





Convention on Biological Diversity

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SUBREGIONAL CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOP ON FINANCIAL REPORTING AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION FOR SOUTH-EAST ASIA Manila, Philippines, 30 November to 1 December 2015

BACKGROUND AND PROGRAMME OF WORK

I. BACKGROUND OF THE WORKSHOP

- 1. In decision XII/3, on resource mobilization, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted five targets for resource mobilization (para. 1) as well as a revised financial reporting framework (paras. 14 and 24), and invited parties and other Governments to report thereon, using online reporting systems, where feasible, by 31 December 2015. It also requested the Executive Secretary to organize workshops, in cooperation with relevant organizations and initiatives, with a view to catalysing and supporting the provision of technical guidance and capacity-building on financial reporting, the identification of funding needs, gaps, and priorities, and the development of national resource mobilization strategies, and, in line with the programme of work on incentive measures, on the implementation of the milestones for the full operationalization of Aichi Biodiversity Target 3 (para. 32(a)).
- 2. The Subregional Capacity-building Workshop on Financial Reporting and Resource Mobilization for South-East Asian countries is part of a series of capacity-building workshops and webinars, organized by the Secretariat of the Convention pursuant to the above-cited request of the Conference of the Parties, and with financial support provided by the European Union and the Government of Japan. The workshop is co-organized by the Center for Biodiversity of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ACB).
- 3. The objective of the workshop is to enhance the capacity of participants to apply methodologies, frameworks and tools for financial reporting and the development of national finance plans. This is to be accomplished by sharing and reviewing experiences in applying such methodologies, frameworks and tools; and by providing voluntary guidance thereon, based on the report of the international technical expert workshop on this topic, which was held in Mexico City from 5 to 7 May 2015.
- 4. The workshop will be preceded by a webinar providing a succinct introduction to the financial reporting framework, on 18 November 2015. The necessary technical information was communicated to the workshop participants.
- 5. The international technical expert workshop, mentioned above, highlighted the importance of building on existing reporting processes and associated datasets, both internationally and nationally, for completion of the financial reporting framework. One of the targets for resource mobilization adopted by the Conference of the Parties calls upon Parties to report domestic biodiversity expenditures, as well as funding needs, gaps and priorities, by 2015. In the context of quantifying and reporting domestic biodiversity expenditures, specific reference was made by the workshop to the Classification of Environmental Protection Activities (CEPA) and its integration in reporting frameworks such as the

System of Economic-Environmental Accounts (SEEA), which was recently adopted as an international statistical standard by the United Nations Statistical Commission, or the Classification of the Functions of Government (COFOG) and the associated regional or international reporting thereon.

- 6. In the light of the above, Governments of countries in the subregion were invited to nominate two experts to participate in the workshop: one expert responsible for the implementation of the Convention, in particular for resource mobilization and/or the development of national resource mobilization strategies for the implementation of revised national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and one expert from the national statistical department, or similar agency, working on identifying and compiling statistical information on environmental or biodiversity-related expenditures. The following countries were invited to nominate participants: Brunei Darussalam; Cambodia; China; DPR Korea; Indonesia; Japan; Lao; Malaysia; Myanmar; Mongolia; Philippines; Republic of Korea; Singapore; Thailand and Viet Nam.
- 8. Sharing national information, in particular practical experiences and good practices, will be a critical contribution towards the success of the workshop. With this in mind, the workshop format features a mix of presentations with question and answer sessions to introduce relevant concepts, tools and mechanisms; discussions to assess the applicability of these concepts, tools and mechanisms in the sub-regional context; and work in breakout groups in order deepen understanding and further advance the possible application of these concepts, tools, and mechanisms.
- 9. In preparing for the workshop, participants are encouraged to review their country's fifth national report and the current state of review of the national biodiversity strategy and action plan, and of national resource mobilization plans. In particular, in light of the individual questions in the Financial Reporting Framework, participants may wish to consider the following areas: (a) valuation and inclusion of biodiversity into national priorities or development plans; (b) identifying and assessing biodiversity-related (public and private) domestic expenditures; (c) identifying and assessing funding needs, gaps and priorities; (d) the mobilization of financial resources for biodiversity from various sources, and the development of national finance plans for biodiversity.
- 10. The registration of participants will commence at 8:30 a.m., on Monday 30 November 2015, at the Makati Diamond Residences, Manila.

II. DRAFT PROGRAMME

Time	Session	
DAY 1		
8:30	Registration	
a.m.		
9:00	Welcome and opening	
a.m.	 Opening Statement by Mr. Ravi Sharma, on behalf of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity 	
	 Opening remarks by Mr. Roberto Oliva, Executive Director of the ASEAN Center for Biodiversity (ACB) 	
	 Opening remarks by a representative of the Government of the Philippines (tbc) 	
9:15 a.m.	Self-introductions by participants; Overview of workshop objectives and process	
9:45	International biodiversity-related flows	
a.m.	Presentation	
	Q&A discussion	
10:30	Tea/coffee break	
a.m.		
11:00 a.m.	Work in breakout groups: using the OECD CRS database (exercise)	
11:30	Assessing biodiversity-related expenditures	
a.m.	Presentation: methodologies and guidance from the Mexico workshop; linkages to statistical classifications and related work	
	Q&A discussion	
12:30 p.m.	Lunch	
1:30	Assessing biodiversity-related expenditures (continued)	
p.m.	Work in breakout groups: Making use of statistical frameworks for assessing biodiversity-related expenditures: towards a crosswalk or indicative checklist	
3:00 p.m.	Tea/coffee break	
3:30	Reporting back from breakout groups; group discussion:	
p.m.	Identification of initial results and further discussion needs	
5:00 p.m.	Evening break	
DAY 2		
9:00	Assessing funding needs: costing the NBSAPs	
a.m.	Presentation: methodologies and guidance from the Mexico workshop	
	Work in breakout groups: moving from strategic targets to 'costable' activities (exercise)	
10:30 a.m.	Tea/coffee break	

UNEP/CBD/RM/WS/2015/8/1 Page 4

Time	Session
11:00	Feedback from exercise
a.m.	Roundtable on progress in revising NBSAPs and costing the revised NBSAP
12:3	Lunch
p.m.	
1:30	Towards national finance plans: biodiversity finance mechanisms
p.m.	Presentation: Biodiversity finance mechanisms: the work under the Convention
	Q&A discussion
3:00	Tea/coffee break
p.m.	
3:30	Presentation: the work of the UNDP BIOFIN initiative
p.m.	Round table on developing finance plans: next steps, remaining challenges
4:30	Evaluation and closure
p.m.	
5:00	End of workshop
p.m.	