



Convention on Biological Diversity

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MEETING OF THE INFORMAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE TO THE CLEARING-HOUSE
MECHANISM OF THE CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, 5 October 2014

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

INTRODUCTION

General information

1. The meeting of the Informal Advisory Committee to the Clearing-House Mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CHM-IAC) will be held on Sunday, 5 October 2014, in Pyeongchang, Republic of Korea, prior to the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 12). The Committee will meet in Contact Group Room 5 (Bobsleigh and Biathlon) located on the ground floor of the Alpensia Conference Centre. Access to the conference venue is subject to the on-site registration procedure described in Section 5 of the COP 12 information note for participants available at www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/cop/cop-12/other/cop-12-info-note-en.pdf.

2. The registration of participants to the CHM-IAC meeting will commence at 9 a.m. The meeting is expected to start at 9.30 a.m. and close at 5 p.m. as indicated in the proposed organization of work available in annex I below. Annex II contains the provisional list of meeting documents. These documents are available online at www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=chmiac-2014-02.

Background

3. The Conference of the Parties, in decision X/15, adopted the mission, goals and objectives of the clearing-house mechanism for the period 2011-2020, and in paragraph 11 of decision XI/2 B, welcomed the work programme for the clearing-house mechanism in support of implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (UNEP/CBD/COP/11/31) and agreed to keep this work programme under review.

4. The previous meeting of the informal advisory committee to the clearing-house mechanism (CHM-IAC) was held on 13-14 June 2014, in Montreal, Canada, to review the progress made on the clearing-house mechanism. The report of this meeting (UNEP/CBD/CHM/IAC/2014/1/2) includes recommendations to the Executive Secretary.

5. At its fifth meeting (WGRI 5), the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention adopted recommendation 5/11 C after consideration of a progress report on the clearing-house mechanism (UNEP/CBD/WGRI/5/3/Add.2).

6. In preparation for the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 12), the Executive Secretary has prepared a progress report on technical and scientific cooperation and the clearing-house mechanism (UNEP/CBD/COP/12/11) as well as an information note providing additional information on the progress report on the clearing-house mechanism (UNEP/CBD/COP/12/INF/2).

Expected outcome

7. The main purpose of the meeting is to follow up on the implementation of the work programme for the clearing-house mechanism as well as on the guidance of the Committee to the Executive Secretary in light of recent recommendations on the clearing-house mechanism. The meeting will also be an opportunity to share views and lessons learned on the clearing-house mechanism prior to the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

8. The meeting will be opened by a representative of the Executive Secretary at 9.30 a.m. on Sunday, 5 October 2014. New members and guests will be welcomed and all participants will be given the opportunity to introduce themselves.

ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

2.1. Adoption of the agenda

9. A provisional agenda (UNEP/CBD/CHM/IAC/2014/2/1) has been prepared by the Executive Secretary. The Committee is expected to review and adopt the agenda for this meeting.

2.2. Organization of work

10. The Committee will be invited to consider the proposed organization of work contained in annex I.

ITEM 3. REVIEW OF LATEST RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO THE CLEARING-HOUSE MECHANISM

11. A series of recommendations have recently been made on the clearing-house mechanism:

(a) Annex II of the report of the June 2014 meeting of the informal advisory committee to the clearing-house mechanism (UNEP/CBD/CHM/IAC/2014/1/2);

(b) Recommendation 5/11 C adopted by the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention at its fifth meeting;

(c) Elements related to the clearing-house mechanism which are included in other recommendations from the fifth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Review of Implementation of the Convention (WGRI 5), the eighteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA 18) and the third meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee on the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing (ICNP 3).

12. Under this item, the Committee will be invited to review these recommendations in order to have an overall view of what is expected from the clearing-house mechanism during the next intersessional period. To facilitate this exercise, a compilation of the latest recommendations arising from the meetings mentioned in paragraph 11 (b) and (c) has been prepared (UNEP/CBD/CHM/IAC/2014/2/INF/1).

ITEM 4. ISSUES FOR IN-DEPTH CONSIDERATION

13. Given the time available for the present meeting, the Committee will be invited to consider the following key issues for an in-depth discussion, while additional relevant issues can be raised and discussed at the end of this agenda item:

- (a) Online reporting tool;
- (b) Common formats;
- (c) Interoperability;
- (d) Web strategy;
- (e) Award for national clearing-house mechanisms;
- (f) Support to national clearing-house mechanisms.

4.1. Online reporting tool

14. During this intersessional period, the Executive Secretary has undertaken the development of an online reporting system, as reported in document UNEP/CBD/COP/12/11. Under this item, the Committee is invited to provide comments and feedback on this system, whose current version is available at <http://chm.cbd.int>.

4.2. Common formats

15. The current common formats and metadata developed for the new version of the central clearing-house mechanism are described in document UNEP/CBD/CHM/IAC/2014/1/INF/1 and Committee members have been invited to provide comments for their further development. Under this item, the Committee will be invited to review these formats based on the comments received so far.

