



CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
First extraordinary meeting (resumed session)
Montreal, 24-28 January 2000

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL REVISED AGENDA

Introduction

1. Owing to the complexity of the issues involved, it was not possible to conclude negotiations and subsequently adopt the Biosafety Protocol within the time originally allocated for the first extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties, which was held in Cartagena, Colombia, from 22 to 24 February 1999. Accordingly, by its decision EM-I/1, the Conference of the Parties decided to suspend the meeting to a further date.

2. These annotations refer to the provisional revised agenda that is being submitted for adoption at the resumed session of the first extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties (UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/1/Rev.2) and supersede document UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/1/Add.1/Rev.1, which was before the previous session of the extraordinary meeting.

Item 1. Resumption of the meeting

3. The meeting will resume at 10 a.m. on Monday, 24 January 2000, at the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) building in Montreal and will be opened by Mr. László Míklos, President of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

4. Opening and welcoming statements will be delivered by:

(a) The President of the first extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties, Mr. Juan Mayr Maldonado, Minister of Environment of Colombia;

(b) The Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Item 2. Organizational matters

(a) Adoption of the revised agenda

5. The Conference of the Parties may wish to adopt the provisional revised agenda as contained in document UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/1/Rev.2.

(b) Organization of work

6. The Conference of the Parties may wish to work in its entirety in Plenary, without establishing any subsidiary body.

7. In organizing the work of the resumed session, the Conference may also wish to bear in mind paragraph 4 of its decision EM-I/1, in which it stressed "the importance of concentrating at the resumed session on the core issues and related issues as contained in the draft report of the first part of the meeting" (UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/L.2/Rev.1, para. 52). Accordingly, it may wish to proceed immediately to negotiations on those issues.

8. The Conference of the Parties may also wish to make arrangements for a comprehensive legal, editorial and linguistic drafting group to review the draft instrument, to ensure consistency within the text and among the languages.

Item 3. Report on the credentials of representatives to the resumed first extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties

9. Rule 18 of the rules of procedure for meetings of the Conference of the Parties states that:

"[T]he credentials of representatives and the names of alternate representatives and advisers shall be submitted to the Executive Secretary of the Conference of the Parties or the representative of the Executive Secretary if possible not later than twenty-four hours after the opening of the meeting. Any later change in the composition of the delegation shall also be submitted to the Executive Secretary or the representative of the Executive Secretary. The credentials shall be issued by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority of that organization".

10. Rule 19 provides that "the Bureau of any meeting shall examine the credentials and submit its report to the Conference of the Parties for decision".

11. In accordance with rule 20 of the rules of procedure, representatives shall be entitled to participate provisionally in the meeting, pending a decision of the Conference of the Parties on their credentials.

12. The Conference of the Parties shall consider and adopt the report on credentials submitted to it by the Bureau.

Item 4. Adoption of the Protocol and related decisions

13. In paragraph 4 of its decision IV/3, the Conference of the Parties decided that, in accordance with rule 13 of the rules of procedure, the agenda of the extraordinary meeting would address all matters relating to:

(a) Adoption of the Protocol on Biosafety; and

/...

(b) Preparations for the first meeting of the parties to the protocol with regard to, inter alia, interim arrangements, taking into account the budgetary provision made for this purpose in accordance with decision IV/17 on the budget of the Trust Fund for the Convention.

14. In accordance with paragraph 4 of its decision EM-I/1, the Conference of the Parties will have before it the text of the draft protocol set out in appendix I of the report of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group on Biosafety (UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/2), as well as the statements with respect to the text of the draft protocol contained in that report.

15. Upon conclusion of the negotiations, the President of the extraordinary meeting is expected to formally present an agreed text of the draft Protocol for adoption by the Conference of the Parties.

16. Following the adoption of the protocol, the Conference of the Parties may wish to consider the adoption of decisions relating to interim arrangements in the period up to the first meeting of the parties to the protocol, including the establishment of an Intergovernmental Committee for the Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the election of the Chair of the Intergovernmental Committee, and administrative and budgetary requirements.

Item 5. Adoption of the report

17. It will be recalled that, at the first part of the extraordinary meeting, the Rapporteur informed participants that, in the light of the decision to suspend the meeting, the report of the meeting would be considered at the resumed session (UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/L.2/Rev.1, para. 54). Accordingly, Conference of the Parties took note of the draft report of meeting.

18. At the end of the resumed session, it is expected that the Conference of the Parties will adopt a report of the whole extraordinary meeting on the basis of the draft already circulated, revised as necessary to reflect the proceedings of the resumed session.

Item 6. Closure of the meeting

19. The meeting will be closed at 6 p.m. on 28 January 2000.

Annex

LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR THE RESUMED SESSION OF FIRST EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF
THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

<u>Symbol</u>	<u>Title</u>
UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/1/Rev.2	Provisional revised agenda
UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/1/Rev.2/Add.1	Annotations to the provisional revised agenda
UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/L.2/Rev.1	Draft report of the first extraordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties
UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/2	Report of the Open-ended Working Group on Biosafety on the work of its sixth meeting
UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/INF/1	Documentation containing draft text of the Protocol for the resumed session: explanatory note by the Secretariat
UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/INF/2	Aide-memoire: Chairman's summary of informal consultations held in Montreal on 1 July 1999
UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/INF/3	Chairman's summary of informal consultations held in Vienna from 15 to 19 September 1999
