



CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

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AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP
ON BIODIVERSITY OF DRY AND SUB-HUMID LANDS
Second meeting
Montreal, 23 - 27 September 2002

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

INTRODUCTION

1. The second meeting of Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Dry and Sub-humid Lands will take place in Montreal, Canada, from 23 to 27 September 2002. It is envisaged that during its second meeting, the Group will complete the mandated work, which was initiated during the Group's first meeting, held in Montreal from 18 to 22 March 2002, and continued during the inter-sessional period.
2. A progress report on the first meeting (UNEP/CBD/6COP/6/INF/39) was prepared for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in April 2002. A report of about 15 pages for policy makers addressing all the items in its mandate will be prepared for submission to SBSTTA at its eighth meeting.
3. The decision to establish this Expert Group was taken by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in adopting the programme of work on dryland, Mediterranean, arid, semi-arid, grassland, and savannah ecosystems, also referred to as programme of work on "dry and sub-humid lands", at its fifth meeting (decision V/23, annex), in order to assist the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) in its work on the topic of dry and sub-humid lands with the following tasks:
 - (a) Consolidate and assess information on the status and trends of biodiversity of dry and sub-humid lands;
 - (b) Possible establishment of an international network of dry and sub-humid areas of particular value for biodiversity;
 - (c) Indicators of the status and trends of biological diversity; monitoring and early warning systems;
 - (d) Processes affecting biodiversity;
 - (e) Global benefits derived from biodiversity and valuation of biodiversity;
 - (f) Socio-economic impacts of its loss, including the interrelationship between biodiversity and poverty;

- (g) Measures taken for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity (including the role of ex situ conservation, resource management and preventive measures);
- (h) Measures taken for the support of sustainable livelihoods;
- (i) Consideration of capacity development, and the need of some Parties for assistance in seeking resources to develop proposals;
- (j) Assessment of international priorities set up at the regional and global levels; and
- (k) Proposals for expected outcomes, further activities, possible actors that may implement them, and timetables for action.

4. At its sixth meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity requested the Executive Secretary to prepare a proposal for the development of a mechanism to coordinate activities in the area of biodiversity, desertification/land degradation and climate change, and for linking and ensuring integration of the national biodiversity strategies and action plans under the Convention on Biological Diversity and the national action programmes under the Convention to Combat Desertification*.

5. During the first meeting, the items listed in paragraphs 3 (a) to (f) above were considered under the subtitle "Consolidation and assessment of information", items (g) to (i) were discussed under "Assessment of progress and the effects of the specific measures" and (j) and (k) under "Priority-setting". All these issues were initially reviewed and discussed by the Expert Group as a whole, after which it divided into five working groups to consider each item in depth.

6. The inter-sessional work involved two working groups further discussing and refining substantive issues concerning:

- (a) Status and trends, indicators, global networks and capacity development; and
- (b) Processes, measures, global benefits and socio-economic aspects

The outcome of the inter-sessional work leading to the second meeting has been compiled into two information documents, the essence of which has been prepared as a pre-session document for consideration at the eighth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Science, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA).

- 7. The task outlined in paragraph 4 will be discussed as a substantive issue item during the second meeting.
- 8. The AHTEG will no longer convene after the adjournment of the second meeting.
- 9. A list of documents for the meeting is attached as annex II below.

ITEM. 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

10. A representative of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity will open the meeting at 9 a.m. on Monday, 23 September 2002.

11. For the benefit of any new experts present, the members of the Expert Group will be invited to introduce themselves.

* decision VI/4, para. 2

ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

2.1. Adoption of the agenda

12. The provisional agenda prepared by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-Dryland/2) will be before the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group for consideration and adoption.

2.2 Review of mandate and expected results

13. A representative of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity will recall the mandate of the Group from the Conference of the Parties, and review the goals, objectives and expected outputs of the group.

2.3. Organization of work

14. The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group is invited to consider the provisional organization of work for the meeting annexed to the present annotated provisional agenda (annex I). It should be noted, however, that the schedule presented in annex I should remain flexible in order to accommodate efficient operation of the Group.

15. The Group may wish to work in plenary while discussing agenda items 3, 4, 5, and 6. However, if the Group so wishes, it may consider splitting into smaller working groups during the consideration of individual agenda items.

16. The results of the inter-sessional work will be considered through agenda items 3, 4, and 5. Following this, the group will consider item 6.

ITEM 3. REVIEW AND FINALIZATION OF RESULTS OF WORKING

GROUP I INTER-SESSIONAL WORK

17. Working Group I will report on the results of their inter-sessional work concerning status, trends and indicators of dry and sub-humid land biodiversity, possible establishment of global networks and capacity development issues.

