



CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-FBD.REV/1/1/Add.1
4 November 2003

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK ON FOREST BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Montpellier, France, 24-27 November 2003

Item 2 of the provisional agenda*

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Annotations to the provisional agenda

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity was adopted at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and is annexed to decision VI/22 on forest biological diversity. It consists of 12 goals, 27 objectives, and 130 activities on forest biodiversity issues under the following three interrelated programme elements: (i) conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing; (ii) institutional and socio-economic enabling environment; and (iii) knowledge, assessment and monitoring.

2. In paragraph 21 of the same decision, Parties were requested to report on progress in implementing relevant objectives and related activities of the programme of work through their national reports, starting with the third national report to be submitted before the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in 2006. In paragraphs 22-24 of the same decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to undertake various activities in support of the implementation of the expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity: to develop a format for the section on forest biological diversity in the third and subsequent national reports, to identify and/or foster partnerships and cooperative initiatives, and to compile information on the implementation of the programme of work through progress reports to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA).

3. In paragraph 27 of the same decision, the Conference of the Parties agreed to call for a voluntary thematic report, for submission before its seventh meeting, eliciting information on:

- (a) Priority actions that Parties have identified under the programme of work;
- (b) Successes in implementing the programme of work; and
- (c) Challenges and impediments to implementing these priority actions and, as appropriate, the programme of work.

* UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-FBD.REV/1/1.

4. In addition, the Conference of the Parties requested SBSTTA to review the implementation of the programme of work and to report to the Conference of the Parties at its eighth meeting (decision VI/22, para. 25).

5. To facilitate the review process, the Conference of the Parties agreed, in paragraph 26 (a) of decision VI/22, to establish an ad hoc technical expert group to provide advice to the Executive Secretary and to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice with the following specific tasks:

(a) To provide advice on the way in which the review of the implementation of the programme of work would be undertaken;

(b) To provide technical input to the review of the implementation of the programme of work;

(c) To provide scientific and technical information on successes, challenges and obstacles to implementation of the programme of work;

(d) To provide information on the effects of the types of scientific and technical measures taken and tools used in implementing the programme of work.

6. In paragraph 26 (b) of the same decision, the Group is requested to complete its work before the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties scheduled for 2006.

7. With the financial support of the Government of France, the Executive Secretary is convening the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group in Montpellier, France, from 24 to 27 November 2003.

8. A list of documents for the meeting is attached as annex I. The languages of the meeting will be English and French.

9. Registration of participants will start at 8.30 a.m. on Monday 24 November 2003.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

10. The meeting will be opened by the Executive Secretary or his representative at 9 a.m. on Monday, 24 November 2003. Participants will also be welcomed by a representative of the Government of France. A representative of the Executive Secretary will give a brief presentation describing the objectives of the meeting and the expected outputs of the meeting.

ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

2.1. Election of officers

11. After a brief self-introduction of the participants, the Group will be invited to elect its Co-Chairs based on proposals from the floor.

2.2. Adoption of the agenda

12. The provisional agenda prepared by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-FBD.REV/1/1) will be before the Group for consideration and adoption.

2.3. Organization of work

13. Under this item, the Group will consider the proposed organization of work for the meeting as contained in annex II. The Group may wish to conduct its initial deliberations in plenary, and break into smaller groups for drafting texts on specific issues.

ITEM 3. SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

3.1. *Provision of advice on the way in which the review of the implementation of the programme of work would be undertaken*

14. Under this agenda item, the Group will consider ways in which implementation of programmes of work, particularly in the field of forest biodiversity, is currently being reviewed within:

- (a) The Convention process, also taking into account recommendations put forward in the process being developed for monitoring and reporting on achievements towards the 2010 biodiversity target;
- (b) The work of other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests; and
- (c) Other forest related global or regional processes.

15. Relevant information for the consideration of the item is contained in the note by Executive Secretary on possible ways and means for the review of the implementation of the programme of work on forest biological diversity (UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-FBD.REV/1/2) and the background document for the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (UNEP/CBD/AHTEG/FBD.REV/1/INF/1) on the review of the implementation of the programme of work on forest biological diversity.

16. Experts will consider the different approaches for undertaking review of the implementation of programmes of work and assess: (i) their applicability to the review of the implementation of the programme of work on forest biological diversity; (ii) their strengths and weaknesses, including their feasibility on the short and long term. Experts are finally expected to propose a process towards the review of the implementation of the programme of work with a set of activities to be carried out, including development of formats for reporting and timetables, and identification of sources of information and means for supporting the process.

3.2. *Provision of technical input to the review of the implementation of the programme of work*

17. Under this agenda, each member of the expert group will describe the types of technical input he/she can commit to make to the review process between the first meeting of the ad hoc technical expert group and the finalization of its report for submission to the eighth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The type of technical input will depend on activities that would be identified under agenda item 3.1 (see paragraph 16 above) and could include for example (i) the development of a questionnaire; and (ii) preparation of the synthesis of achievements and obstacles encountered by a group of organizations.

