



CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

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INFORMAL MEETING ON FORMATS, PROTOCOLS
AND STANDARDS FOR THE IMPROVED EXCHANGE
OF BIODIVERSITY INFORMATION
Montreal, 19-20 February 2002

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Organizational matters:
 - 2.1. Election of a Chair and Rapporteur
 - 2.2. Organization of work
3. Technical presentation on formats, protocols, standards, products, databases and applications.
4. Possible formats, protocols and standards for the improved exchange of biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge, including national reports, biodiversity assessments and Global Biodiversity Outlook reports. Presentation of pilot projects:
 - (a) Common format matrix of the second national reports (Second National Reports Analyser);
 - (b) Use of XML, RDF/Dublin Core in the development of the Biosafety Clearing-House;
 - (c) Identification of possible standards and protocols in the implementation of the Global Invasive Species Information Network;
 - (d) Lessons learned and applicability to the development of using common standards among distributed databases (national reports, Global Invasive Species Information Network, etc.).
 - (e) *The United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity Clearing-house Mechanism and interoperability of national nodes: an option for consideration.*
5. Metadata
 - 5.1. Presentation on United Nations metadata standards;

- 5.2. Presentation on U.S. Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) metadata standards;
- 5.3. Presentation on Resource Description Framework (RDF)/Dublin Core.
- 6. Reports from Working Group I: identification of possible standards and protocols in the implementation of the Global Invasive Species Network, and from Working Group II: identification of possible standards and protocols to improve the exchange of biodiversity data.
- 7. Recommendations and follow-up action.
- 8. Closure of meeting.
