



CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/CBD/CHM

9 April 2002

ENGLISH ONLY

Meeting of the Informal Advisory Committee
Clearing-house Mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity
The Hague, The Netherlands
9 April 2002

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Introduction

The lunch-time meeting of the Informal Advisory Committee to the Clearing-house Mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity will be held on Tuesday, 9 April 2002, at The Hague, Netherlands.

1. Registration of participants will commence at 12:30PM.

Item 1. Opening of the meeting

- 2 The meeting will be opened by the Executive Secretary at 12:30PM on Tuesday 9 April 2002.

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 CHM Strategic Plan, recommendations made by the SBSTTA at its sixth meeting of 12-16 March 2001 and seventh meeting of 12-16 November 2001, and recommendations made by the IAC at its meeting of 11 March and 11 November 2001 respectively. It also addresses the participation of the CHM in the development and implementation of the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH). 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. Report on implementation of the Activities identified in Annex II, Decision V/14

<u>The Clearing-house Mechanism Matrix of Work</u>			
The Strategic Plan (UNEP/CBD/COP/5/INF/3), Informal Advisory Committee Meeting (11 March 2001 & 11 November 2001) Recommendations, Conference of the Parties V/14 Decisions and CHM Activities and Accomplishments			
<u>Strategic Plan*</u>	Informal Advisory Committee Recommendations (11 March 2001 & 11 November 2001) and SBSTTA6 Recommendations	COP Decisions V/14, Annex II	CHM Activities and Accomplishments
<p><u>* The Strategic Plan has 3 goals: (1) Cooperation, promotion and facilitation of scientific and technical cooperation; (2) Information exchange; (3) Network development. Each recommendation below is preceded by the goal under which it appears in the Plan.</u></p>			
<p>3.1(a) Goal 3: Promote use of the CHM. Obj 7.1.4</p>	<p>Ensure that information available on the CHM reaches the scientific community.</p> <p>Stress the need for more engagement and interactivity—the CHM should receive as well as disseminate information.</p> <p>Emphasize the need for the CHM to participate in all program areas.</p> <p>Publish more written information on the CHM.</p>	<p>(a) Develop ways and means to ensure a broader understanding of the role of, and the value added by, the clearing-house mechanism.</p>	<p>New CHM Brochure was published..</p> <p>Launch of new web site.</p> <p>Developed automatic news dissemination mechanism.</p> <p>Developing new mechanisms for the public to communicate with the SCBD.</p> <p>Programmes and issues page revised and updated</p> <p>Paper on synergies and</p>

<p align="center">The Clearing-house Mechanism Matrix of Work</p> <p align="center">The Strategic Plan (UNEP/CBD/COP/5/INF/3), Informal Advisory Committee Meeting (11 March 2001 & 11 November 2001) Recommendations, Conference of the Parties V/14 Decisions and CHM Activities and Accomplishments</p>			
<p><u>Strategic Plan*</u></p>	<p>Informal Advisory Committee Recommendations (11 March 2001 & 11 November 2001) and SBSTTA6 Recommendations</p>	<p>COP Decisions V/14, Annex II</p>	<p>CHM Activities and Accomplishments</p>
	<p>Reach audiences in addition to the scientific community</p> <p>Contribute to fostering public awareness and education about the Convention</p> <p>Complete updating all programmes and issues sections of the CBD web site</p> <p>Draft paper on synergies and differences between the CHM and the BCH</p>		<p>differences between the CHM and the BCH being drafted</p>
<p>3.2 (b) Goal 3: promote use of the Clearing-house Mechanism Obj7.1.5</p>	<p>Use non-web, non-electronic tools to reach regions with inequitable access to new information technologies</p> <p>Create matrix of regional workshop decisions</p> <p>Non-web information tools should be developed parallel with the development of new web-based tools</p>	<p>(b) Further develop non-Internet-based tools and training packages to assist Parties in their national implementation efforts.</p>	<p>Developed Toolkit for use with the Biosafety Clearing-House</p> <p>Developing CHM Toolkit from BCH toolkit</p> <p>Developing structured vocabularies for public use</p> <p>Matrix created and waiting final approval</p> <p>Installed fax server</p>
<p>3.3 (c) Goal 3: Rely on partnerships and focus on facilitation. Strat 7.2.4</p>	<p>Study joint programs with the GISP and other similar initiatives in the creation of thematic focal points.</p> <p>SBSTTA6: VI/4, A,4c, 22. Decides that the clearing-house mechanism will be used to facilitate scientific and technical cooperation on the topics listed under</p>	<p>(c) Identify and establish cooperative arrangements with those international thematic focal points that can provide relevant and appropriate thematic information, using</p>	<p>Finalized an MOU with GISP to act as a thematic focal point.</p> <p>Organized and convened a meeting with the GISP to discuss implementation of a global invasive species network.</p>

