



INFORMATION ON INTRODUCTORY PRESENTATIONS AT THE EIGHTEENTH MEETING OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

I. INTRODUCTION

1. As described in the annotated agenda of the eighteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/18/1/Add.1), selected agenda items will be introduced by presentations by experts. The format of the introductory presentations takes into account experience from the seventeenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body, as presented in two information notes (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/18/INF/1 and UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/18/INF/12), and is in line with decisions of the Conference of the Parties providing guidance on ways and means to improve the effectiveness of the Subsidiary Body.
2. The scope of the presentation and the names of the experts were identified in consultation with the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body. The introductory presentations aim to provide scientific and technical introductions to selected items on the agenda. The speakers were selected according to, *inter alia*, their expertise on the subject matter and their role in preparatory expert processes.
3. This present note provides a brief summary of the introductory presentations planned for the eighteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body.

II. INTRODUCTORY PRESENTATION

Agenda item 3.1: Review of the draft of the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook

4. Under agenda item 3.1, Dr. Paul Leadley of the Université Paris-Sud and Group Leader for the Global Biodiversity Outlook Technical Study, will provide an overview of the scientific research and assessment underpinning the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, including the methodologies and sources of information used and some of the main conclusions of the report.
5. In addition, Dr. Thomas E. Lovejoy, Professor in the Department of Environmental Science and Policy at George Mason University and member of the Advisory Group for the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, will provide a brief summary of the workshop on GBO-4 which was held on Saturday, 21 June 2014, highlighting the key messages coming out of the meeting.

Agenda item 4.4: Systematic review on the impacts of ocean acidification and proposal to update the specific work plan on coral bleaching

6. Under agenda item 4.4, Dr. Phillip Williamson of the Natural Environment Research Council and University of East Anglia, will provide a presentation on the systematic review on the impacts of ocean acidification. The presentation will introduce an updated review of the impacts of ocean acidification on marine biodiversity, prepared by a wide authorship of scientific experts in collaboration with international



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bodies. The review was undertaken pursuant to decision XI/18 to update the CBD's previous scientific synthesis, published in 2009.

7. In addition, to introduce the proposal to update the specific work plan on coral bleaching, Dr. Jihyun Lee from the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, will provide a presentation to introduce the background and context for the development of the Priority Actions to Achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 10 for Coral Reefs and Closely Associated Ecosystems, which builds on the proposals made by countries and relevant organizations for the updating of the specific workplan on coral bleaching. The presentation will discuss trends in coral reefs and associated ecosystems as well as growing knowledge of the contribution of these ecosystems not only to healthy ecological functioning but also to resilient and productive coastal communities. It will touch on progress towards Aichi Biodiversity Target 10 and major challenges faced in working towards the achievement of this target.

8. The presentation will briefly review the main focus and goals of the Priority Actions to Achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 10 for Coral Reefs and Closely Associated Ecosystems, how the Priority Actions will add value to the existing specific workplan on coral bleaching and provide a framework to facilitate cooperation among Parties in achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 10.

Agenda item 5.2: Review of work on invasive alien species and considerations for future work

9. At the beginning of the session considering agenda item 5.2, a short video will be shown. The video titled "The Green Invasion - Destroying Livelihoods in Africa" was produced by CABI and addresses the threats on biodiversity and livelihoods posed by invasive alien species. This video will be followed by a presentation by Dr. Dennis Rangi, Executive Director for International Development at CABI. Dr. Rangi will provide a presentation on the negative impacts of invasive alien species with a focus in particular on Africa, and measures to manage invasive alien species, including biocontrols and appropriate ways of provision in development aid and other matters related to invasive alien species in developing countries.

10. Following this presentation, Dr. Piero Genovesi from the Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA) and Chair of IUCN's Invasive Species Specialists Group will deliver a presentation with a focus on identification and prioritization of pathways for the introduction of invasive alien species.

11. In addition, a participant of the capacity-building workshop for Small Island Developing States to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 on Invasive Alien Species, which was held from 14-15 June 2014, will provide a brief report of the workshop.
