



## Convention on Biological Diversity

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### SECOND AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Drafting Committee Meeting  
Cape Town, South Africa, 20-24 July 2009

#### REPORT OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE

1. The Second Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on Biodiversity and Climate Change was convened in response to decision IX/16 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The purpose of this AHTEG was to provide biodiversity-relevant information to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) through the provision of scientific and technical advice and assessment on the integration of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity into climate change mitigation and adaptation activities.
2. In order to facilitate the full and effective completion of the terms of reference as outlined in annex III to decision IX/16, the AHTEG convened two meetings; the first was held in London from 17 to 21 November 2008, and the second in Helsinki from 18 to 22 April 2009.
3. The reports of these two meetings have been circulated to Parties and other organizations for peer review through notification 2009-059 (ref. SCBD/STTM/JM/JW/ac/67599 of 3 June 2009) with a request for comments to be submitted by the 30 June 2009.
4. The purpose of the drafting committee meeting was to consider the peer-review comments and accordingly finalize the draft report of the AHTEG for submission to the Bureaus of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) for their consideration.

#### ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

5. The meeting was opened by Mr. Guy Midgley, on behalf of the Government of South Africa, at 9.30 a.m. on Monday, 20 July 2009. Mr. Midgley welcomed participants to the meeting and thanked the South Africa National Biodiversity Institute for hosting the meeting. Mr. Midgley invited participants to nominate Mr. Bob Watson as the chair for the session. Participants agreed with the proposal and Mr. Watson took over as the chair of the session with assistance from the co-chairs of the AHTEG.

#### ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

##### 2.1 *Organization of work*

6. Ms. Jaime Webbe from the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity briefed participants on the peer-review process, the contributions received and the documents available for consideration by the committee. Ms. Webbe also informed participants that a number of additional comments had been received since the documents were prepared for the meeting. As such, a revised version of the document had been e-mailed to all participants.

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7. The committee decided to begin its work in plenary to consider the general comments and the key messages before breaking into small groups to consider the main sections of the report. The committee decided that the working hours of the meeting would be 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

**ITEM 3. REVIEW OF COMMENTS RECEIVED ON THE MAIN MESSAGES**

8. The committee reviewed the specific comments received on the main messages as outlined in the revised version of the draft report circulated at the start of the meeting. Based on the comments received, the group revised the main messages and reorganized the order of the messages. The group also considered text from the London meeting which was removed from the report sent for peer review but which responded to some of the comments received during the peer review.

**ITEM 4. REVIEW OF COMMENTS RECEIVED ON THE REMAINDER OF THE DRAFT REPORT**

9. Under this agenda item, the committee formed break-out groups according to sections of the report to consider the comments outlined in the revised version of the draft report circulated at the start of the meeting as well as the summary of general comments. Each group made changes based on the comments and reported back to the plenary on the changes made and the main issues that remain to be addressed. The mitigation group also revisited earlier versions of the section text.

**ITEM 5. PEER-REVIEW OF THE ENTIRE REPORT**

10. Based on the work of the small break-out groups, the committee, with the exception of the small group working on the mitigation section (who continued to work on this section as it required more time), peer reviewed the entire draft report of the AHTEG with the exception of the mitigation section with a view to developing a final proposal for submission to the Bureaus of the Conference of the Parties and SBSTTA for their consideration, following consultations with the rest of the AHTEG members.

11. During the process of conducting the peer review, the committee identified a number of outstanding references and wording issues to be addressed. It was agreed that wording issues would be addressed prior to the circulation of the document to the other AHTEG members while the finalization of references would take place in parallel to the review by other AHTEG members.

12. Due to time constraints, the committee agreed to review the revised mitigation section between 6 p.m. Friday, 24 July 2009, and 9 p.m. Sunday, 26 July 2009 (South African local time). Furthermore, since the team working on mitigation was unable to participate in the peer review of the entire report, the committee was unable to conclude its work with an approved version of the entire report.

**ITEM 6. OTHER MATTERS**

13. Participants expressed their gratitude to the Government of South Africa for hosting the Drafting Committee Meeting.

14. A schedule for the completion of the document was agreed as follows:

Circulation of the final drafting committee document to all AHTEG members: 27 July to 3 August

Chairs teleconference concerning final text: 7 August (8 a.m. Montreal time)

Chairs submit final text: 11 August

Final document circulated to COP Bureau for regional consultations: 15 August

Consideration of the approval of the document by the COP Bureau: 9 September

**ITEM 7. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT AND CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

15. The Committee adopted its report on the basis of the draft report of the meeting.

16. The meeting closed at 6 p.m. on Friday, 24 July 2009.

*Annex*

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