

**Convention on  
Biological Diversity**

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**BUREAU OF THE CONFERENCE OF  
THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION  
ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

Second meeting

Montreal, 6 October 2013

**MINUTES OF THE SECOND MEETING OF THE COP 11 BUREAU****INTRODUCTION**

1. The second meeting of the Bureau of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 11) was held on Sunday, 6 October 2013, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. in the premises of the Secretariat located at 413 St-Jacques Street West, Suite 800 in Montreal. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Hem Pande, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests of India, representing the President of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The following Bureau members attended the meeting:

1. Ms. Valeria González Posse (Argentina) - Member
2. Mr. Spencer Thomas (Grenada) – Member
3. Ms. Senka Barudanovic (Bosnia and Herzegovina) - Member
4. Mr. Boukar Attari (Niger) – Member
5. Mr. Francis Ogwal (Uganda) – Member
6. Ms. Chaweewan Hutacharern (Thailand) - Member
7. Mr. Jeremy Eppel (United Kingdom) – Member
8. Ms. Tone Solhaug (Norway) – Member

Absent with apologies: Mr. Ioseb Kartsivadze (Georgia) – Member  
Ms. Eleni Marama Tokaduadua (Fiji) - Member

2. The meeting was also attended by the following representative of the Presidency: Ms. Sujata Arora, Director, Ministry of Environment and Forests of India. Mr. Seukwoo Kang, Director in the Korea Secretariat of COP 12 accompanied by Mr. Park Sungdon, in their capacity as representatives of the host country of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, attended as *ex officio* members of the Bureau.

3. The Secretariat was represented by Mr. Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias, Executive Secretary of the Convention; Mr. Olivier Jalbert, Deputy Executive Secretary; Mr. David Cooper, Principal Officer; Mr.

Ravi Sharma, Principal Officer; Mr. Atsuhiko Yoshinaka, Coordinator of the Japan Biodiversity Fund; Mr. Charles Gbedemah, Principal Officer; Ms. Michele Rattray-Huish, Chief of Financial Resources Management Services; Mr. Neil Pratt, Senior Programme Officer and Mr. Sarat Gidda, Programme Officer. Mr. Carlos Martin-Novella, Senior Advisor, Division for Environmental Law and Conventions (DELIC) represented the Executive Director of UNEP.

#### **ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING**

4. The representative of the President of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, Mr. Hem Pande, opened the meeting and welcomed the members of the Bureau.

5. The Executive Secretary also welcomed the members of the Bureau and informed the Bureau that preparations for COP 12 were moving well. He briefed the meeting on his recent trip to Korea and his visit to the proposed venue for COP 12, and emphasized the progress of discussions with the host Government. He stressed that ratifications of the Nagoya Protocol were progressing and that 25 have been deposited so far. He was hopeful to have up to 35 to 40 by the time ICNP 3 will be held, in February 2014. He alluded to the ongoing efforts to ensure that biodiversity is taken into account in discussions on the post-2015 sustainable development goals in New York.

#### **ITEM 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

6. The Bureau adopted the provisional agenda prepared by the Executive Secretary in close cooperation with the President (document UNEP/CBD/COP11/Bur/2013/2/1).

#### **ITEM 3. PREPARATIONS FOR THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE AD HOC OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP ON ARTICLE 8(J) AND RELATED PROVISIONS**

7. It was agreed that, in accordance with established practice and the rules of procedure, the President of the Conference of the Parties or his/her representative will chair the Working Group and the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties will serve as the Bureau of the meeting.

8. The Bureau member from Niger was designated as Rapporteur consistent with rule 21 of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of the Parties.

9. The Bureau agreed to recommend to the Working Group the adoption of the provisional agenda contained in document UNEP/CBD/WG8J/8/1, which the Bureau had already approved.

10. The Bureau agreed to recommend to the Working Group maintaining the practice of past meetings and invite the IIFB to designate seven representatives to act as “Friends of the Bureau”, one of whom acts as Co-chair of the Working Group and others as Co-chairs of contact groups, as needed. The Friends of the Bureau will be invited to participate in meetings of the Bureau throughout the week.

