

**CONVENTION ON
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**AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON
TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND THE
CLEARING-HOUSE MECHANISM**

First meeting

Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, 24-26 February 2003

Item 2 of the provisional agenda*

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA**INTRODUCTION**

1. In decision VI/10, paragraph 28, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, at its sixth meeting, requested the executive secretary to establish a Technical Expert Group to develop the roles and responsibilities of the thematic focal point within the Clearing-house Mechanism of the Convention on issues related to Article 8(j) and related provisions, in accordance with task 8 of the programme of work adopted by the Conference of the Parties in its decision VI/16. In paragraph 24 of the same decision, Parties were also urged to support the development of communication mechanisms, among indigenous and local communities, in response to their need for better understanding of the objectives and provisions of the Convention and for supporting discussions on guidelines, priorities, time-lines and implementation of the thematic programmes of the Convention.

2. In paragraph 5 of decision VI/18, the Conference of the Parties also urged the Executive Secretary to assist in the further development of communication networks for use by indigenous and local communities, with an initial emphasis on information sharing formats, protocols and standards, having regard to ethical issues pertaining to traditional knowledge.

3. Accordingly, with the financial assistance of the Spanish Government, the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Traditional Knowledge and the Clearing-House Mechanism will meet from 24 to 26 February 2003 in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, to discuss the elements outlined in decision VI/10, paragraphs 24, 27 and 28 and decision VI/18, paragraph 5, with a view to formulating recommendations on a more effective communication mechanisms and networks among indigenous and local communities to allow their more effective participation in the work of the Convention for the submission to the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

* UNEP/CBD/AHTEG/TK-CHM/1/1.

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4. A list of documents for the meeting is attached as annex I below.

ITEM 1 OPENING OF THE MEETING

5. The meeting will be opened at 9 a.m., on 24 February 2002, by a representative of the host Government. The Executive Secretary or his representative will make introductory remarks.

ITEM 2 ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

2.1 Election of officers

6. The Expert Group will be invited to elect a Chairperson from among the participants. Proposals will be made from the floor.

2.2 Adoption of the agenda

7. The Expert Group may wish to adopt the revised provisional agenda (UNEP/CBD/AHTEG/TK-CHM/1/1/Rev.1), which has been prepared by the Executive Secretary on the basis of decisions VI/10 and VI/18 of the Conference of the Parties.

2.3 Organization of work

8. The Expert Group will be invited to consider the proposed organization of work as contained in annex II below, which provides for sessions in plenary and in two working groups to allow for the most efficient use of the time available.

9. The meeting will be conducted on the basis of two sessions per day with simultaneous interpretation in English and Spanish, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m..

ITEM 3. CASE-STUDIES (EXAMPLES OF NETWORKS)

10. Under this item, the Secretariat has invited members from a number of existing communication networks, particularly networks serving indigenous and local communities, to give a presentation on the services provided by their networks, particularly in the context of facilitating dialogue among interested stakeholders. The presentations will also focus on factors impacting on the effectiveness of these networks. Representatives from the following networks will be invited to present case studies on the development and operations of their networks:

- (a) Nunavut model;
- (b) Balkanu model;
- (c) BioNet; and
- (d) Tulalip.

ITEM 4 IDENTIFICATION OF THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITY OF THE THEMATIC FOCAL POINT WITHIN THE CLEARING-HOUSE MECHANISM ON ISSUES RELATED TO ARTICLE 8(j) AND

RELATED PROVISIONS OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

11. As requested by the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting, the Expert Group is invited to develop recommendations on the roles and responsibilities of the thematic focal point within the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention on issues related to Article 8(j) and related provisions, in accordance with task 8 of the programme of work adopted by the Conference of the Parties in its decision V/16. Pursuant to this task, and to fully utilize the clearing-house mechanism, the Executive Secretary designated a focal point within the clearing-house mechanism to cooperate closely with indigenous and local communities.

12. Under this item, participants may wish to identify the roles and responsibilities of the thematic focal point within the clearing-house mechanism and consider ways and means of providing the necessary resources to enable the Secretariat to facilitate cooperation and information exchange among indigenous and local communities.

