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GLOBAL TAXONOMY INITIATIVE FORUM

2-4 December 2020 (Online)

Annotated provisional agenda

# INTRODUCTION

1. At its eleventh meeting, in 2012, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted the capacity-building strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative (see decision [XI/29](https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-11/cop-11-dec-29-en.pdf), annex). In paragraph 9 of the decision, the Conference of the Parties requested Parties to report on the effectiveness of their capacity-building efforts to support the implementation of the Global Taxonomy Initiative through their national reports.
2. At its fourteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to review and renew technical and scientific cooperation programmes, including the Bio-Bridge Initiative, the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative and the Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI), in order to support the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and to submit these proposals for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at their meetings prior to the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (see decision [14/24](https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-14/cop-14-dec-24-en.pdf), para. 9).
3. Pursuant to the decisions referenced above, and pursuant to paragraph 2 of recommendation [23/6](https://www.cbd.int/doc/recommendations/sbstta-23/sbstta-23-rec-06-en.pdf) of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, the Executive Secretary will review and renew technical and scientific cooperation programmes, including the Bio-Bridge Initiative, the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative, and GTI, in order to support the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and to submit these proposals for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its third meeting.
4. In response to the above recommendation, the Executive Secretary will convene the GTI Forum 2020, from 2 to 4 December 2020. In the light of the guidance received from the United Nations concerning the COVID-19 pandemic, and in consultation with the Government of Germany and the Museum für Naturkunde in Berlin, Germany, co-hosting the GTI Forum will be conducted virtually on the platform, GoToWebinar. Information on the virtual meeting can be accessed at [https://www.cbd.int/meetings/GTI-OM-2020-01](https://www.cbd.int/meetings/GTI-OM-2020-01%20) and will take place in the following time frame:
   1. A scientific symposium entitled “Best Practices and Challenges of the GTI in Achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets”, 8:00 to 11:30 a.m. (Eastern Daylight Time) on 2 December 2020;
   2. A workshop entitled “GTI 2021-2030 activities to support Parties’ achievement of the post-2020 biodiversity targets and the Global Biodiversity Framework”*,* 8:00 to 10:05 a.m. (Eastern Daylight Time) on 3 December 2020;
   3. A workshop entitled “GTI 2021-2030 Activities to Enhance Education, Public Engagement and Collaboration between Parties, Governments and Taxonomic Institutions”, 8:00 to 10:35 a.m. (Eastern Daylight Time) on 4 December 2020.
5. The Forum will be organized and co-hosted by Government of Germany, through the Museum für Naturkunde in Berlin, and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity with generous financial support from the Government of Japan through the Japan Biodiversity Fund.
6. The Forum will be conducted in English and a recording will be made available on the [meeting website](https://www.cbd.int/meetings/GTI-OM-2020-01) following the event.
7. The outcome of the Forum will include a technical document as an initial compilation and analysis of information on relevant institutional arrangements and networks at the global, regional and/or subregional levels relating to the Global Taxonomy Initiative, in order to inform the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its third meeting, under agenda item 7 (capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation, technology transfer, knowledge management and communication), in response to paragraph 2 of recommendation 23/6 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.
8. The detailed outcome of the Forum will be published in *CBD Technical Series No. 96* in 2021 with generous financial support from the Government of Japan through the Japan Biodiversity Fund.

# Item 1. Opening of the Global Taxonomy Initiative Forum

1. The Forum will be opened at 8 a.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST) on Wednesday, 2 December 2020 by the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Ms. Elizabeth Maruma Mrema.
2. The Deputy Head of Division, International Cooperation on Biodiversity, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety of Germany, will be invited to deliver welcoming remarks.
3. The Director-General of the Nature Conservation Bureau of the Ministry of the Environment of Japan, Mr. Toshio Torii, will be invited to give greetings.
4. A representative of the Secretariat, Ms. Junko Shimura, will briefly explain the agenda of the Forum and expected outcomes to feed into the process of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation.
5. All participants will be invited to comment and ask questions.