4.3. Interoperability

16. Interoperability is a critical aspect for the implementation of paragraph 14 (a) of decision XI/2, which requested the Executive Secretary to establish a standard information-exchange mechanism for the clearing-house mechanism to interconnect the central and national clearing-house mechanisms, where possible. The importance of such interoperability was reiterated in recommendations A.4, A.5 and C.4 made during the previous meeting of the Committee. Under this item, the Committee will be invited to review the current status of interoperability for the clearing-house mechanism.

4.4. *Web strategy*

17. In paragraph 5 of WGRI recommendation 5/11 C, the Executive Secretary is requested to develop a web strategy to ensure that all information common or relevant to the clearing-house mechanism, the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House and the Biosafety Clearing-House, as well as other platforms developed under the Convention, can be accessed centrally to avoid duplication of efforts. This recommendation is in line with activity 1.2.1 of the CHM work programme. In addition, this strategy should take into account the ongoing functional review of the CBD Secretariat (see UNEP/CBD/COP/12/28 and UNEP/CBD/COP/12/INF/26). Under this item, the Committee will be invited to brainstorm on this request with a view to providing some guidance to the Executive Secretary.

4.5. *Award for national clearing-house mechanisms*

18. At its previous meeting, the Committee recommended that an award for the best national clearing-house mechanisms be established at the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 12) based on the proposal in annex III of document UNEP/CBD/CHM/IAC/2014/1/2. Under this item, the Committee will be invited to formulate a draft decision element that a Party can propose during COP 12 in order to formally request establishing such an award.

4.6. *Support to national clearing-house mechanisms*

19. Paragraph 2 of WGRI recommendation 5/11 C strongly encourages Parties to accelerate the establishment and development of their national clearing-house mechanisms where they have not done so. According to objective 2.5 of the annex to decision X/15, partners and the CBD Secretariat should support the development of these clearing-house mechanisms. Under this item, the Committee will be invited to discuss ways and means to provide this support, taking into account relevant recommendations made during the last meeting of the Committee.

4.7. *Additional issues*

20. Under this sub-item, the Committee will have the opportunity to raise and discuss any relevant issues not covered under the previous sub-items.

ITEM 5. OTHER MATTERS

21. Under this item, the Committee will be invited to raise and consider any other matters, including matters related to the operations of the Committee or to the side event on the clearing-house mechanism to be held on Wednesday, 8 October 2014. Some lessons learned could be shared under this item.

ITEM 6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

22. The Committee will be kindly requested to formulate general conclusions and recommendations based on the outcomes of the discussions on the various issues considered during the meeting.

ITEM 7. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

23. The meeting is expected to be closed at 5 p.m. on Sunday, 5 October 2014.

*Annex I***PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK***Sunday, 5 October 2014*

9 a.m. - 9.30 a.m.

Registration and welcome

9.30 a.m. - 10.30 a.m.

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Organizational matters:
 - 2.1. Adoption of the agenda
 - 2.2. Organization of work
3. Review of latest recommendations related to the clearing-house mechanism

10.30 a.m. - 10.45 a.m.

Coffee break

10.45 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.

4. Issues for in-depth consideration:
 - 4.1. Online reporting tool
 - 4.2. Common formats
 - 4.3. Interoperability
 - 4.4. Web strategy

12.30 p.m. - 2 p.m.

Lunch break

2 p.m. - 3.30 p.m.

4. Issues for in-depth consideration (*continued*)
 - 4.1. Award for national clearing-house mechanisms
 - 4.2. Support to national clearing-house mechanisms
 - 4.3. Additional issues

3.30 p.m. - 3.45 p.m.

Coffee break

3.45 p.m. - 5 p.m.

5. Other matters
6. Conclusions and recommendations

5 p.m.

7. Closure of the meeting

Annex II

PROVISIONAL LIST OF DOCUMENTS

Meeting documents

- UNEP/CBD/CHM/IAC/2014/2/1
Provisional agenda
- UNEP/CBD/CHM/IAC/2014/2/1/Add.1
Annotations to the provisional agenda
- UNEP/CBD/CHM/IAC/2014/2/2
Report of the meeting
- UNEP/CBD/CHM/IAC/2014/2/INF/1
Recent recommendations related to the clearing-house mechanism

Relevant COP 12 documents

- UNEP/CBD/COP/12/11
Progress report on technical and scientific cooperation and the clearing-house mechanism
- UNEP/CBD/COP/12/INF/2
Additional information on progress on the clearing-house mechanism

Relevant documents from other CBD meetings

- UNEP/CBD/CHM/IAC/2014/1/2
Report of the meeting
(Montreal, Canada, 13-14 June 2014)
- UNEP/CBD/CHM/IAC/2014/1/INF/1
Common formats and metadata
- UNEP/CBD/COP/11/31
Proposed work programme for the clearing-house mechanism in support of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020
- UNEP/CBD/CHM/IAC/2010/1/3
Information services of the central clearing-house mechanism

Other documents

- Information note for participants (COP 12)
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