



Convention on Biological Diversity

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MEETING OF THE INFORMAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE TO THE CLEARING-HOUSE
MECHANISM OF THE CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Cancun, Mexico, 3 December 2016

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

INTRODUCTION

A. General information

1. The meeting of the Informal Advisory Committee to the Clearing-House Mechanism (CHM-IAC) of the Convention on Biological Diversity will be held on Saturday, 3 December 2016, at the Moon Palace in Cancun, Mexico, prior to the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 13). The venue will be located in the Universal Building of the Moon Palace and the meeting room will be displayed on monitors within the building.
2. Registration of participants in the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and related meetings, including the CHM-IAC meeting, will take place daily from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., starting on 30 November 2016. Participants are invited to refer to the COP 13 information note for participants available at www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=cop-13 for further details.
3. The CHM-IAC meeting is scheduled to start at 8.30 a.m. on 3 December 2016 and close on the same day at 3 p.m., as indicated in the proposed organization of work available in annex I. Please plan your arrival at the venue to have sufficient time to register prior to the meeting.

B. Background

4. In decision X/15, the Conference of the Parties adopted the mission, goals and objectives of the clearing-house mechanism for the period 2011-2020 and, in paragraph 11 of decision XI/2 B, welcomed the work programme for the clearing-house mechanism in support of implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 ([UNEP/CBD/COP/11/31](http://www.cbd.int/doc/strategic-plan/strategic-plan-2011-2020.pdf)) and agreed to keep this work programme under review. More recently, in section 3 of decision XII/2 B, the Conference of the Parties made a number of requests concerning the clearing-house mechanism.
5. The previous meeting of the Informal Advisory Committee to the Clearing-House Mechanism was held in Montreal, Canada, on 1 May 2016 to review progress made on the clearing-house mechanism. For the report of that meeting, including recommendations to the Executive Secretary, see [UNEP/CBD/CHM/IAC/2016/1/2](http://www.cbd.int/doc/iaac/iaac-2016/iaac-2016-1-2.pdf).

6. At the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the clearing-house mechanism will be discussed under agenda item 12 (Other means of implementation: enhancement of capacity--building, technical and scientific cooperation and other initiatives to assist implementation). Annex II contains the provisional list of meeting documents, which is also available online at www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=chmiac-2016-02 and includes the documents related to agenda item 12.

C. Expected outcome

7. The main purpose of the meeting is to follow up on the progress made on the clearing-house mechanism in the light of decision XII/2 B, as well as the guidance of the Committee to the Executive Secretary. The meeting will also be an opportunity to share views on the clearing-house mechanism prior to the opening of the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

8. The meeting will be opened by a representative of the Executive Secretary at 8.30 a.m. on Saturday, 3 December 2016.

ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

2.1. Adoption of the agenda

9. A provisional agenda (UNEP/CBD/CHM/IAC/2016/2/1) has been prepared by the Executive Secretary. The Committee is expected to review and adopt the agenda for this meeting.

2.2. Organization of work

10. The Committee will be invited to consider the proposed organization of work contained in annex I.

ITEM 3. ISSUES FOR IN-DEPTH CONSIDERATION

11. Given the time available for the present meeting, the Committee will be invited to consider the following key issues for an in-depth discussion, while additional relevant issues can be raised and discussed at the end of this agenda item:

- (a) Award for national clearing-house mechanisms;
- (b) Online reporting tool;
- (c) Technical and scientific cooperation, including the Bio-Bridge Initiative;
- (d) Web strategy/communication strategy;
- (e) Support for national clearing-house mechanisms;
- (f) Interoperability.

3.1. Award for national clearing-house mechanisms

12. In paragraph 15 of decision XII/2 B, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to propose, in collaboration with the Informal Advisory Committee to the Clearing-House Mechanism, a process to grant, at the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth meetings of the Conference of the Parties, subject to the availability of resources, an award to the Parties that had made the most significant progress in the establishment or further development of their national clearing-house mechanisms.

