



Convention on Biological Diversity

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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL
AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE
SUBSIDIARY BODY ON IMPLEMENTATION
Second special virtual session on biodiversity,
One Health and COVID-19
Online, 15-16 December 2020

PROGRAMME

Note by the Executive Secretary

INTRODUCTION

1. The twenty-fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation are due to be held in 2021, having been rescheduled from May 2020 to August 2020 and then to November 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In this context, and with a view to maintaining momentum towards the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and to facilitate preparations for the meetings of the subsidiary bodies, a special virtual session of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body on Implementation has been scheduled for 15 and 16 December 2020, as communicated on 19 November 2020 in [notification 2020-091](#).
2. As announced in the notification, and as agreed by the Bureaux of the Conference of the Parties and of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, the special session will address the theme of biodiversity, One Health and the response to COVID-19.
3. The special session will provide opportunities for the presentation of information and for statements by Parties and observers. No decisions or formal recommendations will be made, and statements made will be without prejudice to further statements at the regular sessions of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body on Implementation. Interpretation will be provided in all official languages of the United Nations.
4. The meetings will be held from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. Montreal time (Eastern Daylight Time).
5. Registration will be open from 17 November 2020. Advance registration is required, and details of the different time zones and registration information will be issued in due time.
6. Training sessions will be organized prior to the sessions with a view to ensuring that all participants are familiar with the platform and to resolving any technical challenges.
7. The session will be co-chaired by the Chair of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the Chair of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation. They will each make opening remarks, as will the Executive Secretary.
8. In support of the special virtual session, the Secretariat will issue, in advance, a discussion note on the theme of biodiversity, One Health and the response to COVID-19. Also, to help set the scene for the discussions, one or more pre-recorded presentations by experts will be made available ahead of the session.
9. Parties and observers will be invited to make interventions, starting with regional groups and major groups. All Parties will have the opportunity to speak. Observers will also have an opportunity to speak

depending upon the time available. Spoken interventions will be limited to five minutes for groups, three minutes for Parties, and two minutes for observers. Facilities will be available to allow registered participants to post their statements online.

10. The Chairs of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body on Implementation will make final remarks and close the meeting.

Annex

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Meeting</i>
Monday, 14 December 2020 7 a.m. – 7 p.m. (Montreal time)	No meeting Testing of the virtual platform
Tuesday, 15 December 2020 7 – 9 a.m. (Montreal time)	Opening of the session Statements by Parties and observers
Wednesday, 16 December 2020 7 – 9 a.m. (Montreal time)	Statements by Parties and observers (<i>continued</i>) Closing of the session
