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GLOBAL TAXONOMY INITIATIVE CAPACITY-BUILDING
WORKSHOP TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE AICHI
BIODIVERSITY TARGETS 9 AND 19 FOR WESTERN AND
CENTRAL AFRICA
Dakar, 4 – 7 March 2013

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

INTRODUCTION

1. At its tenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 with its 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Target 9 specifically focuses on invasive alien species and it states, “By 2020, invasive alien species and pathways are identified and prioritized, priority species are controlled or eradicated, and measures are in place to manage pathways to prevent their introduction and establishment” To achieve Target 9 at regional and national levels, taxonomic capacity is fundamental for Parties to make scientifically sound decisions. Target 19 stipulates “By 2020, knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity, its values, functioning, status and trends, and the consequences of its loss, are improved, widely shared and transferred, and applied.” Therefore, it is considered that work to achieve Target 19 may provide firm foundation for Parties to achieve other Targets, particularly Target 9.
2. In paragraph 7 of decision X/39, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, with the assistance of the Coordination Mechanism for the Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI) and in collaboration with relevant international organizations, to hold capacity-building training workshops in all subregions and regions as needed.
3. In paragraph 10 (a) of decision XI/29, the Conference of the Parties further requested the Executive Secretary to organize and facilitate regional workshops to assist Parties and their Global Taxonomy Initiative national focal points, along with other focal points for the Convention and other stakeholders, to use the Capacity-building Strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative to integrate taxonomy in updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans.
4. Accordingly, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity is organizing, in collaboration with the Government of Senegal, Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), Muséum national d'histoire naturelle, Paris, and Institut de recherche pour le développement, France, and with the generous financial contribution of the Government of Japan, the “Global Taxonomy Initiative Capacity-Building Workshop towards Achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets 9 and 19 for Western and Central Africa”, in Dakar, from 4 to 7 March 2013.
5. The objective of this workshop is to build the capacity in the region for achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 by: (i) providing necessary information and exercise related to the process of developing invasive species strategies; and (ii) promoting application of taxonomic knowledge on prevention, management and control of invasive alien species. Thereby, the Aichi Biodiversity Target 19 will also become achievable. Annex III provides background information related to invasive alien species and the Global Taxonomy Initiative.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE WORKSHOP

6. The workshop will begin on Monday, 4 March 2013. Registration will take place at 8.30 a.m. on the same day. The venue of the workshop is Hotel Ngor Diarama Dakar, B.P 8092, Dakar.

7. The workshop will be opened at 9 a.m. by the representative of the Government of Senegal. The representative of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) will then convey the statement of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

ITEM 2. ORGANIZATION OF WORK

8. Mr. Olivier Rukundo of the Secretariat of the CBD will facilitate the workshop. He will provide an overview of the workshop and the proposed agenda, which is found in annex I to this document. The facilitator will then briefly suggest the organization of work. The workshop will be held in French with English translation.

9. Participants will be invited to approve the suggested organization of work.

10. The emphasis of the workshop will be on exchange of information and active learning among the experts, the focal points to the GTI and the CBD national focal points, as well as resource persons. With this in mind, the workshop format features a mix of presentations by participants nominated by Parties, resource persons and experts with question and answer sessions and plenary discussions. In addition, there will be opportunities for one-on-one discussions between participants, resource persons and staff members of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

ITEM 3. SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS

3.1 Towards achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 and 19

11. Ms. Junko Shimura, programme officer for invasive alien species at the Secretariat of the CBD will make a presentation on the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and what actions are needed to achieve Targets 9 and 19. The presentation will be followed by a question and answer session.

3.2 Collaboration between academic experts and the national focal points for the CBD to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Targets 9 and 19

12. Each participant (the expert in taxonomy and the CBD national focal point) will be invited to present on (i) what the academic institute can offer to the CBD national focal point to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Targets 9 and 19; (ii) current progress on updating the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) at the national level and whether invasive species strategies and action plans are included as a part of the NBSAP. Presentations should be of about 5 minutes per country. The template for the slides will be provided by the Secretariat of the CBD prior to the workshop.

13. The presentations will be followed by a question and answer session and group discussions in order to identify important potential elements for national invasive species strategies.

3.3 The Global Taxonomy Initiative in support of Targets 9 and 19

14. Ms. Junko Shimura from the CBD Secretariat will present the Capacity-building Strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative.

