

**Convention on  
Biological Diversity**

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

Third meeting

Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre  
Kuala Lumpur, 21 February 2016

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BUREAU**

1. The third inter-sessional meeting of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties (COP) was held on 21 February 2016, from 9.00. a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the margins of the fourth meeting of the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The meeting was preceded by a joint meeting with the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, on 20 February.
2. The following Bureau members were present: Mr. Jae Choe, (Republic of Korea, COP Presidency), Mr. Mike Ipanga (Democratic Republic of the Congo), Ms. Skumsa Mancotywa (South Africa), Mr. Yousef Al-Hafedh (Saudi Arabia), Ms. Fumiko Nakao (Japan), Mr. Hem Pande (India, the substitute for Japan for matters related to the Nagoya Protocol), Mr. Belal Al-Hayek (Syria, the substitute for Saudi Arabia for matters related to the Nagoya Protocol), Ms. Natalya Minchenko (Belarus), Ms. Senka Barudanovic (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Ms. Elvana Ramaj (Albania, the substitute for Bosnia and Herzegovina for matters related to the Nagoya Protocol), Ms. Maria Luisa del Rio Mispireta (Peru), Mr. Randolph Edmead (St. Kitts and Nevis), Ms. Tia Stevens (Australia), Ms. Mette Gervin Damsgaard (Denmark), and Mr. Andreas Obrecht (Switzerland, the substitute for Australia for matters related to the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols).
3. Apologies were received from: Dr. Indarjit Ramdass (Guyana, the substitute for St. Kitts and Nevis for matters related to the Nagoya Protocol).
4. Also present, as observers, were Mr. Alberto Glender and Mr. Hesiquio Benitez (Mexico, representing the incoming COP Presidency), Mr. Andrew Bignell (New Zealand) SBSTTA Chair, and Mr. Jiri Hlavacek, representing UNEP.
5. The Secretariat was represented by Mr. Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias (Executive Secretary), Mr. David Cooper, Mr. Ravi Sharma and Ms. Amy Fraenkel.

**ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING**

6. The meeting was opened by Mr. Jae Choe, representative of the President of the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. Mr. Choe and the Executive Secretary, Mr. Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias, made brief opening remarks.

7. The Chair noted that the first meeting of the SBI would be an important landmark in the history of the Convention as it would enable Parties to strengthen the Convention's focus on implementation, and synergy between the Convention and its Protocols. He noted that the Bureau, together with the SBSTTA Bureau, had held, the previous day, a brainstorming session on some of these issues.

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

8. The Bureau adopted the agenda prepared by the Executive Secretary (document UNEP/CBD/COP/Bur/2016/1/1).

## **ITEM 3. PREPARATIONS FOR THE FIRST MEETING OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON IMPLEMENTATION**

9. As decided in decision XII/26, the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties serves as the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation. The President of the Conference of the Parties or his representative will chair the first meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation. The Bureau would designate a Rapporteur for the meeting from among its members.

10. Mr. Ravi Sharma, SBI Secretary, provided an update on preparations for the meeting, especially the preparation of documents.

11. It was noted that SBI would address the review of implementation of the Convention by Parties, including the setting of national targets in the framework of the Strategic plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, on the basis of a synthesis/analysis prepared by the Secretariat as foreseen in decision X/2. The Secretariat noted that the analysis shows a mismatch: in general, the national targets being set are not commensurate with the global Aichi Targets. Moreover, to date, only a minority of Parties have completed the process of updating their NBSAPs in line with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. Bureau members highlighted the importance of capacity building and support, which is another matter that will be addressed at SBI-1.

12. Mr. Sharma noted that there would be an opportunity for a few Parties to report on progress on certain targets in a dialogue session. Mexico indicated its interest to present its progress on Target 11. There would also be a report on the experience of the voluntary peer review.

13. In relation to the SBI *modus operandi* and options for strengthening review of implementation, Mr. Sharma also outlined plans for a meeting of the "Friends of the CBD" on this matter, to be hosted and sponsored by Switzerland in March 2016.

14. Regarding options for strengthening review of implementation, Bureau members considered that it would be useful to learn from the experiences of other organizations and, therefore, welcomed the plans for presentations by relevant organizations at SBI as well as the "Friends of the CBD" meeting.

15. Some Bureau members and observers, echoing the views of the Executive Secretary, emphasized that SBI should have a more strategic role than the former Working Group on Review of Implementation.

16. The Bureau noted that, according to its mandate, SBI could serve the Protocols as well as the Convention. The meeting of the Parties of the Cartagena Protocol had already tasked the SBI to examine the periodic assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Cartagena Protocol. This issue would be taken up shortly after the consideration by SBI of the review of implementation of the Convention. There would also be a review on the status of ratification and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol. Thus, these related matters under the Convention and the Protocols would be taken up in proximity.

**ITEM 4: PREPARATIONS FOR THE THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES, THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL AND THE SECOND MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL**

17. Under this item, the Executive Secretary (Mr. Braulio de Souza Dias), the COP Secretary (Mr. David Cooper) and representatives of the COP 13 Presidency (Mr. Alberto Glender and Mr. Hesiquio Benitez) briefed the Bureau on progress in the preparations for these meetings, including the high-level segment and other major events and side-events, complementing the information that had been provided to the joint meeting of the Bureaux the previous day.

18. Mr. Alberto Glender reiterated the invitation for Bureau members to provide comments and inputs for the development of the declaration that is envisaged to be considered and adopted at the high-level segment.

19. The Secretariat indicated that the note providing information for participants, including information of registration, hotel booking, and visas, as well as other logistical aspects, was under preparation in collaboration with Mexico.

**ITEM 5. Reports by the Executive Secretary**

***5.1 Update on the functional review of the Secretariat***

20. Under this item, the Executive Secretary briefly updated the Bureau on the status of the progress of the functional review.

21. The Bureau members reported back on the consultations in their respective regions concerning the term of office of the Executive Secretary. No decision was made on this matter.

***5.2 Report on contributions to the voluntary funds for approved activities (BE) and participation (BZ)***

22. Under this item, the Secretariat briefed the Bureau on the status of the following Voluntary Trust Funds: the Special Voluntary Trust Fund (BE) for the Additional Voluntary Contributions in Support of Approved Activities for the Biennium 2015-2016, the Special Voluntary Trust Fund (BZ) for Facilitating Participation of Parties in the Convention Process for the 2015-2016 Biennium, and the Voluntary Trust Fund (VB) for Facilitating Participation of Indigenous People and Local Communities in the Convention Process for the 2015-2016 Biennium.

23. The Secretariat underlined the importance of receiving funds in time to allow the adequate participation of developing countries, in particular LDCS and SIDS, as well as countries with economies in transition, in the meetings of the Convention, including the urgent need for funding for the upcoming meetings of SBSTTA and SBI.

**ITEM 6. OTHER MATTERS**

24. The Secretariat provided a brief overview of recent activities undertaken under the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols.

25. No other matters were raised.

**ITEM 7. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

26. The meeting was closed at 1:00 p.m. on 21 February 2016.