



## Convention on Biological Diversity

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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION  
ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE  
PARTIES TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE  
NAGOYA PROTOCOL ON ACCESS TO GENETIC RESOURCES AND THE FAIR AND  
EQUITABLE SHARING OF BENEFITS ARISING FROM THEIR UTILIZATION

Fifteenth meeting

Kunming, China, 11-15 October 2021  
and 25 April to 8 May 2022

Item 2 of the provisional agenda\*

### PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK

*Note by the Executive Secretary*

#### INTRODUCTION

1. The fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, and the fourth meeting of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization will be held concurrently in two parts, as agreed by the Bureau at its meeting held on 14 July 2021. The first part (Part I) is to be held online from 11 to 15 October 2021, and the second part (Part II) is to be held in person in Kunming, China, from 25 April to 8 May 2022. Part I of the meeting, while being convened virtually, will include a limited presence of representatives in Kunming, China. The Bureau, the host country and the Secretariat will keep under review the pandemic situation with a view to making alternative arrangements in the case that the modality and timing of Part II of the meeting, which is scheduled to be held in person in Kunming, China, cease to be feasible.

2. The Bureau considered and finalized the provisional agendas of the meetings (CBD/COP/15/1/1; CBD/CP/MOP/10/1; CBD/NP/MOP/4/1) at its meeting, held online, on 26 April 2021. The annotations to the agenda items to be addressed at Part I of the meetings are available in documents CBD/COP/15/1/Add.1, CBD/CP/MOP/10/1/Add.1, and CBD/NP/MOP/4/1Add.1. The annotations to the agenda items to be addressed at Part II of the meetings will be completed and updated in the light of the outcomes of the twenty-fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, the third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation and a further meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

\* CBD/COP/15/1/Rev.1, CBD/MOP/10/1/Rev.1 and CBD/NP/MOP/4/1/Rev.1.

3. Section II below highlights the plan proposed by the Executive Secretary for holding Part I of the meetings concurrently. The annexes present an overview of the proposed organization of work for the meetings that will be held, mainly, online from 11 to 15 October 2021.

4. The general approach for holding the meetings concurrently is normally based on the experience gained in the organization of the last two meetings (2016 and 2018) of the Conference of the Parties and the last two meetings of the Parties to Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols. However, the holding of Part I of the meetings from 11 to 15 October 2021 in an interactive virtual setting is a new experience that needs a specific plan. Therefore, this plan is aimed at providing increased clarity and ease of reference for representatives. In due course, the Executive Secretary will make available a plan or a proposed organization of work for Part II of the meetings, which is scheduled to be held from 25 April to 8 May 2022.

5. Each part of the meetings may be preceded by regional preparatory meetings.

## **II. PLAN FOR HOLDING CONCURRENTLY PART I OF THE MEETINGS ONLINE FROM 11 TO 15 OCTOBER 2021**

### **A. Opening of the meetings**

6. The Minister of Environment of Egypt, as President of the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, or her representative, will declare open the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties on Monday, 11 October 2021 at 3 p.m. (local time, Kunming, China) and invite the Conference of the Parties to elect its president. Following tradition, a representative of the Government of China, the host country of the meetings, is expected to be elected President of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The transfer of the Presidency will be marked by the representative of Egypt, attending the meetings in person in Kunming, handing over the gavel to the Minister of Environment and Ecology of China, the new President.

7. In line with rule 21 of the rules of procedure of the Conference of the Parties of the Convention, the term of office of the new President commences immediately on his or her election. Since China is also a Party to the Cartagena Protocol and to the Nagoya Protocol, the President of the Conference of the Parties automatically becomes the President of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meetings of the Parties to the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols. In that capacity, the President will then open the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol.

8. After the meetings have been declared open, the President will convene a joint plenary for the three bodies to hear statements. Welcoming remarks will be given by representatives of the host Government, province, and city. The joint plenary will then hear concise statements on behalf of regional groups and of some observer organizations. Regional groups and observers will be encouraged to present consolidated statements covering the Convention and the Protocols.

### **B. Plenary sessions of the meetings**

9. Following the opening statements (agenda item 1) and upon invitation by the President, the Conference of the Parties will, in the context of agenda item 2, on organizational matters,<sup>1</sup> adopt its agenda, agree on the organization of work, including the arrangement to hold the meeting in two parts and decide

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<sup>1</sup> The sub-item on election of officers on the agenda of the meetings will be further considered at Part II of the meetings, in April/May 2022, in order to conduct the election of officers for various offices under the Convention and each of the Protocols, including bureau members, members of compliance committees under each of the Protocols, and chairs of the subsidiary bodies.

on the timetable for Part I of its meeting. It will also establish a budget contact group and designate the Chair of the group.<sup>2</sup>

10. The President will submit, for election, the name of the Bureau member who has been identified by the Bureau to act as Rapporteur. Another member of the Bureau who shall act as credentials officer will also be announced by the President. The credentials officer will submit a single report to the plenary, in the context of agenda item 3 of the meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the respective agendas of each meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meetings of the Parties to the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols, on the status of credentials of representatives of Parties attending Part I of the meetings.

11. The Conference of the Parties will also address pending issues under its agenda item 4.

12. The President would then sequentially invite the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol to adopt their respective agendas, agree on the organization of work, and endorse the budget contact group established by the Conference of the Parties.