13. Under this sub-item, the Secretariat will summarize progress made in this area and the jury members attending the meeting will be invited to share their feedback and experience. The Committee will then be invited to provide advice on how to plan the next award process until the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

3.2. Online reporting tool

14. In paragraph 18(a) of decision XII/2 B, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to establish a fully functional online reporting tool enabling Parties to submit, on a voluntary basis, information on their progress towards national targets and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, directly involving Parties in the development and testing of this tool.

15. The online reporting tool is now ready for official submission at <https://chm.cbd.int>, as announced through notification 2016-038, issued on 21 March 2016. In the meantime, further development is ongoing at <https://chm.cbddev.xyz> to enhance the functionality of this tool in line with the draft guidelines for the sixth national report (see [UNEP/CBD/COP/13/21](#)).

16. Under this item, the Committee will be invited to provide feedback on this tool and advice for its further development.

3.3. Technical and scientific cooperation, including the Bio-Bridge Initiative

17. In paragraph 9 of decision XII/2 B, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to enhance technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer under the Convention, and report on progress to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its first meeting. Such report was provided in section III of document UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/6, which also included progress on the Bio-Bridge Initiative (BBI), which was launched by the Republic of Korea at the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to facilitate technical and scientific cooperation in the context of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

18. The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, in collaboration with its main partners, namely the Quebec Centre for Biodiversity Science (QCBS) and the United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) have developed a Draft Action Plan to guide the BBI activities and operations for the period 2017-2020. This draft action plan is available as document UNEP/CBD/COP/13/INF/21. In addition, a stocktaking summary report on previous technical and scientific cooperation work under the Convention and other initiatives and mechanisms relevant to the Bio-Bridge Initiative is also available as UNEP/CBD/COP/13/INF/22.

19. Under this sub-item, the Secretariat will summarize progress made in this area, and the Committee will be invited to exchange views and comments on the Bio-Bridge Initiative and, more broadly, on how to further facilitate technical and scientific cooperation in support of the implementation of the Strategic Plan of Biodiversity and the achievement of its Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

3.4. Web strategy/communication strategy

20. In paragraph 19 of its decision XII/2 B, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to develop a web strategy to ensure that all information common or relevant to the clearing-house mechanism, the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House and the Biosafety Clearing-House, as well as other platforms developed under the Convention, could be accessed centrally to avoid duplication of efforts, and to provide this strategy to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation for consideration at its first meeting, in preparation for the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

21. In response to this request, the Executive Secretary prepared a web strategy for the Convention and its Protocols (UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/6/Add.2). After consideration of this document at its first meeting, the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, in paragraph 4 of its recommendation 1/5, requested the Executive Secretary to align the web strategy with the communications strategy, which was being prepared for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting. Accordingly the communications strategy has been issued as UNEP/CBD/COP/13/14, and the aligned web strategy as UNEP/CBD/COP/13/14/Add.1.

22. Under this sub-item, the Committee may wish to exchange views and comments on these documents in preparation for their consideration by the Conference of the Parties.

3.5. Support for national clearing—house mechanisms

23. In paragraph 15 of decision XII/2 B, the Conference of the Parties invited Parties and partners to provide support to developing country Parties that were developing their national clearing-house mechanisms. In paragraph 16 of the same decision, it also invited Parties and donors to continue to provide financial support to establish and strengthen their national clearing-house mechanisms, including for content preparation, and for translation to facilitate the sharing of information and knowledge.

24. The Secretariat will summarize progress made in this area thanks to support from Japan and other Parties. More specifically, the Secretariat will report on the two recent regional capacity-building workshops on the clearing-house mechanism, and on the use at these workshops of the new Bioland tool, available at <https://demo.chm-cbd.net>, to assist Parties in the establishment of their national clearing-house mechanisms. The reports of these workshops are available as UNEP/CBD/CHM/WS/2016/1/2 and UNEP/CBD/CHM/WS/2016/1/2.

25. Under this sub-item, the Committee will be invited to provide advice on how to improve such support for further developing national clearing-house mechanisms.

3.6. Interoperability

26. In paragraphs 18(b) and 18(c) of decision XII/2 B, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to continue developing the following interoperability services of the central clearing-house mechanism:

(a) Interoperability with national clearing-house mechanisms, among which is the existing portal toolkit used by many national and regional clearing-house mechanisms, where applicable;

(b) Interoperability with InforMEA to allow relevant information on the Convention on Biological Diversity to be globally searchable on the InforMEA website.