# Item 2. Organizational matters: election of co-chairs, adoption of the agenda and organization of work

1. All participants in the Forum will be invited to elect two co-chairs, one from a developing country Party and another from a developed country Party. This session will be facilitated by the Secretariat.
2. After their election, the co-chairs will invite participants to adopt the agenda ([CBD/GTI/OM/2020/1/1](https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/9593/5b43/9c151a470c91c37ac1075172/gti-om-2020-01-01-en.pdf)). Participants may wish to consider the proposed organization of work as contained in annex I below.
3. A list of documents for the Forum is contained in annex II below. Documents will be made available on the Secretariat’s website (<https://www.cbd.int/meetings/GTI-OM-2020-01>).

# Item 3. Symposium on “Best practices and challenges of the Global Taxonomy Initiative in achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets”, co-hosted by the Government of Germany, the Museum für Naturkunde in Berlin and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity

1. Under this agenda item, three invited key partners in the Global Taxonomy Initiative will each give a 15-minute presentation, as follows:
   1. “BIOSCAN and GTI-DNA technology success and its contribution to Aichi Targets”, Mr. Paul Hebert, Scientific Director and Board Chair of the International Barcode of Life; University of Guelph, Canada;
   2. “Progress and challenges in Latin American biodiversity and supporting its management”, Mr. Miguel Gonzalo Andrade Correa, Institute of Natural Sciences, National University of Colombia, Colombia;
   3. “Research and collection-based capacity-building in South-East Asia”, Mr. Thomas von Rintelen, Museum für Naturkunde, Berlin, Germany.
2. All participants will be invited to ask questions of speakers and provide comments related to the Global Taxonomy Initiative.
3. A panel will be introduced by co-chairs, and each panel member will be invited to express their views on lessons learned over the last decade in capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation, technology transfer and to offer advice on further effective approaches for the future.
4. Co-chairs will invite all participants to ask questions and provide comments to the panel.

# Item 4. Global Taxonomy Initiative 2021-2030 activities to support the achievement by Parties of the post-2020 biodiversity targets and the global biodiversity framework

1. Under this agenda item, a total of five short presentations, as listed below, will be delivered to set the scene for considering the activities of the Global Taxonomy Initiative in 2021-2030:
2. “Findings of *Global Biodiversity Outlook 5* and advice on capacity development in taxonomy”, Mr. Tim Hirsch, Global Biodiversity Information Facility;
3. “Application of DNA barcoding and meta-barcoding in conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity”, Mr. Donald Hobern, International Barcode of Life Consortium;
4. “Achievement and further needs in Meso-South America”, Mr. Miguel Gonzalo Andrade Correa, Institute of Natural Sciences, National University of Colombia;
5. “Achievement and further needs in Africa”, Mr. Ramagwai Sebola, Biosystematics Research and Collections, South African National Biodiversity Institute;
6. “Achievement and further needs in Belgium”, Ms. Jolien Venneman, Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences.
7. After a brief self-introduction (tour de table), the invited speakers will be called upon to take the floor to give their presentation of a maximum of five minutes each.
8. After a brief question-and-answer period on the presentations, there will be a 20-minute break, during which pre-recorded video messages submitted by other experts and observers will be projected.
9. After the break, the Secretariat will briefly introduce the background document ([CBD/GTI/OM/2020/1/2](https://www.cbd.int/meetings/GTI-OM-2020-01)), which will be made available on the [meeting website](https://www.cbd.int/meetings/GTI-OM-2020-01).
10. All participants will be invited to comment on the background document page by page for the purpose of collecting information on the extension or renewal of ongoing activities and possible future activities in taxonomic capacity-building that forms the Global Taxonomy Initiative 2021-2030 in the light of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. This is meant to enable all Parties to the Convention to take action on evidence-based implementation of the Convention and its Protocols. Comments should also be submitted to the Secretariat at [secretariat@cbd.int](mailto:secretariat@cbd.int) as soon as possible and no later than 4 December 2020.