15. After questions and answers, all participants will be invited to a brainstorming session to exchange ideas on how to (i) identify invasive alien species; (ii) prioritize species; (iii) apply the Capacity-building Strategy for the GTI to address invasive alien species.

16. Secretariat of the CBD will take note of the ideas presented by participants to feed into later sessions.
17. Mr. Jean Bruno Mikissa, Directeur Général adjoint ENEF, Gabon, will present a case-study on fire ants in Central Africa.
18. Mr. Jean Ganglo, Université de Abomey-Calavi, Benin, will present on biodiversity and activities for the Global Biodiversity Information Facility in Benin.
19. Mr. Simon Tillier, from the National Museum of Natural History, France, will present on tools to support Parties towards achieving Aichi Biodiversity Targets 9 and 19.
20. After questions and answers, all participants will be invited to identify: (i) national projects that are relevant to addressing the issue of invasive alien species, and (ii) international projects that are relevant to addressing the issue of invasive alien species in the region. Those projects need not necessarily be run by the participants themselves, but good practices to support implementation of the CBD's Strategic Plan and good actions highlighted in the NBSAPs will be collected and noted.
21. Ms. Junko Shimura will briefly provide basic information on measures that can be applied to prevent, manage and control alien species. The measures include the international standards and guidance under the existing international regulatory framework, e.g. the International Plant Protection Convention, the World Trade Organization Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement) and others.
22. Participants will be requested to take notes on the measures to consider the information at later sessions.
23. Mr. Olivier Rukundo will summarize the discussion from the first day including on (i) existing capacity and challenges common in the region; (ii) ideas to enhance the existing capacity; (iii) ideas to develop capacity of identified gaps; (iv) existing national and international projects that are identified as good practices.
24. Mr. Alex Asase, of the University of Ghana, will make a presentation on Ghana's data contribution to the Global Biodiversity Information Facility and application of information for planning on biodiversity management.
25. Mr. Adjima Thiombiano, of BIOTA-West, Université de Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso, will make a presentation on the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation in the context of addressing the issue of invasive alien species.
26. Mr. Eric Chenin, Secrétaire exécutif de Sud Expert Plantes, Institut de recherche pour le développement, France, will make a presentation on opportunities for international collaboration related to taxonomic capacity building.
27. Mr. Jean-Patrick Le Duc, of the Muséum national d'histoire naturelle, France, will briefly introduce the Global Invasive Alien Species Information Partnership and demonstrate its Information Gateway (beta version).
28. After questions and answers, all participants will be invited to identify the Party's needs in terms of biodiversity information and possible international collaborations in light of addressing the issue of invasive alien species.
29. The secretariat of the CBD will take note to feed into the later sessions.
30. Based on the discussions from Day 1 and the morning session of Day 2, participants will be invited to take part in a working group session. Working groups may include the following. Participants may choose which working group to join according to his/her interests and expertise:
 - (a) Working Group 1: Enhancing capacity in information sharing through the identified centres of expertise to address the issue of invasive alien species (Target 9);

(b) Working Group 2: Biodiversity research projects to be further enhanced / developed taking into account the existing opportunities for international collaboration (Target 19).

31. During the working group session, working groups may request suggestions from resource persons. If necessary, additional presentations by resource person(s) or experts will be invited on an ad hoc basis.

32. After the working group session, each group will present their outputs to the plenary, and resource persons may provide comments based on their expertise and experiences. Participants will be requested to take note of the outputs from each working group to feed into the national exercise to draft invasive species strategies and action plans on Day 3.

3.4 *Invasive species strategies and action plans as a part of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans*

33. The third day of the workshop will start at 9:00 a.m.

34. Mr. Olivier Rukundo will summarize the outputs of the working group session from the previous day.

35. The CBD national focal point and taxonomic expert of each country will be invited to sit down together at the same table and draft elements of a national invasive species strategy and action plan.

36. A suggested model text for national invasive species strategies and action plans will be distributed to facilitate the process. The expected output of this exercise is to feed the elements of the national invasive species strategies and action plans into the process of updating NBSAPs. It is recommended that each participant propose tangible action plans with realistic timing and estimated cost for their implementation. The action plans may include some enabling activities if the existing capacity is not sufficient. Such capacity may include cross-sectoral communication, engagement of all biodiversity stakeholders, information exchange, infrastructure of research institute, trainings and others.

37. During the national exercise, participants may request assistance from resource persons or other countries' experts to provide necessary information to fill the form for the exercise.

