



## Convention on Biological Diversity

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LIMITED

CBD/ExCOP/2/L.1  
27 November 2020

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

### CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Second extraordinary meeting

Montreal (Online), 16-19 November 2020 and  
25-27 November 2020 (resumed session)

#### DRAFT REPORT

1. The second extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention was held concurrently with the first extraordinary meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and the first extraordinary meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol, following expressions of support from Parties as notified by the Secretariat on 10 September 2020 (notification-2020-073), for the purpose of considering and adopting an interim budget for the programme of work for 2021.

2. A total of 567 participants representing 136 Parties to the Convention were registered for the meeting. The Parties represented were: *[to be completed]*

#### ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

3. The extraordinary meeting was opened on Monday, 16 November 2020, at 7 a.m. Montreal time (UTC 12 noon) by means of a communication from the President of the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, Ms. Yasmine Fouad.

4. In her communication, the President expressed her satisfaction at officially opening, through the opening communication, the second extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, concurrently with the first extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol, and the first extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol.

5. Expressing her solidarity with Parties and all representatives to those extraordinary meetings that were taking place at such extraordinarily challenging times, in their fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, she set out the organizational matters and circulated a note explaining the silence procedure. The President circulated for adoption a draft decision containing a proposed interim budget for the year 2021 as contained in document CBD/ExCOP/2/L.2.

6. On 19 November 2020, the extraordinary meeting was suspended by the President and resumed on 25 November 2020. In her opening communication of the resumed session, the President recalled that the extraordinary meeting had been suspended to allow consultations among Parties on the matter that had caused the silence to be broken and the adoption of the decision on the proposed interim budget for 2021 to be deferred. The President reported that the necessary consultations, facilitated by the Presidency and the Bureau, had been held during the few days following the suspension of the meeting.

#### ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

##### *Officers*

7. Consistent with rule 21, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure, the current President and Vice-Presidents served as the Bureau of the second extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

*Adoption of the agenda*

8. The provisional agenda (CBD/ExCOP/2/1), which had been prepared and notified to Parties and observers earlier by the Executive Secretary in accordance with rules 8 and 13 of the rules of procedure, was adopted in accordance with the explanation provided in paragraphs 11 and 12 of the annotated provisional agenda (CBD/ExCOP/2/1/Add.1).

*Organization of work*

9. The extraordinary meeting was held remotely through a written silence procedure as described in paragraphs 13 and 14 of the annotated provisional agenda and further supplemented by the communication of the President (CBD/ExCOP/2/L.5) for the purpose of the resumed session. A brief further explanation of the procedure was annexed to the opening communication (CBD/ExCOP/2/L.3) by the President.

**ITEM 3. REPORT ON THE CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE SECOND EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES**

10. It was reported that 136 Parties to the Convention were registered for the second extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties. In accordance with rule 19 of the rules of procedure, the Bureau reported that the representatives of 97 Parties to the Convention had submitted by 26 November 2020 credentials that fulfilled the requirements of rule 18 of the rules of procedure.

11. The President expressed her thanks to Ms. Helena Brown, the Bureau member from Antigua and Barbuda, for her diligent work, in reviewing, on behalf of the Bureau, the credentials of representatives registered for the meeting.

12. In her closing communication, on 27 November 2020, the President reminded representatives that had not yet done so to submit their credentials as soon as possible and no later than 31 December 2020 and requested the Secretariat to follow up with the Parties concerned.

**ITEM 4. PROPOSED INTERIM BUDGET FOR 2021**

13. The draft decision on the proposed interim budget that was submitted to representatives for their consideration and adoption was the outcome of review and consultations by the informal group that had been established under the guidance of the Bureau and notified to Parties and observers on 6 October 2020 ([notification-2020-079](#)). In her opening communication on 16 November 2020, the President expressed her gratitude, on behalf of the Bureau and on her own behalf, to Ambassador Spencer Thomas of Grenada for efficiently coordinating and facilitating the work of the informal group.

14. The draft decision on the interim budget for 2021 (CBD/ExCOP/2/L.2) was placed under the silence procedure until 7 a.m. Montreal time (UTC 12 noon) on Thursday, 19 November 2020, for consideration and adoption. In her communication to representatives on 19 November 2020 (CBD/ExCOP/2/L.4), the President announced that the silence had been broken and the proposed decision could not be adopted due to a comment that had been submitted by Brazil seeking the insertion of a footnote in the draft decision, and that it had been decided, after consultation with the Bureau, to suspend the meeting to allow consultations to resolve the issue.

15. The resumed session was held from Wednesday, 25 November 2020, at 7 a.m. Montreal time (UTC 12 noon), for a silence period of 48 hours, and scheduled to be closed on Friday, 27 November 2020, at 8 a.m. Montreal time (UTC 1 p.m.), one hour after the expiry of the silence period. The President also announced that the nominations of representatives of Parties and credentials received for the purpose of the extraordinary meetings would be maintained for the resumed session, unless withdrawn or changed by the Parties concerned.

16. In her opening communication of the resumed session, on 25 November 2020, the President resubmitted, with no changes, the proposed interim budget for year 2021 (CBD/ExCOP/2/L.2) for adoption.

17. In her closing communication, on 27 November 2020, the President announced that the silence had not been broken during the preceding 48 hours and, therefore, the proposed interim budget for the programme

of work of the Convention on Biological Diversity, for the year 2021 (CBD/ExCOP/2/L.2) was adopted. She further stated that the silence procedure applied to the meeting had helped the meeting achieve its objectives.

18. The representative of Brazil made the following statement and requested that it be included in the report on the meeting:

“The approval of the budget is without prejudice to the format and organization of work of negotiating sessions of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body on Implementation. We note that there is currently no consensus among Parties to the Convention on the convenience and feasibility of holding formal virtual meetings and negotiations.”

19. The President expressed thanks to all representatives for their understanding and cooperation.

#### **ITEM 5. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT**

20. As indicated in paragraph 22 of the annotated provisional agenda, and as updated later through the communications by the President, the communications constitute the outline of the present report (CBD/ExCOP/2/L.1). The report was adopted on Friday, 27 November 2020, at 8 a.m. Montreal time (UTC 1 p.m.).

21. The report would be completed and issued after the meeting under the guidance of the President.

#### **ITEM 6. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

22. The President expressed gratitude to all representatives for their cooperation in supporting the convening of the extraordinary meeting and contributing to its successful conclusion. She declared the second extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention closed on Friday, 27 November 2020, at 8 a.m. Montreal time (UTC 1 p.m.).

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