# Item 5. Global Taxonomy Initiative 2021-2030 activities to enhance education, public engagement and collaboration between Parties, Governments and taxonomic institutions

1. Under this agenda item, all participants will be invited to further fill in the background document with updated information on their activities and the estimated costs (human and financial resources) in capacity-building as well as education, including citizen science, public engagement and enhancing collaboration among Parties, Governments and taxonomic institutions in order to advance biodiversity research by filling capacity gaps globally. A discussion of support mechanisms, including resourcing, for Parties will take place.

# Item 6. Documentation of the Global Taxonomy Initiative 2021-2030 in support of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

1. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will explain the process of reporting and preparation of technical document to feed into the third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation and the publication of *CBD Technical Series No. 96*.

# Item 7. Other matters

1. Under this item, participants may raise any other matter relevant to the meeting.

# Item 8. Adoption of elements for reporting and an offline finalization process

1. Under this agenda item the Secretariat will briefly summarize the information submitted by participants and explains the finalization of the outcome of the Forum. All participants will be invited to consider and adopt the elements of the outcome of the Forum and the finalization process.

# Item 9. Closure of the Global Taxonomy Initiative Forum

1. The Forum is expected to close at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, 4 December 2020.

*Annex I*

# Proposed organization of work

## Wednesday, 2 December 2020

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| *Time* | *Agenda item* |
| 8:00 – 10:20 a.m. | Item 1. Opening of the Global Taxonomy Initiative Forum.  Item 2. Organizational matters: election of co-chairs, adoption of the agenda, and organization of work.  Item 3. Symposium on “Best practices and challenges of the Global Taxonomy Initiative in achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets”. |
| 10:20 – 10:40 a.m. | Break |
| 10:40 – 11:30 a.m. | Item 3. *(continued)* |

## Thursday, 3 December 2020

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| *Time* | *Agenda item* |
| 8:00 – 9:15 a.m. | Item 4. Global Taxonomy Initiative 2021-2030 activities to support the achievement by Parties of the post-2020 biodiversity targets and the global biodiversity framework. |
| 9:15 – 9:35 a.m. | Break |
| 9:35 – 10:05 a.m. | Item 4. *(continued)* |

## Friday, 4 December 2020

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| --- | --- |
| *Time* | *Agenda item* |
| 8:00 – 9:15 a.m. | Item 5. Global Taxonomy Initiative 2021-2030 activities to enhance education, public engagement and collaboration between Parties, Governments and taxonomic institutions. |
| 9:15 – 9:35 a.m. | Break |
| 9:35 – 10:35 a.m. | Item 6. Documentation of the Global Taxonomy Initiative 2021-2030 in support of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.  Item 7. Other matters  Item 8. Adoption of elements for reporting and an offline finalization process.  Item 9. Closure of the Global Taxonomy Initiative Forum. |

*Annex II*

# Provisional list of documents

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| *Symbol* | *Title* |
| [CBD/GTI/OM/2020/1/1](https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/9593/5b43/9c151a470c91c37ac1075172/gti-om-2020-01-01-en.pdf) | Provisional agenda |
| [CBD/GTI/OM/2020/1/Add.1](https://www.cbd.int/meetings/GTI-OM-2020-01) | Annotated provisional agenda |
| [CBD/GTI/OM/2020/1/2](https://www.cbd.int/meetings/GTI-OM-2020-01) | Background document |
| [CBD/SBSTTA/REC/23/6](https://www.cbd.int/doc/recommendations/sbstta-23/sbstta-23-rec-06-en.pdf) | Recommendation adopted by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice |
| CBD/SBI/3/7 | Capacity development, technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer (document for the third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation) |

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