives of governmental and inter-governmental organizations, as part of briefing events on the outcome of the fifth meeting of the COP-MOP and the tenth meeting of the COP in Geneva (15 February 2011), Nairobi (25 February 2011), Rome (14 March 2011), Paris (7 April 2011), Bangkok (27 April 2011), Paris (24 June 2011), Rome (30 June 2011), Addis Ababa (22 July 2011) and Geneva (18 August 2011).

12. Further, the Secretariat has conducted two regional workshops to date on the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol. The first workshop took place in Ljubljana, Slovenia on 16-17 of June 2011, with the participation of representatives of 10 countries from Central and Eastern Europe. The second one was the African regional workshop which took place on 21-22 July 2011 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The African regional workshop was conducted in collaboration with the African Union Commission. The workshop brought together 45 participants from African Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and sub-regional economic communities.

ITEM 5: STATUS OF THE VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS IN SUPPORT OF APPROVED ACTIVITIES OF THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL FOR THE BIENNIUM 2011 -2012

13. In introducing the agenda item, the Secretariat pointed out that, to date, there has been voluntary contributions totalling (US\$ 632,467) from the European Union, Japan and Norway which amounts to 21.8% of the expected US \$2,943,085. The Secretariat further noted that

there is an urgent need for the voluntary contribution of US\$ 100,000 for the approved activity of an Ad Hoc Technical and Expert Group (AHTEG) meeting on the Assessment and Review of the Protocol. The members agreed to explore possible avenues of funding for this important activity.

14. The Executive Secretary expressed his appreciation to the Governments of Japan, Norway and the European Union for their voluntary contributions towards the implementation of the Protocol.

ITEM 6: AGENDA FOR COP MOP 6, HYDERABAD, INDIA 1 – 5 OCTOBER 2012

15. The Secretariat introduced the draft provisional agenda and its annotations for COPMOP 6 and indicated that the agenda items reflect the standing issues identified in the programme of work and the rolling substantive issues arising from previous decisions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol and issues stipulated in the operational objectives of the Strategic Plan.

16. The members expressed their satisfaction with the agenda and its annotations and agreed that under the organisation of work, agenda item 15 on Socio-economic considerations should be moved from Working Group I to Working Group II, since most of the delegates who deal with capacity building are better placed for the discussions on Socio-economic considerations.

ITEM 7: DATE AND VENUE FOR SCHEDULED BUREAU MEETING(S) IN 2012

17. The members of the Bureau agreed that the next meeting would be held at the margins of the fourth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention scheduled for Montreal in May 2012.

ITEM 8: OTHER MATTERS

18. A member of the Bureau noted that the sponsorship of a single delegate from developing countries and countries with economies in transition to back-to-back meetings poses a challenge to the delegations with only one representative, for effective participation and should be re-considered.

ITEM 9: CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

19. At the end of the proceedings, the President expressed his appreciation to the members for their cooperation and closed the meeting at 12:20 p.m.