The Clearing-house Mechanism Matrix of Work			
The Strategic Plan (UNEP/CBD/COP/5/INF/3), Informal Advisory Committee Meeting (11 March 2001 & 11 November 2001) Recommendations, Conference of the Parties V/14 Decisions and CHM Activities and Accomplishments			
<u>Strategic Plan*</u>	Informal Advisory Committee Recommendations (11 March 2001 & 11 November 2001) and SBSTTA6 Recommendations	COP Decisions V/14, Annex II	CHM Activities and Accomplishments
	<p>paragraph 21 above, in order to enhance the ability of the clearing-house mechanism to promote and facilitate scientific and technical cooperation, and invites the Executive Secretary to explore further with the Global Invasive Species Programme the potential for the latter to be an international thematic focal point for the clearing-house mechanism, in accordance with annex II (c) of decision V/14;</p> <p>Establish new international thematic focal points with relevant initiatives and organizations</p>	<p>the following criteria:</p>	<p>Joined the GISP Information Management Committee as co-Chair</p> <p>Established the as a thematic focal point.</p> <p>Discussion with the Association for Biodiversity Information (ABI) creation of International thematic focal point</p> <p>Discussing with Indigenous groups the establishment of an indigenous thematic focal point pursuant to 8(j)</p>
<p>3.4 (d) Goal 3: Provide start-up assistance and ongoing capacity. Strat 7.2.1</p> <p>Goal 3: Address obstacles to growth. Strat 7.2.2</p>	<p>Assist in the promotion of training programs in developing regions.</p> <p>Emphasize capacity building, particularly education and training.</p> <p>Participate in new CHM/BCH regional workshops</p> <p>Whenever possible, include local expertise in capacity building workshops</p>	<p>(d) 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, subregional, bio-geographic and regional levels, as appropriate.</p>	<p>Assisted in the organization and presentation of a joint BCH/CHM regional capacity building workshop in Africa.</p> <p>Organized CHM Latin American/Caribbean workshop</p> <p>Participated in GISP capacity building workshop in Latin America.</p> <p>Assisted in the organization of and participated in the Southern Africa Regional Training Workshop on the Establishment and</p>

<u>The Clearing-house Mechanism Matrix of Work</u>			
The Strategic Plan (UNEP/CBD/COP/5/INF/3), Informal Advisory Committee Meeting (11 March 2001 & 11 November 2001) Recommendations, Conference of the Parties V/14 Decisions and CHM Activities and Accomplishments			
<u>Strategic Plan*</u>	Informal Advisory Committee Recommendations (11 March 2001 & 11 November 2001) and SBSTTA6 Recommendations	COP Decisions V/14, Annex II	CHM Activities and Accomplishments
			<p>Operationalisation of the Commonwealth Knowledge Network and the Convention on Biological Diversity Clearing-house Mechanism</p> <p>Participated in Regional Biosafety Capacity Building Workshops in Africa, Latin America and Asia</p>
3.5 (e) Goal 1: Promotion and facilitation of scientific and technical cooperation	<p>Focus on the use of the CHM to promote technical and scientific cooperation, particularly within the work programme of invasive alien species and the ecosystem approach.</p> <p>Seek advice from SBSTTA on the development of new CHM initiatives to promote technical and scientific cooperation.</p> <p>Seek close links with the GISP, and discuss joint work initiatives.</p> <p>Continue to focus on technical and scientific cooperation</p> <p>Complete the CHM/GISP “Building a Global Invasive Species Information Network” document</p>	(e) 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, including:	<p>Collaborating with the GISP on the implementation of a Global Invasive Species Information Network</p> <p>Discussing with WCMC a protected areas/marine and coastal protected areas project.</p> <p>Drafting with the GISP “Building a Global Invasive Species Information Network” document. First draft completed.</p>
3.6 (f) Goal 1 Obj 5.1.5 strat 5.2.3	Contact the UNDP concerning a survey on information access in	(f) Propose options for improving ways and means	Discussing with the Belgian CHM focal point mechanisms and training

