

Ref: SCBD/I&O/AN/40606

16 December 2003

NOTIFICATION

Subject: Regional Preparatory Meeting for Latin America and the Caribbean for the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Buenos Aires, 22-23 January 2004)

Dear Madam/Sir,

The Conference of the Parties, in paragraph 11 of decision VI/27 (B) adopted at its sixth meeting, acknowledged the important role that regional and sub-regional mechanisms and networks play in promoting the implementation of the Convention, which, *inter alia*, provide forums for the preparation of regional inputs to meetings of the Convention and for translating decisions of the Conference of the Parties into regional actions.

In compliance with the above, I have the honor to inform you that the Government of Argentina will be hosting a regional preparatory meeting for Latin America and the Caribbean, in respect of the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, in Buenos Aires from 22-23 January 2004. The meeting will provide a forum for coordination among Latin American and Caribbean Parties to the Convention, as well as an opportunity to review the main issues included in the agenda of the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

In this regard, I invite your Government to designate its representative(s) to the above-mentioned meeting. Please inform the Government of Argentina, with a copy to the Secretariat, of the names and coordinates of your Government's officially designated representative(s) at your earliest convenience, but **no later than 31 December 2003**, so that travel arrangements are made in a timely manner in favor of eligible participants. The Government of Argentina may be contacted at the following address:

To: ~~CBD National Focal Points in the Latin America and Caribbean region~~



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I am pleased to attach herewith the draft provisional agenda and draft annotated provisional agenda. These documents, as well as pre-session documents prepared by the Secretariat in respect of the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, are available on the Convention's website at www.biodiv.org.

Participants requiring funding assistance to attend the meeting should direct their queries directly to the Government of Argentina (attention Mr. Diego Malpede) at the above address.

Please accept, Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

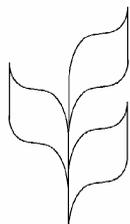
Yours sincerely,

Hamdallah Zedan
Executive Secretary

Attachments



CBD



**CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL
DIVERSITY**

Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/CBD/PREP.COP7.
GRULAC/1
9 December 2003

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN REGIONAL
PREPARATORY MEETING FOR THE SEVENTH
CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
Buenos Aires, 22-23 January 2004.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Organizational matters:
 - 2.1 Officers;
 - 2.2 Adoption of the agenda;
 - 2.3 Organization of work.
3. Issues for In-depth Consideration at COP 7

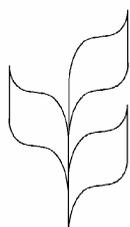
(Mountain Biological Diversity, Protected Areas, Transfer of technology and technology cooperation, Follow up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development, multi-year programme of work of the Conference of the Parties up to 2010, strategic plan and operations of the Convention).
4. Selected Implementation Issues

(Biological diversity of inland waters ecosystems, Marine and coastal biological diversity, Identification, monitoring, indicators and assessments, Global Taxonomy Initiative, Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, Ecosystem approach, Sustainable use, Alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species, Biological diversity and tourism, Article 8(j) and related provisions,

/...

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5. Issues of Special Concern to the Region.
6. Budget issues
7. Preparation for the First meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety
8. Other matters.
9. Adoption of the report.
10. Closure of the meeting.

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GRULAC/1/Add.1.
9 December 2003

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN REGIONAL
PREPARATORY MEETING FOR THE SEVENTH
MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE
PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Buenos Aires, Argentina, 22-23 January 2004.

Annotated provisional agenda

INTRODUCTION

1. The Conference of the Parties, in paragraph 11 of decision VI/27 (B) adopted at its seventh meeting, acknowledged the important role that regional and sub-regional mechanisms and networks [...] play in promoting the implementation of the Convention, which, *inter alia*, provide forums for the preparation of regional inputs to meetings of the Convention and for translating decisions of the Conference of the Parties into regional actions.
2. Accordingly, the Executive Secretary will convene a regional preparatory meeting for the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties for the Latin American and the Caribbean Region in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 22 to 23 January 2004.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

3. The meeting will take place at the Palacio San Martin, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It will be opened at 10 a.m. on Thursday, 22 January 2004. Registration of participants will take place on Thursday, 22 January 2002, from 8 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.

ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

For reasons of economy, this document is printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies to meetings and not to request additional copies

2.1. Officers

4. Delegates will elect a Chairperson and a Rapporteur for the meeting.

2.2. Adoption of the agenda

5. The meeting is invited to consider and adopt the provisional agenda contained in document UNEP/CBD/PREP.COP7.GRULAC/1, which has been prepared by the Executive Secretary.

2.3. Organization of work

6. The meeting may wish to consider carrying out its deliberations only in plenary.
7. The meeting may want to consider the suggested timetable for its deliberations as proposed in the provisional organization of work in annex I below.
8. The documents prepared for the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in particular draft decisions recommended by inter-sessional meetings and proposals by the Executive Secretary, will form the basis of discussions at the meeting. All CBD national focal points have been sent the relevant pre-session documents for COP 7 and delegates are, therefore, requested to bring their own copies of these documents. These documents can also be downloaded from the Convention's website at <http://www.biodiv.org>.

