



# CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

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## EXPERT GROUP ON TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION

First meeting

Montreal, 27 November 2005

### ORGANIZATION OF WORK

#### *Annotations to the provisional agenda*

#### INTRODUCTION

1. In order to develop meaningful and effective action to enhance the implementation of Articles 16 to 19 as well as related provisions of the Convention, the Conference of the Parties, by decision VII/28, adopted a programme of work on technology transfer and technological and scientific cooperation. Element 3 of the programme of work provides for the creation of enabling environments in order to foster technology transfer and technological and scientific cooperation.

2. Further to the objective of programme element 3, activity 3.1.2, of the programme of work calls upon the Executive Secretary, based on input from Parties and relevant international organizations, to compile and synthesize information, including case-studies, and prepare guidance on institutional, administrative, legislative and policy frameworks that facilitate access to and adaptation of technologies in the public domain and to proprietary technologies, especially by developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and in particular on a number of specific measures and mechanisms that are presented in more detail under item 4 below.

3. By paragraph 7 of decision VII/29, the Conference of the Parties (COP) requested the Executive Secretary to establish an expert group on technology transfer and scientific and technical cooperation, which shall assist, through electronic consultations and long-distance communications as well as through meetings in conjunction with the informal advisory committee of the clearing-house mechanism, in (a) the preparation of proposals on options to apply the measures and mechanisms referred to in the previous paragraph; and in (b) the exploration of possibilities and mechanism for cooperation with processes in other Conventions and international organizations.

4. Further to this request, the Secretariat sent notifications 32/2004 and 52/2004 on 30 April and 11 June 2004 respectively, inviting Parties and relevant international organizations to submit nominations of experts. The Executive Secretary selected experts with a view to regional balance as well as in respect to

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expertise. The Executive Secretary also established an electronic forum with a view to enable the group to engage in electronic consultations, and put mechanisms in place to ensure the participation of group members with poor or no access to the internet.

## **ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING**

5. The representative of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity will open the meeting at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, 27 November 2005.

## **ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

### **2.1. Provisional agenda**

6. The provisional agenda of the meeting (UNEP/CBD/EG-TTSTC/1/1) is based on paragraph 7 of decision VII/29 of the Conference of the Parties, in conjunction with activity 3.1.2 of the programme of work on technology transfer and technological and scientific cooperation.

### **2.2. Organization of work**

7. The language of the meeting will be English.

8. Paragraph 7 of decision VII/29 calls for meetings of the Expert Group in conjunction with the informal advisory committee of the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention. Paragraph 6 of decision VII/29 requested the Executive Secretary to convene the informal advisory committee to assist him in undertaking a number of activities spelled out in element 2 of the programme of work on technology transfer and technological and scientific cooperation, on information systems. The informal advisory committee will also meet on 27 November 2005 and *inter alia* address these items. In order to ensure maximal synergy from the available expertise of experts, the expert group on technology transfer and scientific and technical cooperation will be invited to join the meeting of the informal advisory committee and participate in the discussions under these items.

## **ITEM 3. PREPARATION OF GUIDANCE ON FRAMEWORKS THAT FACILITATE ACCESS TO AND ADAPTATION OF TECHNOLOGIES**

9. Activity 3.1.2 of the programme of work on technology transfer and scientific and technical cooperation calls upon the Executive Secretary, based on input from Parties and relevant international organizations, to compile and synthesize information, including case studies, and prepare guidance on institutional, administrative, legislative and policy frameworks that facilitate access to and adaptation of technologies in the public domain and to proprietary technologies, especially by developing countries and countries with economies in transition. The activity continues to enumerate a number of specific sub-items to which particular attention shall be given. Paragraph 7 (a) of decision VII/29 states that the expert group on technology transfer and scientific and technical cooperation shall assist the Executive Secretary in this task.

10. Further to this request, and in order to initiate the work of the expert group, the Executive Secretary prepared a draft compilation and synthesis of institutional, administrative, legislative and policy frameworks that facilitate access to and adaptation of technologies.

11. The expert group held electronic consultations on this document and provided: (i) suggestions for the revision of the document; as well as (ii) suggestions for the preparation of guidance on frameworks that facilitate access to and adaptation of technologies.

12. Based on these suggestions, the Executive Secretary: (i) reviewed the compilation and synthesis on frameworks that facilitate access to and adaptation of technologies document (UNEP/CBD/EG-TTSTC/1/INF/1), and (ii) prepared draft guidance on frameworks that facilitate access to and adaptation of technologies (UNEP/CBD/EG-TTSTC/1/2).