11. The Bureau discussed the possibility of establishing contact groups during the meeting.

12. The Bureau decided to meet at 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Tuesday, 8 October, and subsequently at 6 p.m. on a daily basis throughout the week, and as may be needed.

**ITEM 4. NAGOYA PROTOCOL: UPDATE ON RATIFICATION AND RELATED ACTIVITIES**

13. The representative of the COP 11 President noted Norway's ratification, which brought the current number of ratifications to 25. He added that India was actively promoting ratification and was willing to send a letter from the COP President to countries that could potentially ratify soon. The Secretariat would provide a list of such countries as well as a draft letter for the consideration of the COP President.

14. The Executive Secretary reported on the special event held on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in September and also informed the Bureau on the current number of ratifications to the Nagoya Protocol and that additional CBD Parties are in the advanced stage in their domestic process for ratification. It is expected that 3 to 4 additional countries will ratify the Nagoya Protocol at the United Nations Treaty Event, at the end of October. The pace of ratifications suggests that the Protocol will enter into force in time to hold the first COP/MOP in conjunction with COP 12. The Executive Secretary was actively promoting ratification through his participation in related meetings. The Executive Secretary also informed the Bureau of the finalization of Policy Briefs on the Nagoya Protocol to enable stakeholders from different sectors to be well-informed on the Protocol. He invited the Bureau to translate the Nagoya Protocol into local and indigenous languages. A website providing translations of the Nagoya Protocol received from Parties has been established by the Secretariat. During the meeting of the second committee of the United Nations General Assembly, a special briefing event on access and benefit-sharing, as mandated by resolution 67/212, is scheduled to take place in the last week of October.

15. The Secretariat also reported on the progress of work on the ABS Clearing-House following the meeting of the IAC, the Article 10(c) meeting and on capacity-building activities.

16. The representative of UNEP reported on progress in the GEF project to build capacity for the ratification of the Nagoya Protocol and informed about the initiation of two additional projects for the COMIFAC and Pacific regions.

17. The desirability of a joint ICNP and COP Bureau meeting to prepare for COP/MOP if it becomes apparent that it will be held in conjunction with COP 12 was highlighted. This could be done either at ICNP 3 or at WGRI 5. There was a request to keep the ICNP Bureau better informed on progress made.

**ITEM 5. AGENDA OF THE TWELFTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES (COP 12) AND THE FIFTH MEETING OF THE AD HOC OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP ON THE REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION (WGRI 5)**

18. The Bureau considered the agenda of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the fifth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Working Group on the Review of Implementation of the Convention on the basis of drafts prepared by the Secretariat.

19. It was understood that the status of the Nagoya Protocol would remain as Item 10 on the COP 12 agenda. However, there was a need for a substantive item on "Access and Benefit Sharing" if the first COP/MOP is not held in conjunction with COP 12 under Section V of the COP 12 agenda, together with a footnote providing an explanation. It was suggested that the Secretariat prepare a note on the substantive issues, legal aspects and practical issues on participation and funding in regard to the relationship between the Nagoya Protocol and the other CBD discussions. The Secretariat recalled the note circulated at the Bureau meeting held in Trondheim on the proposed organization of work during COP 12 and COP/MOP 1. It was also recalled that ICNP 3 is mandated to develop the draft agenda and draft decisions of COP/MOP 1 of the Nagoya Protocol.

20. One Bureau member highlighted the need to respond to the Decision XI/10 ("on periodicity of meetings") on the need to increase the efficiency of structures and processes under the Convention and its

protocols. This would need to be highlighted under Item 27 of the COP 12 agenda. She noted that the Secretariat was requested to prepare proposals in this regard, and, recalling the earlier discussion in the COP-MOP Bureau, noted the need to look for synergies between the Convention (and its COP) and both of its Protocols (and their MOPs) There was also a request to make the issue of business more visible on the COP 12 agenda.