The Clearing-house Mechanism Matrix of Work			
The Strategic Plan (UNEP/CBD/COP/5/INF/3), Informal Advisory Committee Meeting (11 March 2001 & 11 November 2001) Recommendations, Conference of the Parties V/14 Decisions and CHM Activities and Accomplishments			
<u>Strategic Plan*</u>	Informal Advisory Committee Recommendations (11 March 2001 & 11 November 2001) and SBSTTA6 Recommendations	COP Decisions V/14, Annex II	CHM Activities and Accomplishments
	<p>technologically underprivileged areas.</p> <p>Participate in the GEF/UNEP Sustainable Alternatives Network</p>	<p>by which the clearing-house mechanism can facilitate access to and transfer of technology.</p>	<p>programs for the transfer of expertise to developing areas.</p> <p>Established MoC with the GEF/UNEP Sustainable Alternatives Network</p>
<p>3.7 (g) Goal 1: Track Best Practices, Needs and Priorities for Collaboration. Strat 5.2.1</p> <p>Goal 2: Track information needs, priorities and best practices. Strat 6.2.2</p> <p>Goal 2: Prioritize and promote expansion in content. Strat 6.2.3</p> <p>Goal 3: Concentrate on value added. Strat 7.2.5</p>		<p>(g) Develop a list of best practices and identify potential functions to be recommended for implementation by clearing-house mechanism national focal points.</p>	<p>Established MoC with the GEF/UNEP Sustainable Alternatives Network</p>
<p>3.8 (h) Goal 2: development of a global mechanism for exchanging and integrating information on biodiversity Strat 6.2.1 6.2.2 6.2.4</p> <p>Goal 2: Ensure compatibility through standardization and interoperability. Strat 6.2.1</p>	<p>Examine the question of interoperability among CHM National Focal Points.</p> <p>Constitute a core group to examine metadata and common formats, and to report to the next IAC meeting.</p> <p>Continue to further develop controlled vocabularies and metadata standards</p>	<p>(h) Identify possible formats, protocols and standards for the improved exchange of biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge, including national reports, biodiversity assessments and Global</p>	<p>Using the Dublin Core as the metadata standard for the CHM and BCH web pages.</p> <p>Constituted a core group to examine the issue of metadata.</p> <p>Working with experts to develop metadata guidelines.</p> <p>Organized and convened an Informal Meeting on</p>