13. It is expected that the President will inform representatives on the progress made in the preparation of the high-level segment, which is scheduled to be opened on Tuesday, 12 October 2021, and closed on Wednesday, 13 October 2021.

14. Under agenda item 6 of the meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and agenda item 4 of the meetings of the Parties to the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols, the Executive Secretary would report on regional preparatory and intersessional meetings, including on the work of the twenty-third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice. Under these agenda items, the Co-Chairs of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework will report on the progress of the work in the preparation of the framework, as mandated by decision [14/34](#). As the Working Group is not expected to complete its work by October 2021 due to the constraints imposed by the pandemic situation and the consequent delays, the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting is expected to take note of the progress made by the Working Group and allow it more time to finish its work and submit its recommendations in time for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at the resumed session (Part II) of the meeting, in April/May 2022.

15. The Conference of the Parties serving as the meetings of the Parties to the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols would then hear reports, under their agenda item 5, from their respective compliance committees. The respective meetings of the Parties are expected to take note of the reports. Any substantive matters arising from these reports, as well as election of new members to the Committees will be taken up during Part II of the meetings.

16. A brief report will also be presented by the Executive Secretary that would address item 7 of the agenda of the meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the corresponding items on the respective agendas of the meetings of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meetings of the Parties to the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols (administration of the Convention and the Protocols and budgetary matters).

17. The meetings will then be adjourned at 6 p.m. (local time, Kunming, China) until 3 p.m. on Friday 15 October 2021.

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<sup>2</sup> The task of the budget contact group at Part I of the meetings, in October 2021, would be to consider an interim budget for the year 2022 as proposed by the Secretariat and submit its recommendation to the plenary on 15 October 2021. Adopting an interim budget for the year 2022 is necessary to maintain the functions of the Secretariat pending the adoption of a full-term budget by the Conference of the Parties and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meetings of the Parties to the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols at Part II of their meetings, in April/May 2022, taking into account the recommendations of the subsidiary bodies, including the Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

18. The plenary session will begin at 3 p.m. (local time, Kunming, China) on Friday, 15 October 2021. This will be the last day of Part I of the meetings. At this session, the credentials officer will submit a joint final report on the status of credentials of representatives of Parties participating in Part I of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol. The Chair of the budget contact group is also expected to submit a draft decision on the interim budget for the year 2022 for consideration and adoption by the three bodies.

19. The President will invite representatives to consider item 28 (other matters) on the agenda of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, to be followed by consideration of the corresponding items on the agendas of the meetings of the Parties to the two Protocols. It should be noted that the consideration of this agenda item will be completed only after further consideration during Part II of the meetings, in April/May 2022. Under this agenda item, the President will report to the three bodies on the outcome of the high-level segment held on 12 and 13 October 2021.

20. At the plenary session scheduled for the afternoon of 15 October 2021, the Conference of the Parties and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meetings of the Parties to the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols are expected to consider a draft decision on the interim integrated budget for 2022 for adoption. The draft decision will be made available 36 hours in advance of its consideration for adoption.

21. The three bodies will be invited to consider and adopt the report on Part I of their respective meeting on the basis of the reports that will be submitted to them by the Rapporteur.

22. Representatives of regional groups and other delegations will then be invited to make closing remarks covering matters related to one or more of the meetings, if they so wish.

23. Following the closing remarks, the President will declare each meeting suspended. The meetings are expected to be suspended at 5 p.m. local time, Kunming, China.

*Annex I*

**PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR PART I OF THE FIFTEENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY, THE TENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL AND THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL**

Date				Agenda item	
	<b>CBD</b>	<b>CP</b>	<b>NP</b>		
Monday 11 October 3-6 p.m.	1	1	1	Opening of the meeting	
	2	2	2	Organizational matters (agenda, officers, organization of work)	
	3	3	3	Report on credentials of representatives of Parties	
	4			Pending issues	
	6	4	4	Reports on intersessional and regional preparatory meetings	
			5	5	Report of the Compliance Committee under the Protocol
	7	6	6	Administration of the Convention and Protocols and budgets for the trust funds	
Tuesday 12 October	High-level segment			Opening plenary of the high-level segment	
Wednesday 13 October				Parallel round tables I of the high-level segment	
				Parallel round tables II of the high-level segment	
				Closing plenary of the high-level segment	
Friday 15 October 3-5 p.m.	Consideration of draft decisions for adoption (item CBD-7; CP-6; NP-6)				
	28	18	17	Other matters	
	29	19	18	Adoption of the report on Part I of the meeting	
	30	20	19	Closure of the meeting	

*Annex II*

**OVERVIEW OF THE SCHEDULE FOR PART I OF THE CONCURRENT MEETINGS, THE HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT AND ASSOCIATED EVENTS**

	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Monday 11 October	Registration for representatives						COP/CP-MOP/NP-MOP opening plenary				Reception			
Tuesday 12 October						High-level segment Leaders' Summit		High-level segment plenary			High-level segment first parallel round table sessions A & B			
Wednesday 13 October		High-level segment second parallel round table sessions C & D				RCP (tbc)	High-level segment final plenary				Press conference			
Thursday 14 October	Ecological Civilization Forum opening plenary						Ecological Civilization parallel thematic groups (1-4)							
Friday 15 October	Ecological Civilization parallel thematic groups (5-7)			Ecological Civilization closing			COP/CP-MOP/NP-MOP closing plenary				Press conference			