



Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr.
GENERAL

CBD/ABS/CH-IAC/2017/1/1/Add.1
29 September 2017

ENGLISH ONLY

INFORMAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING CLEARING-HOUSE

Third meeting

Montreal, Canada, 14-16 November 2017

Item 2 of the provisional agenda^{*}

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

INTRODUCTION

1. Article 14 of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization establishes an Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House as part of the clearing-house mechanism under Article 18, paragraph 3, of the Convention on Biological Diversity.
2. At its first meeting the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol (COP-MOP) established an informal advisory committee to assist the Executive Secretary with the implementation of the Access and Benefit-sharing (ABS) Clearing-House and to provide technical guidance with respect to the resolution of technical and practical issues arising from the ongoing development of the ABS Clearing-House.
3. At its second meeting COP-MOP expressed appreciation for the work done and decided that the Informal Advisory Committee would continue its work and hold at least one meeting during this intersessional period, as well as informal online discussions as needed, and report on the outcomes of its work to COP-MOP at its third meeting (decision NP-2/2, para. 7).
4. Taking into account that a number of countries have become Parties to the Nagoya Protocol since the Informal Advisory Committee was first established, there was a need to renew the composition of the committee for this intersessional period based on new nominations from Parties to the Protocol.
5. A notification ([2017-029](#)) was issued on 27 March 2017 inviting Parties to nominate an expert for the Informal Advisory Committee. From the nominations received, 15 experts were selected based on their experience and involvement with the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House as well as with due regard for regional and gender balance.
6. The new composition of the Informal Advisory Committee was announced in a notification ([2017-060](#)) dated 30 June 2017. The third meeting of the Committee will be held in Montreal, Canada, from 14 to 16 November 2017.
7. The documents for the meeting listed in annex I and an information note containing detailed information regarding logistical arrangements for the meeting will be made available on the Secretariat's website at <https://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=ABSCHIAC-2017-01>.

^{*} CBD/ABS/CH-IAC/2017/1/1.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

8. The meeting will be opened by the Executive Secretary or her representative at 9.30 a.m. on Tuesday, 14 November 2017.

ITEM 2. ORGANIZATION MATTERS

9. Participants will be invited to elect the chair for the meeting on the basis of proposals from the floor.

10. The Informal Advisory Committee will also be invited to adopt the agenda for the meeting on the basis of the provisional agenda prepared by the Executive Secretary (CBD/ABS/CH-IAC/2017/1/1) and to consider the proposed organization of work as contained in annex II.

11. The language of the meeting will be English.

ITEM 3. REPORT ON PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING CLEARING-HOUSE

12. Under this item, the Secretariat will report on progress made in the implementation and administration of the ABS Clearing-House since the second meeting of COP-MOP.

13. The Secretariat will present progress in relation to the following goals and priorities agreed at the second meeting of COP-MOP:¹

- (a) Population and increased use of the ABS Clearing-House (goal 1);
- (b) Translation and functionality for operationalizing the ABS Clearing-House in the six official languages of the United Nations (goal 2);
- (c) Maintain and improve functionality (goal 3);
- (d) Integration with the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention (goal 4).

14. The Informal Advisory Committee may wish to consider section II of document CBD/ABS/CH-IAC/2017/1/2 as a basis for its discussion on this agenda item.

ITEM 4. TECHNICAL ISSUES RELATED TO THE INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE AND CHECKPOINT COMMUNIQUE

15. In decision NP-2/2, paragraph 2, COP-MOP took note of the progress made on issues related to the internationally recognized certificate of compliance and the checkpoint communiqué, and recognized the need for additional experience regarding how the internationally recognized certificate of compliance and the checkpoint communiqué work in a variety of circumstances, including transboundary or shared genetic resources, traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, and other issues related to the monitoring of the utilization of genetic resources.

16. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will present a brief analysis of the internationally recognized certificates of compliance available in the ABS Clearing-House to date (CBD/ABS/CH-IAC/2017/1/2, section III).

17. The Informal Advisory Committee will be invited to share their experiences with a view to exploring how these tools and system will work on a practical level in a variety of circumstances.

¹ An indicative list of goals and priorities for future development is contained in document UNEP/CBD/NP/COP-MOP/2/INF/3 and agreed to by COP-MOP in decision NP-2/2, paragraphs 2 and 3.