21. A Bureau member drew attention to the request in decision IX/29 that the Executive Secretary facilitate increased information exchange between the Bureaus of the SBSTTA and COP by inter alia inviting the SBSTTA Chair to attend relevant meetings of the COP Bureau. Noting that the SBSTTA Chair was occupied at the time because of duties to co-chair a meeting in Italy of the Chair's of the Scientific Bodies of the biodiversity-related Conventions (CSAB), she also noted that the SBSTTA Bureau could be represented by another SBSTTA bureau member in the Chair's absence

22. The Bureau also discussed the proposal for an informal "dialogue" put forward by the Executive Secretary, to be held as part of COP 12 in connection with progress in the achievement of the Aichi Targets. It was suggested that steps 1 and 2 of the concept note should begin earlier and preferably before WGRI 5 to allow WGRI 5 to give a recommendation to COP 12. This would allow the process to be transparent. It was also suggested that the dialogue should be on a smaller scale, taking into account the number of parties and requests to take the floor.

23. With regard to the WGRI 5 agenda, several Bureau members requested the item the efficiency of structures and processes under the Convention and its protocols as per decision XI/10 on periodicity of meetings to be reflected. The technical and scientific cooperation under Item 3 (b) of the WGRI 5 agenda would need to be clearly identified in the annotated agenda. The representative of UNEP highlighted the need to align Item 6 on the WGRI 5 agenda with the COP 12 agenda.

24. In response to a query, the Executive Secretary said that the item on resource mobilization would be looking beyond WGRI 5 and not just a review. Regarding the reporting framework, the Secretariat will provide guidelines to the Parties, requesting them to give comments on experiences that may lead to the fine-tuning of the guidelines.

25. After in-depth discussion, it was agreed that the Secretariat would re-circulate the concept note for the special session forum as well as the agendas of COP 12 and WGRI 5 within the next two weeks, providing the Bureau with a two-week deadline for further comments and review.

## **ITEM 6. STRATEGY FOR RESOURCE MOBILIZATION: PROGRESS REPORT**

26. The Executive Secretary updated the Bureau on progress in the implementation of the COP 11 decision on the strategy for resource mobilization (Decision XI/4) including the NBSAP forum and High Level Panel on global assessment of resources.

27. A Bureau member expressed satisfaction at the broadening of the membership of the High Level Panel on global assessment of resources and the way the Panel was conducting its work, and suggested that the Bureau convey its compliments to the members of the Panel. The Panel had its first meeting at the margins of the Trondheim Conference and its next meeting would be held in India from 2 to 4 December 2013. The report of the panel will undergo peer review and will be discussed at regional meetings in Latin America, Africa and Asia, to be convened before WGRI 5.

28. In response to Decision XI/5, a consultant has been hired to prepare a report on the fourth review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism. To date, 40 parties have provided comments and the report will be distributed to all Parties by February 2014.

## **ITEM 7. MAINSTREAMING BIODIVERSITY IN THE POST-2015 UN DEVELOPMENT AGENDA AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

29. The Executive Secretary updated the Bureau on recent developments within the United Nations Organization on the post-2015 UN development agenda and sustainable development goals, and efforts by the Secretariat to integrate biodiversity considerations in these processes.

30. The Executive Secretary attended the last session of the Commission on Sustainable Development and the first session of the new high-level policy forum. Clarification was needed on the relationship of these processes with the CBD. He had decided to prepare, by the end of the year, a document outlining the CBD experiences and means of implementation.

31. The need to properly inform the representatives participating in the Open Working Group on Biodiversity was emphasized.

32. The Executive Secretary mentioned that the Secretariat was following-up with the Government of South Sudan on its accession to the Convention.

33. The representative of the COP 11 President suggested with regard to the Recommendations on the report to the General Assembly, paragraph (b) should call on other governments and all stakeholders to implement the Strategic Plan in addition to Parties, and that in paragraph (f) the full title of the Nagoya Protocol should be given.