ITEM 5. DEVELOPMENT AND ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMUNICATION MECHANISMS

13. In paragraph 24 of decision VI/10, the Conference of the Parties urged Parties and Governments and, as appropriate, international organizations to encourage and support the development of communication mechanisms, such as the Indigenous Biodiversity Information Network (IBIN), among indigenous and local communities in response to their need for better understanding of the objectives and provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity and for supporting discussions on guidelines, priorities, time-lines and the implementation of the thematic programmes of the Convention.

14. In accordance with decision VI/18, paragraph 5, the Expert Group may want to consider ways and means to further develop communication networks for use by indigenous and local communities, with an initial emphasis on information-sharing formats, protocols and standards, having regard to ethical issues pertaining to traditional knowledge.

15. The Group may wish to identify key networks and focal points from already existing communications networks (local, national and regional) and potential relationships with emerging global networks, to enable the thematic focal point within the clearing-house mechanism to develop links and communications as soon as possible. They may also wish to consider the most appropriate architectures and necessary resources to ensure the effectiveness of such a global, distributed communication network.

ITEM 6. TECHNICAL DISCUSSION ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNICATION NETWORKS

16. Under this agenda item, the Expert Group may wish to identify:

(a) Elements for the development of a suitable architecture for the communication networks to enable information-sharing;

(b) Elements for the development of and/or adherence to a set of formats, protocols and standards to facilitate the establishment and operation of the network taking into consideration ethical issues pertaining to traditional knowledge; and

(c) Stakeholders.

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17. The Expert Group may also wish to discuss the development and establishment of the logical (structure), physical (nuts and bolts) and human (main actors and users) components of the communication network and how to overcome obstacles associated with the lack of adequate resources. Participants may also wish to discuss issues pertaining to the digital divide and solutions to inequitable access to new information technologies.

ITEM 7. OTHER RELEVANT ITEMS

18. Under this item the representative of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) will present the outcome of the meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore on the development of the WIPO toolkit for intellectual property management when documenting traditional knowledge, innovations and practices.

19. The Expert Group may wish to wish to raise and discuss other matters related to the subject matter of the meeting.

ITEM 8 ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

20. Under this item, the Expert Group will consider and adopt its report, which will be submitted to the consideration of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions at its third meeting, to be held from 26 to 30 January 2004.

ITEM 9. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

21. The meeting is expected to close at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, 26 February 2002.

Annex I

**DOCUMENTATION FOR THE AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON
TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND THE CLEARING-HOUSE MECHANISM**

A. Working documents

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
UNEP/CBD/AHTEG/TK-CHM/1/1/Rev.1	Revised provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/AHTEG/TK-CHM/1/1/Add.1	Annotated provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/AHTEG/TK-CHM/1/2	The development and establishment of a thematic focal point within the clearing-house mechanism and the development of communication mechanisms among indigenous and local communities

B. Information documents

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
UNEP/CBD/AHTEG/TK-CHM/1/INF/1	Report concerning a proposal for the establishment of a focal point or coordination centre for traditional knowledge within the clearinghouse mechanism for the agreement on biodiversity
UNEP/CBD/AHTEG/TK-CHM/1/INF/2	Indigenous information and communication programme on biodiversity in Meso-America "Prohumo"

Annex II

**PROVISIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR THE TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP
ON CLEARING-HOUSE MECHANISM AND TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE**

	<i>Agenda item</i>
<i>Monday 24 February 2002</i>	
9 a.m. – 12 p.m.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Opening of the meeting. 2. Organizational matters: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1. Election of officers; 2.2. Adoption of the agenda; 2.3. Organization of work. 3. Case-studies (examples of networks).
2:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	4. Identification of the roles and responsibilities of the thematic focal point within the clearing-house mechanism on issues related to Article 8(j) and related provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity.
<i>Tuesday 25 February 2002</i>	
9 a.m. – 12 p.m.	5. Development and establishment of communication mechanisms.
2:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	6. Technical discussion on the development of communication networks.
<i>Wednesday 26 February 2002</i>	
9 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Review of progress. 7. Other relevant items.
2:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.	8. Adoption of the report. 9. Closure of the meeting.