38. After the exercise session, each country will be invited to share the output in plenary, taking into account its feasibility, effectiveness towards achieving Targets 9 and 19 and whether the action plans are in harmony with regional priority / interests.

39. Participants may further adjust their exercise form, taking into account the suggestions from the plenary, as appropriate. All Parties will be requested to submit the final exercise form to the Secretariat of the CBD before the end of the workshop.

3.5 *Recommendations*

40. All participants will be invited to express their recommendations to ensure the information consolidated into the exercise form (draft elements of invasive species strategies and action plans to be considered in the process of updating NBSAPs) will become effective in its process. The recommendations may also include how to further enhance taxonomic capacity at the national and regional levels within the scope of achieving Aichi Biodiversity Targets, particularly Targets 9 and 19.

ITEM 4. FIELD TRIP

41. All participants will meet at the reception of Hotels Ngor Diarama Dakar, B.P 8092, Dakar at 9:00 a.m. on Thursday 7 March, to visit a wetland preserve.

42. During the field trip the experts from the Government of Senegal will provide some training to identify alien species in the wetlands.

ITEM 5. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

43. The meeting is expected to close at 5 p.m. on Thursday, 7 March 2013.

Annex I

PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK

	Item	Presenter
DAY 1 – Monday 4 March 2013		
9 a.m.–9.30 a.m.	Official opening of the workshop	The Government of Senegal Ms. Junko Shimura SCBD
9.30 a.m.- 10.00 a.m.	Organization of Work Tour de table, self-introduction	Mr Olivier Rukundo SCBD All participants
10.00 a.m. -11.30 a.m.	Coffee/Tea break	
11.30 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.	Introduction to Targets 9 and 19 Country presentations Discussion and exercises	Ms. Junko Shimura, SCBD Participants
1.00 p.m. – 2.00 p.m.	Lunch	
2.00 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	Presentations and Q&A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The GTI Capacity-Building Strategy A case-study on fire ants in Central Africa Activities of the Sud Experts Plantes in African region Tools to support Parties towards achieving Aichi Biodiversity Targets 9 and 19 	Ms. Junko Shimura, SCBD Mr. Jean Bruno Mikissa, Gabon Mr Heab Ganglo, Benin Mr. Simon Tillier, France
3.30 p.m.- 4.00 p.m.	Coffee/Tea break	
4.00 p.m.-5.00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic information on measures that can be applied to prevent manage and control alien species 	Ms. Junko Shimura, SCBD
DAY 2 – Tuesday 5 March 2013		
9.00 a.m.- 9:15 a.m.	Summary of outputs of Day 1	Mr Olivier Rukundo, SCBD
9.15a.m. – 10.45 a.m.	Country presentations (continued) Discussion and exercises	Participants
10.45 a.m.- 11.15 a.m.	Coffee/tea Break	
11.15 a.m. - 11.45 a.m.	Presentations and Q&A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ghana's data contribution to the Global Biodiversity Information Facility and application of information for planning on biodiversity Global Strategy for Plant Conservation in the context of addressing the issue of invasive alien species Opportunities of international collaboration related to taxonomic capacity building Global Invasive Alien Species Information Partnership (demonstration of the Information Gateway- beta version) 	Mr. Alex Asase, Ghana Mr. Adjima Thiombiano, Burkina Faso Mr. Eric Chenin, France Mr. Jean-Patrick Le Duc, France
11.45 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.	Discussion on Parties' needs in biodiversity information	Mr. Olivier Rukundo, SCBD All participants
1.00 p.m.- 2.00 p.m.	Lunch	

2.00 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	Working Groups session	All participants
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Enhancing capacity in information sharing through the identified centres of expertise to address the issue of invasive alien species(Target 9)Biodiversity Research projects to be further enhanced/developed taking into account the existing opportunities of international collaboration (Target 19)	
3.30 p.m.-4.00 p.m.	Coffee/tea Break	
4.00 p.m.- 5.00 p.m.	Plenary resumes	All participants
	Presentations by each working group on its output Discussion	
Day 3 – Wednesday 6 March 2013		
9.00 a.m. – 9.15 a.m.	Summary of outputs of Day 2	Mr. Olivier Rukundo
9.15 a.m.- 10.30 a.m.	discussion at the national level: Exercise on developing national invasive species strategies and action plans	All participants
10.30 a.m-11.00 a.m.	Coffee/tea Break	
11.00 a.m.-1.00 p.m.	Plenary Brief presentation by each Party on the results of exercise	All participants
1.00 p.m.- 2.00 p.m.	Lunch	
2.00 p.m. – 3.00 p.m.	discussion at the national level: Refining national invasive species strategies and action plans	All participants
3.00 p.m. – 3.30 p.m.	Coffee/tea Break	
3.30 p.m.- 5.00 p.m.	Plenary discussion: Recommendations	Co-chairs All participants
Day 4- Thursday 7 March 2013		
9.00 a.m. – 3.00 p.m.	Field trip	All participants
4.00 p.m.- 5.00 p.m.	Plenary	Co-chairs
	Other matters Closure of meeting	All participants