27. The Secretariat will summarize progress made in this area. Under this sub-item, the Committee will be invited to provide advice on how to further develop interoperability within the clearing-house mechanism network.

3.7. Additional issues

28. Under this sub-item, the Committee will have the opportunity to raise and discuss any relevant issues not covered under the previous sub-items.

ITEM 4. OTHER MATTERS

29. Under this item, the Committee may wish to consider any other matter, such as matters related to the operations of the Committee.

ITEM 5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

30. The Committee will be invited to formulate general conclusions and recommendations based on the outcomes of the discussions on the various issues considered during the meeting.

ITEM 6. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

31. The meeting is expected to close at 3 p.m. on Saturday, 3 December 2016.

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

| <i>Time</i> | <i>Activity</i> |
|---------------------|--|
| 8 - 8.30 a.m. | <i>Registration and welcome</i> |
| 8.30 - 10.30 a.m. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Opening of the meeting 2. Organizational matters: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1. Adoption of the agenda 2.2. Organization of work 3. Issues for in-depth consideration: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1. Award for national clearing-house mechanisms 3.2. Online reporting tools 3.3. Technical and scientific cooperation, including the Bio-Bridge Initiative |
| 10.30 - 10.45 a.m. | <i>Coffee break</i> |
| 10.45 a.m. - 1 p.m. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Issues for in-depth consideration: <i>(continued)</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3.4. Web strategy/communication strategy 3.5. Support for national clearing-house mechanisms 3.6. Interoperability |
| 1 - 2 p.m. | <i>Lunch break</i> |
| 2 - 3 p.m. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Issues for in-depth consideration: <i>(continued)</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3.7. Additional issues 4. Other matters 5. Conclusions and recommendations |
| 3 p.m. | 6. Closure of the meeting |

*Annex II***PROVISIONAL LIST OF DOCUMENTS****Meeting documents**

- UNEP/CBD/CHM/IAC/2016/2/1
Provisional agenda
- UNEP/CBD/CHM/IAC/2016/2/1/Add.1
Annotated provisional agenda
- UNEP/CBD/CHM/IAC/2016/2/2
Report of the meeting¹

Relevant documents from COP 13

- UNEP/CBD/COP/13/13
Revised short-term action plan on capacity-building
- UNEP/CBD/COP/13/14
Framework for a communications strategy
- UNEP/CBD/COP/13/14/Add.1
Web strategy for the Convention and its Protocols
- UNEP/CBD/COP/13/INF/14
Additional information on the Web strategy for the Convention and its Protocols
- UNEP/CBD/COP/13/INF/15
Progress report on the clearing-house mechanism
- UNEP/CBD/COP/13/INF/21
Revised draft action plan on the Bio-Bridge Initiative 2017-2020
- UNEP/CBD/COP/13/INF/22
Stocktaking summary report on previous technical and scientific cooperation work under the Convention and other initiatives and mechanisms relevant to the Bio-Bridge Initiative

Relevant documents from other meetings

- UNEP/CBD/CHM/WS/2016/1/2
Report of the regional workshop for the Pacific on the clearing-house mechanism
(Nadi, Fiji, 13-17 June 2016)
- UNEP/CBD/CHM/WS/2016/2/2
Report of the regional workshop for Central and Eastern Europe and Western Asia on the clearing-house mechanism
(Belgrade, 4-8 April 2016)
- UNEP/CBD/CHM/IAC/2015/1/2
Report of the meeting of the Informal Advisory Committee to the Clearing-House Mechanism
(Montreal, Canada, 1 May 2016)

¹ To be made available after the meeting.

- UNEP/CBD/CHM/IAC/2016/1/2
Report of the meeting of the Informal Advisory Committee to the Clearing-House Mechanism (Montreal, Canada, 1 May 2016)
- UNEP/CBD/COP/11/31
Proposed work programme for the clearing-house mechanism in support of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020

Other documents

- Information note for participants (COP 13)
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