18. The Expert Group is invited to discuss the text produced by Working Group I, evaluate it for completeness, and aim at reaching consensus on the content of the text.

ITEM 4. REVIEW AND FINALIZATION OF RESULTS OF WORKING

GROUP II INTER-SESSIONAL WORK

19. Working Group II will report on the results of their inter-sessional work concerning processes affecting biodiversity, measures taken for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and support of sustainable livelihoods, global benefits derived from biodiversity and socio-economic impacts of biodiversity loss.

20. The Expert Group is invited to discuss the text produced by Working Group II, evaluate it for completeness, and aim at reaching consensus on the content of the text.

ITEM 5. PRIORITY-SETTING

21. Discussions on priority setting will be carried out in the plenary based on the revised text prepared during the inter-sessional period.
22. The Expert Group is invited to discuss the text, evaluate it for completeness, and aim towards reaching consensus on the content of the text.

ITEM 6. MECHANISM TO COORDINATE ACTIVITIES IN BIODIVERSITY, DESERTIFICATION/LAND DEGRADATION AND CLIMATE CHANGE AND FOR LINKING AND ENSURING INTEGRATION OF THE NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES AND ACTION PLANS UNDER THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND THE NATIONAL ACTION PROGRAMMES UNDER THE CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION

23. The Group is asked to prepare a proposal for the development of a mechanism to coordinate activities in areas concerning biodiversity, desertification/land degradation and climate change, and for linking and ensuring integration of the national biodiversity strategies and action plans under the Convention on Biological Diversity and the national action programmes under the Convention to Combat Desertification.
24. This mechanism will be discussed in depth during the plenary based on an initial proposal drafted by the Secretariat in conjunction with, *inter alia*, UNCCD and UNFCCC.
25. The Expert Group is invited to discuss the proposal, evaluate it for completeness, and aim at reaching consensus on the content of the text.

ITEM 7. OTHER MATTERS

26. Under this item, participants will be invited to raise other matters related to the subject matter of the meeting.

ITEM 8. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

27. The Group will consider and adopt its reports including its draft recommendations, to be presented by the Rapporteur. The outcome of the report will be presented at the eighth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Science, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA).

ITEM 9. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

28. It is expected that the meeting will be closed at 5 p.m. on Friday, 27 September 2002.

*Annex I***PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR THE SECOND MEETING OF THE AD HOC
TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON DRY AND SUB-HUMID LAND BIOLOCAL DIVERSITY****Monday, 23 September 2002**

9 a.m.	Opening of the meeting
Morning/afternoon	Organizational matters
	Working Group I inter-sessional work review - status, trends and indicators

Tuesday, 24 September 2002

Morning	Working Group I inter-sessional work review - Global network and capacity development
Afternoon	Working Group II inter-sessional work review - Processes and measures

Wednesday, 25 September 2002

Morning	Working Group II inter-sessional work review - Global benefits and socio-economic impacts of biodiversity loss
Afternoon	Priority-setting

Thursday, 26 September 2002

Morning/Afternoon	Mechanism to coordinate activities in areas concerning biodiversity, desertification/land degradation and climate change
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Friday, 27 September 2002

Morning	Integration of national biodiversity strategies and action plans under the Convention on Biological Diversity and national action programmes under the Convention to Combat Desertification
Afternoon	Other matters
	Adoption of the report
5 pm	Closure of the meeting

Annex II

LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE FIRST MEETING OF THE AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON DRY AND SUB-HUMID LANDS

Working documents

UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-Dryland/2/1	Provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-Dryland/2/1/Add.1	Annotations to the provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-Dryland/2/2	Compiled draft working group reports (to be distributed in hard copy at the meeting)

Information documents

UNEP/CBD/AHTEG-Dryland/2/INF/1	Information for participants
UNEP/CBD/AHTEG/1/Add.1	Annotated agenda for first AHTEG meeting
UNEP/CBD/COP/6/INF/39	Report of the first meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Dry and Sub-Humid Lands 18-22 March 2002 – Montreal, Canada
ICCD/COP(3)/9	Review of activities for the promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and relevant international organisations, insitutions and agencies
ICCD/COP(3)/9/Add.1	Review of activities for the promotion and strengthening of relationships with other relevant conventions and relevant international organisations, insitutions and agencies
ICCD/COP(5)/INF.7	Assessment on the status of land degradtion in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid areas

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