13. Under this item, the group is requested to consider the referenced documents and in particular to further develop guidance on frameworks that facilitate access to and adaptation of technologies, in accordance with activity 3.1.2 of the programme of work as well as with paragraph 7 (a) of decision VII/29.

***3.1. Measures and mechanisms that foster an enabling environment***

14. Activity 3.1.2 (a) of the programme of work calls for the preparation of guidance in particular on measures and mechanisms that foster an enabling environment in developing and developed countries for cooperation as well as the transfer, adaptation and diffusion of relevant technologies in accordance with the needs and priorities identified by Parties.

***3.2. Overcoming measures and mechanisms that present obstacles that impede transfers***

15. Activity 3.1.2 (b) of the programme of work calls for the preparation of guidance in particular on measures and mechanisms that present obstacles that impede transfers of relevant technologies from developed countries.

***3.3. Measures and mechanisms that provide incentives to encourage cooperation and transfer of technologies***

16. Activity 3.1.2 (c) of the programme of work calls for the preparation of guidance in particular on measures and mechanisms that provide, in accordance with existing international obligations, incentives to private-sector actors as well as public research institutions in developed country Parties, to encourage cooperation and transfer of technologies to developing countries, through, e.g., technology transfer programmes or joint-ventures.

***3.4. Measures and mechanisms that promote and advance priority access for Parties to the results and benefits arising from technologies based upon genetic resources provided by those Parties***

17. Activity 3.1.2 (d) of the programme of work calls for the preparation of guidance in particular on measures and mechanisms that promote and advance priority access for Parties to the results and benefits arising from technologies based upon genetic resources provided by those Parties, in accordance with Article 19, paragraph 2 of the Convention, and to promote the effective participation in related technological research by those Parties.

***3.5. Measures and mechanisms that promote innovative approaches and means of technology transfer and cooperation***

18. Activity 3.1.2 (e) of the programme of work calls for the preparation of guidance in particular on measures and mechanisms that promote innovative approaches and means of technology transfer and cooperation such as Type 2 partnerships, in accordance with the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, or transfers among actors, involving in particular the private sector and civil society organizations.

**ITEM 4. EXPLORATION OF POSSIBILITIES AND MECHANISMS OF COOPERATION WITH PROCESSES IN OTHER CONVENTIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

19. Paragraph 7 (b) of decision VII/29 states that the expert group on technology transfer and scientific and technical cooperation shall assist the Executive Secretary in the exploration of possibilities and mechanisms of cooperation with processes in other Conventions and international organizations, such as the UNFCCC Expert Group on Technology Transfer (EGTT).

20. Further to this request and in order to initiate the work of the expert group, the Executive Secretary prepared a document providing background information on possibilities and mechanisms of cooperation with processes in other conventions and international organizations. The expert group held electronic consultations on this document and provided a number of suggestions on possibilities and mechanisms for cooperation with processes in other Conventions and international organizations. Based on these suggestions, the Executive Secretary prepared draft proposals on options and mechanisms of cooperation with processes in other Conventions and international organizations, which are contained in document UNEP/CBD/EG-TTSTC/1/2.

21. Under this item, the group is requested to consider the referenced document and to further develop the proposals on options and mechanisms of cooperation with processes in other conventions and international organizations.

**ITEM 5. EXPLORATION OF OPTIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN INDICATOR FOR TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AS PART OF THE FRAMEWORK FOR ASSESSING PROGRESS TOWARDS THE 2010 TARGET**

22. In decision VII/30, the Conference of the Parties adopted a limited number of trial indicators for assessing progress towards the target to significantly reduce the current rate of biodiversity loss by 2010 at the global level and to communicate effectively trends in biodiversity related to the three objectives of the Convention (see paragraphs 3-10 and annex I). The Conference of the Parties also identified a number of indicators for development by SBSTTA or working groups, including an indicator for technology transfer, and requested SBSTTA to identify or develop such indicators as listed in annex I, column C, of decision VII/30.

23. SBSTTA, at its tenth meeting, in the annex to recommendation X/5, invited Parties and other Governments to submit information on an indicator for technology transfer, and indicated that the expert group on technology transfer may wish to consider the matter.

24. The Expert Group may wish to explore options for the development of an indicator for technology transfer as part of the framework for assessing progress towards the 2010 target.

**ITEM 6. OTHER MATTERS**

25. Under this item, participants may wish to raise for discussion other issues related to the subject matter of the meeting.

**ITEM 11. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

26. The meeting is expected to be closed at 6 p.m. on Sunday, 27 November 2005.