Annex II

BACKGROUND MATERIALS

Decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention (COP):

- [Decision VI/23 \(the Guiding Principles\)](#)
- [Decision VII/13](#)
- [Decision VIII/27](#)
- [Decision IX/4 \(English\)](#)
- [Decision IX/4 \(Arabic\)](#)
- [Decision X/38 \(English\)](#)
- [Decision X/38 \(Arabic\)](#)
- [Decision XI/28](#)
- [Decision XI/29 \(Global Taxonomy Initiative\)](#)

[International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures \(ISPMs\)](#)

Other useful documents:

- [OIE Guidelines for assessing the risk of non-native species becoming invasive](#)
- [Draft Document, Considerations for Implementing International Standards and Codes of Conduct in National Invasive Species Strategies and Plans](#)
- [Alien Species in Aquaculture](#)
- [Global Strategy on Invasive Alien Species](#)
- [Guidelines for Invasive Species Management in the Pacific](#)
- [Invasive Alien Species and Trade: Integrating Prevention Measures and International Trade Rules](#)
- [Impacts of invasive plants and their sustainable management in agro-ecosystems in Africa: a review](#)
- [Island Invasives: Eradication and Management](#)
- [Marine Menace Alien invasive species in the marine environment](#) (English)
- [Marine Menace Alien invasive species in the marine environment](#) (French)
- [Assessing the global threat of invasive species to marine biodiversity](#)
- [Eradication of Invasive Species - IUCN](#)
- [A Guide to Designing Legal and Institutional Frameworks on Alien Invasive Species](#)
- [A Toolkit for the Economic Analysis of Invasive Species](#)
- [Biofuels run the risk of becoming invasive species](#)
- [Economic Impacts of Invasive Alien Species: A Global Problem with Local Consequences](#)
- [Invasive Alien Species and Protected areas](#)
- [Marine invasive species](#)
- [National and Regional Legislation for Promotion and Support to the Prevention, Control, and eradication of Invasive Species](#)
- [The Aid Trade International Assistance Programs as Pathways for the Introduction of Invasive Alien Species](#)
- [The economic impact and appropriate management of selected invasive alien species in the African continent](#)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A. *Invasive Alien Species*

1. Invasive alien species¹ are those alien species which threaten ecosystems, habitats or species – Article 8(h) of the Convention on Biological Diversity. In some ecosystems, such as many island ecosystems, invasive alien species are the leading cause of biodiversity loss. In addition, they can pose a threat to food security, human health and economic development. Increasing trade and travel translates into greater risks of biological invasion unless prevention, eradication, and control of invasive alien species become national priorities. Under the Convention, the Conference of the Parties adopted “the guiding principles for the prevention, introduction and mitigation of impacts of alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species”, annexed to decision VI/23*, in 2002.

2. The Conference of the Parties also identified the pathways of introduction of alien species and pointed to the need to address the gaps and inconsistencies of the international regulatory framework in 2006. Further efforts to close the gap in the international regulatory framework have continued through the Conference of the Parties and communication among the relevant international organizations setting the regulatory framework relevant to invasive alien species. However, it has become clear that strong cross-sectoral collaboration at national level to control the transboundary movement of live species and contaminated goods is necessary to implement the Guiding Principles and other international agreements, including the multilateral environmental agreements.

3. On the ground, prevention is the most cost-effective means for addressing invasive alien species. Early detection of entry of alien species and rapid response, ideally eradication of alien species, are also critically important approaches to minimizing the spread and impact of invasive alien species.

4. It is important to note that information on alien species is essential for science-based risk assessment, not only for the pathways described above, but also for planned introductions where countries need to take a decision on whether or not to deliberately introduce a species based on a sound risk assessment. Early detection of entry and management of alien species also requires correct identification of the species. Capacity to find and apply taxonomic information tools is a basic need both in developing and developed countries.