<p align="center">The Clearing-house Mechanism Matrix of Work</p> <p align="center">The Strategic Plan (UNEP/CBD/COP/5/INF/3), Informal Advisory Committee Meeting (11 March 2001 & 11 November 2001) Recommendations, Conference of the Parties V/14 Decisions and CHM Activities and Accomplishments</p>			
<p><u>Strategic Plan*</u></p>	<p>Informal Advisory Committee Recommendations (11 March 2001 & 11 November 2001) and SBSTTA6 Recommendations</p>	<p>COP Decisions V/14, Annex II</p>	<p>CHM Activities and Accomplishments</p>
<p>6.2.2</p> <p>Goal 3: Maintain local ownership of information. Strat 7.2.4</p>		<p>Biodiversity Outlook reports, and convene an informal meeting on this issue</p>	<p>formats, protocols and standards for improved exchange of biodiversity-related information.</p>
<p>3.9 (i) Goal 3: development of the Clearing-house Mechanism focal points and their partners strat 7.2.2 7.2.3</p>	<p>Examine the need to produce information in different languages</p> <p>Draft questionnaire on status of implementation of National CHMs</p>	<p>(i) 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.</p>	<p>New web page was designed to accommodate all six UN languages.</p> <p>The Biosafety Clearing-House has been created to accommodate all six UN Languages.</p> <p>Questionnaire under development</p>
<p>3.10 (j) Goal 2: development of a global mechanism for exchanging and integrating information on biodiversity strat 6.2.1 6.2.2 6.2.2</p>	<p>Review the usability of the EC's electronic virtual collaborative environment, the Circle.</p> <p>Review the success of the Mountain Forum, and explore whether any design components can assist in the work of the CHM.</p>	<p>(j) 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.</p>	<p>Established MoC with the GEF/UNEP Sustainable Alternatives Network.</p>
<p>3.11 (k) Goal 2: development of a global mechanism for exchanging and integrating information on biodiversity strat 6.2.1 6.2.3 6.3.4</p>	<p>IAC will link with the CBD web site from remote locations and report on access problems.</p>	<p>(k) 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</p>	<p>Has requested assistance from IAC to ascertain if mirror sites are still required.</p>

The Clearing-house Mechanism Matrix of Work			
The Strategic Plan (UNEP/CBD/COP/5/INF/3), Informal Advisory Committee Meeting (11 March 2001 & 11 November 2001) Recommendations, Conference of the Parties V/14 Decisions and CHM Activities and Accomplishments			
<u>Strategic Plan*</u>	Informal Advisory Committee Recommendations (11 March 2001 & 11 November 2001) and SBSTTA6 Recommendations	COP Decisions V/14, Annex II	CHM Activities and Accomplishments
		access to Internet-based information	

Item 4. Progress report on the Biosafety Clearing-House

- 4.1 Summary of CHM responsibilities;
- 4.2 Summary of work completed on interoperability standards;
- 4.3 Summary of CHM participation in regional workshops.

Item 5. Review of information pertaining to the CHM in the second national report

- 5. The meeting will consider information received from Parties pertaining to the CHM in the second national report. The meeting may wish to make recommendations on formats and questions for inclusion in the third national report.

Item 6. Review of Progress Report on the Mechanisms for Implementation

- 6. The meeting will consider issues related to the CHM in COP 6 document Progress on the Mechanisms for Implementation (UNEP/CBD/COP/6/13)

Item 7. Preparation for the next meeting

- 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, particularly in regard to technical and scientific cooperation.
 - 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 Tuesday, 9 April 2002 at 2:00PM.

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
The Hague, The Netherlands
9 April 2002

Tuesday

9 April 2002

12:30 – 2:00

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Organizational matters:
 - 2.1 Adoption of the agenda
 - 2.2 Organization of the work
 - 2.3 Welcome new members
3. Progress report on implementation of the Activities identified in Annex II, Decision V/14, CHM Strategic Plan, SBBSTA recommendations and IAC recommendations.
 - 3.1. Activity (a);
 - 3.2. Activity (b);
 - 3.3. Activity (c);
 - 3.4. Activity (d);
 - 3.5. Activity (e);
 - 3.6. Activity (f);
 - 3.7. Activity (g);
 - 3.8. Activity (h)
 - 3.9. Activity (i);
 - 3.10. Activity (j);
 - 3.11. Activity (k).
4. Progress report on the Biosafety Clearing-House (BCH)
 - 4.1 Summary of work completed on interoperability standards;
 - 4.2 Summary of CHM participation in regional workshops;
5. Review of information pertaining to the CHM in the second national report
6. Review of Progress Report on the Mechanisms for Implementation
7. Preparation for the next meeting
8. Other matters
9. Closure of the meeting