3.3. *Provision of scientific and technical information on successes, challenges, and obstacles to implementation of the programme of work*

18. In paragraph 27 of decision VI/22, the Conference of the Parties agreed to call for a voluntary thematic national report in relation to the implementation of the programme of work to elicit information (see paragraph 3 above). To facilitate the preparation of the thematic national reports, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to develop a format for the report, in consultation with national focal points and the bureaux of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) and the Conference of the Parties.

19. The Executive Secretary prepared the format for the thematic national report in accordance with the request of the Conference of the Parties and issued notifications in June and September 2003 to extend the deadline for the submission of thematic reports. As at 31 October 2003, the Secretariat received a total of 10 thematic reports from the following countries: Austria, China, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Ireland, Poland, Sri Lanka, Sweden and Switzerland. All these reports are accessible on the World Wide Web ^{1/} and have been compiled as an information document (UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-FBD.REV/1/INF/2).

^{1/} At <http://www.biodiv.org/world/reports.aspx?type=vfe&alpha=P>.

A preliminary synthesis of the thematic reports is also being circulated as an information document (UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-FBD.REV/1/3).

20. The Expert Group is expected to synthesize the information provided in the thematic reports and highlight the scientific and technical factors leading to success as well as scientific and technical challenges and obstacles to implementation of the programme of work.

21. Considering the fact that only few thematic reports were submitted by Parties and that Governments have just started to implement the programme of work adopted last year, the Expert Group may wish to review in addition the scientific and technical information on successes, challenges and obstacles to the implementation of the previous programme of work on forest biodiversity adopted in 1998 by the Conference of the Parties at its fourth meeting and implementation of other relevant programmes of work.

22. The Expert Group may also wish to discuss how developing outcome- and process-oriented targets, including in the framework of the 2010 biodiversity target and the Millennium Development Goals, can contribute to the review of the implementation of the programme of work on forest biodiversity. In this context, the Group may wish to propose for the programme of work on forest biodiversity specific targets and subtargets as it was done for the programmes of work on inland water biodiversity (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/14/Add.1) and on marine and coastal biodiversity (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/14/Add.3) using the general framework described in the note by the Executive Secretary on integration of outcome-oriented targets into the programmes of work of the Convention prepared for the ninth meeting of SBSTTA (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/14).

23. A number of documents prepared under the Convention contain information on obstacles, challenges and, to a lesser extent, successes in implementing programmes of work on forest ecosystems. They include, *inter alia*, the note by Executive Secretary on possible ways and means for the review of the implementation of the programme of work on forest biological diversity (UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-FBD.REV/1/2) and the background document for the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-FBD.REV/1/INF/1) on the review of the implementation of the programme of work on forest biological diversity; “Review of the status and trends of, and major threats to, forest biological diversity” prepared by the Expert Group on forest biological diversity ^{2/} (see in particular section 7 on “current positive trends in forestry and forest policies”); decision VI/26 of the Conference of the Parties on the Strategic Plan for the Convention which lists the main obstacles to the implementation of the Convention (see the appendix of the decision); and documents prepared for the ninth meeting of SBSTTA referring to outcome- and/or process-oriented biodiversity targets and related indicators (see references in annex I below).

3.4. Provision of information on the effects of the types of scientific and technical measures taken and tools used in implementing the programme of work

24. The types of scientific and technical measures taken to implement the programme of work are contained in the programme of work and can also be found in national biodiversity strategies and action plans and other forest-related plans and programmes such as national forest programmes (NFPs). The tools used in implementing the programme of work include principles (e.g. the 12 principles for application of the ecosystem approach, ^{3/} and the practical principles for sustainable use ^{4/}), guidelines (e.g. for the control of invasive alien species, ^{5/} or for the integration of biodiversity considerations in

^{2/} Thompson, Ian *et al.* (2002). Review of the status and trends of, and major threats to, forest biological diversity. Montreal, SCBD, 164 pages (CBD Technical Series no. 7).

^{3/} Decision V/6 of the Conference of the Parties and the note by the Executive Secretary on further elaboration, guidelines for implementation of the ecosystem approach and its relationship with sustainable forest management (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/8), prepared for the ninth meeting of SBSTTA.

^{4/} UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/9.

^{5/} Decision VI/23 of the Conference of the Parties.

environmental impact assessment and strategic environment assessment 6/), and various methods (e.g. rapid assessment methods for inland water biodiversity 7/ and marine and coastal biodiversity 8/) adopted or to be considered for adoption by the Conference of the Parties.

25. Under this item, the Expert Group may wish to develop first a list of the types of scientific and technical measures taken and tools used in implementing the programme of work. The Group may then gather information on the effects of these measures and the use of these tools. Recognizing that the types of measures taken and the implementation tools are numerous, the Group may wish to decide on which categories (e.g. measures and tools relating to a given programme element) to focus.

ITEM 4. OTHER MATTERS

26. Under this item, participants will be invited to raise other matters related to the subject matter of the meeting, and to agree on any follow-up actions.