5. Information sharing and communication among the stakeholders who are involved in transboundary movement of live species, including officials working at border control, management and eradication of invasive alien species are important elements of effective measures that every Government must consider. Improved information sharing and communication will also contribute to raising public awareness on invasive alien species.

B. *The Taxonomic Imperative*

6. Taxonomic information is essential for agencies and border authorities for the detection, management, and control of invasive alien species. However, effective measures can only be implemented when alien species are correctly and promptly identified. Misidentifications can waste valuable resources when rapid decisions need to be taken.

¹ The following definitions are used since the Guiding Principles were adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity:

"alien species" refers to a species, subspecies or lower taxon, introduced outside its natural past or present distribution; includes any part, gametes, seeds, eggs, or propagules of such species that might survive and subsequently reproduce;

"invasive alien species" means an alien species whose introduction and/or spread threaten biological diversity (For the purposes of the present guiding principles, the term "invasive alien species" shall be deemed the same as "alien invasive species" in decision V/8 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.);

* One representative entered a formal objection during the process leading to the adoption of this decision and underlined that he did not believe that the Conference of the Parties could legitimately adopt a motion or a text with a formal objection in place. A few representatives expressed reservations regarding the procedure leading to the adoption of this decision (see UNEP/CBD/COP/6/20, paras. 294-324).

7. Networking and sharing of experiences, information, and expertise can aid in lowering the costs associated with invasive alien species and can reduce the need for eradication programmes with early detection and prevention. When eradication is needed, taxonomists can offer expertise that is central to developing the most effective yet economic and environmentally benign eradication measures.

8. Increased capacity-building, especially for developing countries, is necessary to identify, record and monitor invasions; provide current and accessible lists of potential and established invasive alien species; identify potential threats to neighbouring countries; and access information on taxonomy, ecology, genetics and control methods. It is vital that adjacent countries, and all countries along a particular pathway for invasive alien species, can recognize such species and concur on their nomenclature. Baseline taxonomic information on native biota at the national level is also important to ensure that invasive alien species can be recognized and distinguished from naturally present species.²

9. To develop such needed capacity, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted the programme of work for GTI at its seventh meeting, in 2004. The planned activities for invasive alien species and for protected areas were added to the programme of work by the Conference of the Parties in 2006. The deliverables of the planned activities, such as biodiversity information and informatics tools, are rapidly accumulating. The application of these deliverables to the process of decision-making on the implementation of the Convention has been successfully carried out in some countries in the region.³

10. Mainstreaming biodiversity can be facilitated with the engagement of the science and education sectors in planning processes for national and regional policy development. The limited capacity in taxonomy to underpin the implementation of the Convention used to be described as the taxonomic impediment. However, the best practices for the GTI have clearly demonstrated that the application of knowledge, science and technologies relating to biodiversity has strongly supported national decision-making and the measures to address the issues posed by invasive alien species. Looking into the success of these cases, the Capacity-building Strategy for the GTI (annex to decision XI/29) proposed 10 actions for Parties. Furthermore, networking of national centres of expertise in biodiversity science is crucial to achieve national and regional targets. Taxonomic capacity-building is therefore an imperative (“the Taxonomic Imperative”).

11. The provisional agenda of this workshop can be found in document UNEP/CBD/CBW/GTI-WCAFR/1/1 and the proposed schedule is annexed to the present document.

² For more information on the importance of taxonomy in the biodiversity context, see: <http://www.cbd.int/gti/importance.shtml>.

³ One of the best practices in the African region to apply biodiversity science to address invasive alien species – a case for plant health. See <http://www.icipe.org/plant-health.html>: The work of ICIPE in plant health “contributes to improving sustainable food security and environmental health through developing IPM options for pre- and post-harvest pests, and for parasitic weeds (such as striga). All technology development involves farmer participation to ensure farmers’ needs are met. The agenda of plant health research covers four domains: **Staple Food Crop Pests**, which is covered by the *Habitat Management (HM)* and the *Noctuid Stem-borers Biodiversity* (in collaboration with the Institut de recherche pour le développement) programmes; **Horticultural Crop Pests**, which is dealt with by the *Fruit Fly*, *Leafminer*, *Thrips* and *Red Spider Mites* research programmes; **Locusts and Other Pests**, which deals with African and Malagasy migratory locusts and the armyworm; and the **IPM in Legumes** research.”