ITEM 5. JOINT MODALITIES OF OPERATION: ENHANCING INTEGRATION OF THE ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING CLEARING-HOUSE WITH THE CENTRAL CLEARING-HOUSE MECHANISM OF THE CONVENTION

18. In decision NP-2/2 paragraph 8(a), COP-MOP requested the Executive Secretary to further refine the modalities of operation, taking into account the advice given by the Informal Advisory Committee, and feedback received on the implementation and operation of the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House, in particular that of Parties, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol at its third meeting.

19. In paragraph 8(b) of the same decision, COP-MOP further requested that the Executive Secretary develop joint modalities of operation for the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention, the Biosafety Clearing-House and the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House, taking into consideration the web strategy. These joint modalities are to be considered by the Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth meeting, the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety at their ninth meeting and the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol at their third meeting with a view to enhancing coherence in the implementation and operation of the common elements of the central clearing-house mechanism, while preserving the specific functionalities of the clearing-houses under the Protocols and the Convention.

20. Under this item, the Informal Advisory Committee will be invited to consider: (a) the possible elements for joint modalities of operation contained in document CBD/ABS/CH-IAC/2017/1/3; and (b) whether there is a need to further refine the modalities of the ABS Clearing-House.

ITEM 6. REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION AND OPERATION OF THE ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING CLEARING-HOUSE AS PART OF THE ASSESSMENT AND REVIEW OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROTOCOL (ARTICLE 31)

21. In decision NP-2/2, COP-MOP decided to review the implementation and operation of the ABS Clearing-House as part of the assessment and review process to evaluate the effectiveness of the Protocol established by Article 31.

22. Under this item, the Secretariat will present the elements and sources of information to be considered for reviewing the implementation and operation of the ABS Clearing-House (CBD/ABS/CH-IAC/2017/1/2, section V).

23. The Informal Advisory Committee will have the opportunity to provide general comments on the implementation and operation of the ABS Clearing-House as a contribution to the assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Protocol at COP-MOP.

ITEM 7. PRIORITIES FOR FUTURE IMPLEMENTATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE ACCESS AND BENEFIT-SHARING CLEARING-HOUSE

24. Under this item, the Informal Advisory Committee will be invited to consider section VI of document CBD/ABS/CH-IAC/2017/1/2 and to provide advice to the Executive Secretary on priorities identified for future implementation and administration of the ABS Clearing-House.

ITEM 8. OTHER MATTERS

25. Under this agenda item, the Informal Advisory Committee will be invited to raise any relevant issues that were not addressed during the previous discussions.

ITEM 9. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

26. The Informal Advisory Committee will be invited to consider and adopt its report.

ITEM 10. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

27. It is expected that the meeting will close at 5 p.m. on Thursday, 16 November 2017.

*Annex I***LIST OF DOCUMENTS****A. Working documents**

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
CBD/ABS/CH-IAC/2017/1/1	Provisional agenda
CBD/ABS/CH-IAC/2017/1/1/Add.1	Annotated provisional agenda
CBD/ABS/CH-IAC/2017/1/2	Report on progress and priorities for future implementation and administration of the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House
CBD/ABS/CH-IAC/2017/1/3	Possible elements for joint modalities of operation for the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention, the Biosafety Clearing-House and the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House.

B. Information documents

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
COP-MOP decision NP-2/2	The Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House (Article 14)

*Annex II***PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK**

<i>Date and time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
<i>Tuesday, 14 November 2017</i> 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. 1 to 2 p.m.	Item 1. Opening of the meeting Item 2. Organizational matters Item 3. Report on progress in the implementation and administration of the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House <i>Break</i>
2 to 5.30 p.m.	Item 3. (<i>Continued</i>) Item 4. Technical issues related to the internationally recognized certificate of compliance and the checkpoint communiqué
<i>Wednesday, 15 November 2017</i> 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. 1 to 2 p.m.	Item 4. (<i>Continued</i>) Item 5. Joint modalities of operation: enhancing integration of the ABS Clearing-House with the central clearing-house mechanism of the Convention <i>Break</i>
2 to 5.30 p.m.	Item 6. Review of implementation and operation of the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House as part of the assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Protocol (Article 31) Item 7. Priorities for future implementation and administration of the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House.
<i>Thursday, 16 November 2017</i> 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. 1 to 2 p.m.	Item 7. (<i>Continued</i>) Item 8. Other matters <i>Break</i>
2 to 5 p.m.	Item 9. Adoption of the report. Item 10. Closure of the meeting.