ITEM 5. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

27. The Group will consider and adopt its report on the basis of the draft report of the meeting to be prepared and presented by one of the co-chairs.

ITEM 6. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

28. The meeting will be closed at 5 p.m. on Thursday, 27 November 2003.

6/ Decision VI/7 of the Conference of the Parties.

7/ UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/8/8/Add.5.

8/ UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/14/Add.3.

Annex I

PROVISIONAL LIST OF DOCUMENTS***A. Working documents***

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-FBD.REV/1/1	Provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-FBD.REV/1/1Add.1	Annotations to the provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-FBD.REV/1/2	Possible ways and means for the review of the implementation of the programme of work on forest biological diversity
UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-FBD.REV/1/3	Forest biological diversity: Preliminary synthesis of thematic national reports on successes, challenges and obstacles to the implementation of the programme of work.
UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-FBD.REV/1/INF/1	Background document for the first meeting of the ad hoc technical expert group on the review of the implementation of the programme of work on forest biological diversity (In French)
UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-FBD.REV/1/INF/2	Forest biological diversity: Compilation of thematic national reports on successes, challenges and obstacles to the implementation of the programme of work

B. Background documents

1. UNEP/CBD/COP/7/5. Report of the Open-ended Inter-Sessional Meeting on the Multi-Year Programme of Work of the Conference of the Parties up to 2010.
2. UNEP/CBD/COP/6/INF/9. Elaboration of elements for an expanded work programme on forest biological diversity-potential actors, suggested timeframes and performance measures of proposed activities.
3. UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/14. Integration of outcome-oriented targets into the programmes of work of the Convention, taking into account the 2010 biodiversity target, the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, and relevant targets set by the World Summit on Sustainable Development
4. UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/14/Add.1: Outcome-oriented targets and deadlines for the implementation of the revised programme of work on inland water biological diversity
5. UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/14/Add.3: Outcome-oriented targets for the implementation of the elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity
6. UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/INF/9: Consideration of the results of the meeting on “2010 – the Global Biodiversity Challenge”
7. UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/9/INF/26: Proposed biodiversity indicators relevant to the 2010 target
8. Guidelines for a voluntary report on implementation of expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity. Web access to the reports at:
<http://intranet.biodiv.org/world/reports.aspx?type=vfe>

9. UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/8/8. Inland water ecosystems: review, further elaboration and refinement of the programme of work
10. UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/8/9. Marine and coastal biodiversity: review, further elaboration and refinement of the programme of work
11. Decision VI/22. Expanded programme of work on forest biological diversity
12. Draft format within the third national report on forest biological diversity.
13. UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/7/6. Report of the ad hoc technical expert group on forest biological diversity.

C. Other useful documents (indicative list)

14. Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) Task Force on Streamlining Forest-related reporting website portal.
<http://www.fao.org/forestry/foris/webview/cpf/index.jsp?geoId=0&langId=1&siteId=2261>

*Annex II***PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK*****Monday, 24 November 2003***

- 9 a.m. *Agenda item 1:* Opening of the meeting
Objectives of the meeting, mandate of the group and expected outputs
- Agenda item 2:* Organizational matters
- Agenda item 3.1:* Provision of advice on the way in which the review of the implementation of the programme of work would be undertaken.
- (a) Experience in the context of the CBD
 - (b) Experience gained by other CPF members
 - (c) Experience from other processes
 - (d) Proposed work towards the formulation of advice to COP8
- 1 p.m. – 2 p.m. Lunch
- 2 p.m. – 5 p.m. *Agenda item 3.1.* (continued).
- Evening Drafting group(s) for matters relating to agenda item 3.1

Tuesday, 25 November 2003

- 9 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Report of the drafting group(s).
- 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. *Agenda item 3.2:* Provision of technical input to the review of the implementation of the programme of work.
- Agenda item 3.3:* Provision of scientific and technical information on successes, challenges, and obstacles to implementation of the programme of work.
- (a) Introduction of the thematic reports, with emphasis on information on successes, challenges and obstacles
 - (b) Information on successes, challenges and obstacles from other sources
 - (c) Importance of targets and other tools in reviewing implementation of the programme of work
 - (d) Future work
- 1 p.m. – 2 p.m. Lunch
- 2 p.m. – 5 p.m. *Agenda item 3.3* (continued).
- Agenda item 3.4:* Provision of information on the effects of the types of scientific and technical measures taken and tools used in implementing the programme of work.
- (a) Lists of measures taken and tools
 - (b) Documented and potential effects of measures taken
 - (c) Future work
- Evening Drafting group(s) on matters relating to agenda items 3.2 and 3.3.

Wednesday, 26 November 2003

Excursion to Mount Aigoual (time to be determined)

Thursday, 27 November 2003

9 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	Report of the drafting group(s)
9:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.	<i>Agenda item 4:</i> Other matters
1 p.m. – 2 p.m.	Lunch
2 p.m. – 5 p.m.	<i>Agenda item 5:</i> Adoption of the report <i>Agenda item 6:</i> Closure of the meeting.