## **ITEM 8. REPORT ON CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE VOLUNTARY TRUST FUNDS FOR THE CONVENTION**

34. The Executive Secretary briefed the Bureau on the status of the following trust funds: the Special Voluntary Trust Fund for the Additional Voluntary Contributions in Support of Approved Activities for the biennium 2013-2014 (BE Trust Fund); the Special Voluntary Trust Fund for Facilitating Participation of Parties in the Convention Process for the 2013-2014 Biennium (BZ Trust Fund); and the Voluntary Trust Fund for Facilitating Participation of Indigenous and Local Communities in the Convention Process for the 2013-2014 biennium (VB Trust Fund).

35. In response to a query, the Secretariat explained the process of funding countries to CBD meetings. Among developing countries and countries with economies in transition, priority is accorded to LDCs and SIDs in line with COP decisions.

36. The representative of UNEP requested that the footnote on PSC in the paper about Trust Funds should indicate that two-thirds of the Programme Support Costs was normally returned to the Secretariat.

## **ITEM 9. PREPARATIONS FOR COP 12 AND COP-MOP 7**

37. The representative of Republic of Korea briefed the Bureau on the preparations for the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. He highlighted how COP 12 would be very important in generating momentum for the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. He informed the Bureau that the Republic of Korea was fully occupied in completing the preparation of its fifth national report. He also informed the meeting that the Republic of Korea hoped that the Conference of the Parties would agree to adopt a ‘PyeongChang Roadmap’, which would comprise relevant COP decisions containing a series of concrete actions and initiatives to ensure that Parties will achieve the Aichi Targets by 2020. He also mentioned that the Government was exploring the idea of launching at COP 12 a package of support, through a “Korea Biodiversity Initiative”, to implement the actions contained in the “PyeongChang Roadmap”. Possible elements of the initiative would include scientific and technical cooperation, including on ABS and bioinformatics, and ecosystem restoration, as well as a number issues on marine biodiversity.

38. Taking into account that COP 12 will come as an important juncture in the development of the post-2015 development agenda, the Republic of Korea welcomed the theme of COP 12 as ‘Biodiversity for Sustainable Development’. The High-Level Segment, would also address themes related to ‘creative economy’, and ‘peace and ecology’. The representative of the Republic of Korea suggested that the message to the General Assembly on the importance of biodiversity for the post-2015 development agenda and the need for biodiversity, and the Aichi Targets, to be integrated into the SDG framework be transmitted in the form of a “PyeongChang Declaration”, to be adopted by Ministers following consultations among Parties at WGRI 5 and with the support of the COP Bureau.

39. The representative of Republic of Korea praised the progress made on the ratifications of the Nagoya Protocol, and was optimistic that the first COP-MOP of the Nagoya Protocol would take place in conjunction with COP 12.

40. The representative of Korea also mentioned that a number of parallel events at the margins of COP-MOP 7, COP-MOP 1 and COP 12 would be held including the 4th Global Biodiversity Platform for Business meeting, high-level meeting on cities and local authorities for biodiversity, high-level meeting on Ecology for Peace, high-level meeting on science, biodiversity monitoring and technical and scientific cooperation and a high-level event on the Sustainable Ocean Initiative.

41. The PowerPoint presentation made by the representative of the Republic of Korea would be circulated to the members of the COP Bureau.

42. In response to queries from members of the Bureau, the representative of the Republic of Korea will look into issues of visas upon arrival and arrangements for payments for hotels for delegates funded by the Secretariat.

43. The representative of the COP 11 President hoped that the Biodiversity Champions initiative that was launched at COP 11 would be continued and somehow incorporated in the COP 12 preparations.

#### **ITEM 10. OTHER MATTERS**

44. Under this item, the representative of the COP 11 President presented the zero-draft of India’s fifth national report, a pictorial souvenir publication of COP 11 as well as a letter indicating the outstanding payment of India to the WG8J meeting to the Executive Secretary.

45. The Bureau took note of the outcomes of the General Service staff reclassification exercise based on a briefing by the Secretariat.

46. The Secretariat drew attention to an information note on the hosting of meetings of the Conference of the Parties that had been requested at the COP Bureau meeting in Trondheim.

#### **ITEM 11. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

47. The meeting was closed at 8:15 p.m.

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