ITEM 3. ISSUES FOR IN-DEPTH CONSIDERATION AT THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

9. At its fourth meeting, the Conference of the Parties by its decision IV/16 adopted a programme of work for the period from the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties until the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties as contained in annex II to the decision. In accordance with the decision, the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties will focus on the following as issues for in-depth consideration: mountain biological diversity, protected areas (Article 8 (a) to (e)), transfer of technology and technology cooperation (Articles 16 and 18). In addition, the Conference of the Parties will consider the follow up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development, multi-year programme of work of the Conference of the Parties up to 2010, strategic plan and operations of the Convention as one the key issues. The regional preparatory meeting may wish to further review the respective recommendations contained on these issues in documents prepared for the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The following pre-session documents for COP 7 will be relevant to the discussions:

- **UNEP/CBD/COP/7/3**
Report of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice on the work of its eighth meeting;
- **UNEP/CBD/COP/7/4**
Report of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice on the work of its ninth meeting;
- **UNEP/CBD/COP/7/5**
Report of the open-ended inter-sessional meeting on the multi-year programme of work of the Conference of the Parties up to 2010;

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- **UNEP/CBD/COP/7/14**
Mountain biological diversity
- **UNEP/CBD/COP/7/15**
Protected areas
- **UNEP/CBD/COP/7/16**
Transfer of technology and technology cooperation (Articles 16 and 18)
- **UNEP/CBD/COP/7/20**
Follow-up to world summit on sustainable development, multi-year programme of work of the Conference of the Parties up to 2010, the Strategic Plan and operations of the Convention;
- **UNEP/CBD/COP/7/20/ADD 1**
The programme of work of the Convention and the Millennium Development Goals
- **UNEP/CBD/COP/7/20/ADD 3**
Implementation of the Strategic Plan: Evaluation of progress towards the 2010 biodiversity target: development of specific targets, indicators and a reporting framework
- **UNEP/CBD/COP/7/INF.22**
Report of the 2010 –The Global Biodiversity Challenge meeting;

ITEM 4. SELECTED CROSSCUTTING AND IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

10. The Conference of the Parties will also be considering a number of crosscutting and implementation issues. Most of these issues have been discussed in inter-sessional meetings held under the Convention. Specific recommendations have been made by such meetings for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties. The Executive Secretary has also proposed several recommendations regarding the way forward on these agenda items for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties. Crosscutting and implementation issues of specific interest to this region on the agenda of the Conference include: Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention; Access and benefit-sharing as related to genetic resources (Article 15); and Education and Public Awareness. Under this agenda item, the meeting may wish to further consider the various proposals regarding these agenda items as contained in the documents prepared for the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The following pre-session documents for COP 7 will be relevant for the discussions:

- **UNEP/CBD/COP/7/6**
Report of the second meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Access and Benefit-Sharing
- **UNEP/CBD/COP/7/7**
Report of the third meeting on the Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-sessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity;
- **UNEP/CBD/COP/7/12**
Thematic Programmes of Work: Review, Further Elaboration and Refinement;
- **UNEP/CBD/COP/7/12/ADD 1**
Revised Programme of Work on the Biological Diversity of Inland Water Ecosystems;

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- **UNEP/CBD/COP/7/12/ADD 2**
The elaborated programme of work on marine and coastal biological diversity;
- **UNEP/CBD/COP/7/13**
Cross cutting issues: Progress reports on implementation;
- **UNEP/CBD/COP/7/17/ADD 2**
Guidelines for the third national report;
- **UNEP/CBD/COP/7/17/ADD 4**
Implementation of the Global Initiative on Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA): Report on CEPA activities during the inter-sessional period.

ITEM 5. ISSUES OF SPECIAL CONCERN TO THE REGION

11. Under this agenda item, the meeting may wish to identify and underline specific issues of concern to the region and possible action by the Conference of the Parties to be drawn to the attention of the Conference at its seventh meeting.

ITEM 6. BUDGET ISSUES

12. Under this agenda item, the meeting may wish to consider the views and perspectives of the region as they relate to the proposed budget for the programme of work of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the biennium 2005-2006. The pre-session document UNEP/CBD/COP/7/2 submitted for the consideration of COP-7 will be relevant to the discussions.

ITEM 7. PREPARATIONS FOR THE FIRST MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

13. Under this agenda item, the meeting may wish to consider the status and related aspects of the preparatory process for the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

ITEM 8. OTHER MATTERS

14. Under this item, the meeting will have the opportunity to consider any other items proposed and accepted for discussion.

ITEM 9. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

15. At the end of the meeting, the meeting will be invited to adopt its report, which will be presented to the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting for consideration. The report of the meeting will be adopted in English only.

ITEM 10. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

16. The Latin American and the Caribbean regional preparatory meeting for the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties will be closed on Friday, 23 January, 2004.

Annex I

**PROVISIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR THE LATIN AMERICAN
AND CARIBBEAN REGIONAL PREPARATORY MEETING FOR THE
SEVENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES**

DAY	HOUR	ACTIVITY	
		Item	Details
January 22, 2004 - Thursday	8 am		Registration of participants
	10 am	Item 1.	Opening of the meeting
		Item 2.	Organizational matters: <i>2.1 Officers</i> <i>2.2 Adoption of the agenda</i> <i>2.3 Organization of work</i>
			Item 3.
	11:30 am		End of morning session
	1 pm		
	3 pm	Item 3. (cont.)	<i>3.2 Protected Areas</i> <i>3.3 Transfer of technology and technology cooperation</i>
	6:00 pm		End of first day of work
6:30 pm		Cocktail offered by the Government of Argentina	
January 23, 2004 - Friday	10 am	Item 3. (cont.)	<i>3.4 Follow up to the World Summit on Sustainable Development, multi-year programme of work of the Conference of the Parties up to 2010, strategic plan and operations of the Convention</i>
		Item 4.	Selected cross-cutting and implementation issues
	1 pm		End of morning session
	3 pm	Item 4. (cont.)	Selected cross-cutting and implementation issues
	4:30 pm	Item 5.	Issues of special concern for the region
	5:30 pm	Item 6.	Other matters
		Item 7.	Adoption of the report
	6 pm	Item 8.	Closure of the meeting