



**CONVENTION ON  
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

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ENGLISH ONLY

Meeting of the Informal Advisory Committee  
Clearing-house Mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity  
Montreal, Canada  
March 11 2001

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Introduction

The meeting of the Informal Advisory Committee to the Clearing-house Mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity will be held on March 11, 2001, at the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in Montreal, Canada.

1. Registration of participants will commence at 8:30 a.m.

Item 1. Opening of the meeting

- 2 The meeting will be opened by the Executive Secretary at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday 11 March 2001.

Item 2. Organizational Matters

Item 2.1. Adoption of the agenda

3. The draft provisional agenda prepared by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/CHM) addresses all issues referred to in Annex II of Decision V/14. The meeting may wish to adopt the agenda with such amendments as may be agreed upon.

Item 2.2. Organization of Work

4. The meeting will consider the proposed organization of work contained in Annex I below. The meeting may also wish to decide on the nature of the report of the meeting

Item 3. Operational procedures for the IAC

3.1 Constitution, Coordination and Membership

Item 4. Review of the Operations of the CHM

- 4.1 CHM: information exchange
- 4.2 CHM scientific and technical cooperation
- 4.3 CHM: biosafety clearing-house

Item 5. Objectives of the IAC as identified in COP V/14

Item 6 Implementation of the activities identified in Annex II, Decision V/14.

5. The meeting will consider activities to be undertaken by the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Informal Advisory Committee and other relevant bodies, subject to available resources (Annex II, Decision V/14);

6.1 Develop ways and means to ensure a broader understanding of the role of, and the value added by, the clearing-house mechanism (Activity (a)); and further develop non-Internet-based tools and training packages to assist Parties in their national implementation efforts (Activity (b));

6.2 Implementing Activity C) Identify and establish cooperative arrangements with those international thematic focal points that can provide relevant and appropriate thematic information, using the following criteria;

6.3 Convene regional workshops to support capacity-building for clearing-house mechanism activities, training and awareness, with a focus on cooperation in biodiversity information for the implementation and management of the clearing-house mechanism at the national, sub-regional, bio-geographic and regional levels, as appropriate (Activity (d));

6.4 Develop a pilot initiative to assist work on the thematic issues within the work programme of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (Activity (e));

6.5 Propose options for improving ways and means by which the clearing-house mechanism can facilitate access to and transfer of technology (Activity (f)); and develop a list of best practices and identify potential functions to be recommended for implementation by clearing-house mechanism national focal points (Activity (g)), and develop a publicly accessible global electronic platform for scientific and technical cooperation

in biodiversity on the Internet matching the demands and needs of Parties in accordance with Article 18 of the Convention (Activity (j)).

Following discussion on the above, the Secretariat will make a presentation on the progress of the *Electronic Platform on Scientific and Technical Cooperation in Biodiversity* and offer and introduction to World Bank's Global Development Gateway;

6.6 Identify possible formats, protocols and standards for the improved exchange of biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge, including national reports, biodiversity assessments and Global Biodiversity Outlook reports, and convene an informal meeting on this issue (Activity (h));

6.7. Identify options and explore cooperative arrangements to overcome language barriers affecting the use of the clearing-house mechanism, including the development or consolidation of tools and services (Activity (i));

6.8. Encourage the establishment and maintenance of mirror sites of the Convention's website, within the other United Nations regions, as appropriate, in order to improve access to Internet-based information. The Secretariat will present an introduction on the need for mirror sites (Activity (k))

6. The Secretariat will discuss with the Informal Advisory Committee the development of draft Operational Procedures of the Informal Advisory Committee including, amongst others, issues pertaining to the constitution, coordination and membership of the IAC.

#### Item 7. Preparation for the next meeting of the IAC

7. The meeting will consider the organization of its work prior to the next meeting, drafting of the agenda for its next meeting and decide the date and venue.

7.1 Draft provisional agenda

7.2 Tentative date and venue

#### Item 8. Other matters

8. The meeting may wish to consider other matters agreed upon for consideration.

#### Item 9. Closure of the meeting

9. The meeting will be closed on Sunday 11 March 2001 at 1:00.p.m.

## Annex I

Provisional organization of work for the Meeting of the Informal Advisory Committee  
To the Clearing-house Mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity  
Montreal, Canada  
11 March 2001

Date and time	Agenda items:	
<p>Sunday 11 March 2001 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Opening of the meeting</li> <li>2. Organizational matters:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.1 Adoption of the agenda</li> <li>2.2 Organization of the work</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Operational procedures for the IAC               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3.1 Constitution, coordination and membership</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Review of the Operation of the CHM               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4.1 CHM: information exchange</li> <li>4.2 CHM: scientific and technical cooperation</li> <li>4.3 CHM: biosafety clearing-house</li> </ol> </li> <li>5. Objectives of the IAC as identified in COP V/14</li> <li>6. Implementation of the Activities identified in Annex II, Decision V/14               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6.1 Activities (a) &amp; (b);</li> <li>6.2 Activity (c);</li> <li>6.3 Activity (d);</li> <li>6.4 Activity (e);</li> <li>6.5 Activities (f), (g) &amp; (j);</li> <li>6.6 Activity (h);</li> <li>6.7 Activity (i);</li> <li>6.8 Activity (k).</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	
<p>12:00-13:00</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Preparation for the next meeting               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7.1 Draft provisional agenda</li> <li>7.2 Tentative date and venue</li> </ol> </li> <li>8. Other matters</li> <li>9. Closure of meeting</li> </ol>	

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