



## Convention on Biological Diversity

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### Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Benefit-sharing from the Use of Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources

#### First meeting

Geneva, 14–18 November 2023

Item 2 of the provisional agenda\*

#### Organizational matters

### Annotated provisional agenda

#### Introduction

1. At its fifteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted decision [15/9](#), on digital sequence information on genetic resources, by which it established, as part of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, a multilateral mechanism for benefit-sharing from the use of digital sequence information on genetic resources, including a global fund. It also established a fair, transparent, inclusive, participatory and time-bound process to further develop and operationalize the mechanism. The process included the establishment of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Benefit-sharing from the Use of Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources to undertake further development of the multilateral mechanism, including the elements identified in the annex to the decision, and to make recommendations for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting.
2. In its decision [NP-4/6](#), the 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 to the Convention welcomed decision 15/9 and endorsed the multilateral mechanism established therein. It also endorsed the process established in decision 15/9 and requested the Working Group to also report to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol at its fifth meeting.
3. The first meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Benefit-sharing from the Use of Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources will be held in Geneva from 14 to 18 November 2023, in conjunction with the twelfth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Intersessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity (12–16 November). The meetings will be preceded by regional group consultations, on 11 November.

#### Item 1

##### Opening of the meeting

4. In accordance with rule 26 of the rules of procedure for meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties serves as the Bureau of the Working Group. Accordingly, the President of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention or his representative will open the meeting at 10 a.m. on 14 November 2023.

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\* CBD/WGDSI/1/1.

## Item 2

### Organizational matters

5. The Working Group will elect a rapporteur on the basis of a recommendation from the Bureau.
6. The provisional agenda<sup>1</sup> has been prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with the Bureau, in accordance with rules 8 and 9 of the rules of procedure. The Working Group will be invited to adopt the provisional agenda and to approve the proposed organization of work (annex I).
7. The Working Group is expected to conduct the work of its first meeting in plenary session with the support of a committee of the whole and contact groups, as needed. Interpretation in the six official languages of the United Nations will be provided in plenary sessions and sessions of the committee of the whole.
8. A list of documents for the meeting is provided in annex II.

## Item 3

### Issues for further consideration set out in the annex to decision 15/9

9. As indicated above, the Working Group is to undertake further development of the multilateral mechanism for benefit-sharing from the use of digital sequence information on genetic resources, including the elements identified in the annex to decision 15/9.
10. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties invited Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant organizations to submit views on the issues set out in the annex to the decision and requested the Executive Secretary to compile and synthesize those views and to make them available to the Working Group.
11. The Conference of the Parties also requested the Executive Secretary to:
  - (a) Compile lessons learned from other international funding mechanisms, such as the Benefit-sharing Fund of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, the World Health Organization Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Framework and the Small Grants Programme of the Global Environment Facility;
  - (b) Commission a study to analyse and model the extent to which a multilateral mechanism for benefit-sharing from the use of digital sequence information on genetic resources, and any other options that the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group may decide, meets the criteria in paragraphs 9 and 10 of the decision;
  - (c) Commission a study on the options for revenue-generating measures at different points along the value chain, the feasibility of their implementation and their costs relative to their potential revenue.
12. More than 50 submissions<sup>2</sup> were received in response to notification No. [2023-003](#) of 31 January 2023, in which the Executive Secretary had invited the submission of views on the issues set out in the annex to decision 15/9. The synthesis of views will be provided as document CBD/WGDSI/1/2/Add.1.
13. The Secretariat is also working with consultants on the compilation of lessons learned from other international funding mechanisms. The executive summary of such work will be made available as document CBD/WGDSI/1/2/Add.2, while the full compilation will be made available as an information document.<sup>3</sup> Following a procurement process, the Secretariat is also commissioning the two studies referred to in subparagraphs 11 (b) and (c). Initial information from the studies will be made available as document CBD/WGDSI/1/2/Add.3.

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<sup>1</sup> CBD/WGDSI/1/1.

<sup>2</sup> See [www.cbd.int/notifications/2023-003](http://www.cbd.int/notifications/2023-003).

<sup>3</sup> CBD/WGDSI/1/INF/1.

14. The Working Group will be invited to consider the issues for further consideration set out in the annex to decision 15/9 on the basis of the synthesis of views, the compilation of lessons learned and initial information from the commissioned studies, as presented in the overview of information gathered further to decision 15/9 and key points for consideration by the Group<sup>4</sup> and supplemented by the aforementioned addenda. To facilitate its deliberations, the Group may wish to follow the clustering of the issues in the annex to the decision, as set out in the overview of information and the synthesis of views.

**Item 4**

**Other matters**

15. Under this agenda item, members will have the opportunity to raise other relevant matters related to the meeting.

**Item 5**

**Adoption of the report**

16. The Working Group will be invited to adopt the report of the present meeting, as drafted by the Rapporteur.

**Item 6**

**Closure of the meeting**

17. The meeting is expected to close at 6 p.m. on 18 November 2023.

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<sup>4</sup> CBD/WGDSI/1/2.

**Annex I****Proposed organization of work**

<i>Day and time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
<b>Tuesday, 14 November</b>	
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	Item 1. Opening of the meeting Item 2. Organizational matters Item 3. Issues for further consideration set out in the annex to decision 15/9
1–3 p.m.	<i>Lunch break</i>
3–6 p.m.	Item 3 ( <i>continued</i> )
7.30–10.30 p.m.	Pending issues / contact group
<b>Wednesday, 15 November</b>	
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	Pending issues / contact group
1–3 p.m.	<i>Lunch break</i>
3–6 p.m.	<i>No session is planned while the Ad Hoc Open-ended Intersessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions holds its plenary session</i>
7.30–10.30 p.m.	Pending issues / contact group
<b>Thursday, 16 November</b>	
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	<i>No session is planned while the Ad Hoc Open-ended Intersessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions holds its plenary session</i>
1–3 p.m.	<i>Lunch break</i>
3–6 p.m.	<i>No session is planned while the Ad Hoc Open-ended Intersessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions holds its plenary session</i>
7.30–10.30 p.m.	Pending issues / contact group
<b>Friday, 17 November</b>	
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	Pending issues / contact group
1–3 p.m.	<i>Lunch break</i>
3–6 p.m.	Pending issues / contact group
7.30–10.30 p.m.	Pending issues / contact group
<b>Saturday, 18 November</b>	
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	Pending issues Item 4. Other matters

1–3 p.m.	<i>Lunch break</i>
3–6 p.m.	Item 5. Adoption of the report Item 6. Closure of the meeting

## Annex II

### List of documents

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
CBD/WGDSI/1/1	Provisional agenda
CBD/WGDSI/1/1/Add.1	Annotated provisional agenda
CBD/WGDSI/1/2	Overview of information gathered further to decision 15/9 and key points for consideration by the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Benefit-sharing from the Use of Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources
CBD/WGDSI/1/2/Add.1	Synthesis of views submitted on the issues for further consideration
CBD/WGDSI/1/2/Add.2	Executive summary of the compilation of lessons learned from other international funding mechanisms
CBD/WGDSI/1/2/Add.3	Initial information from the commissioned studies
CBD/WGDSI/1/INF/1	Compilation of lessons learned from other international funding mechanisms