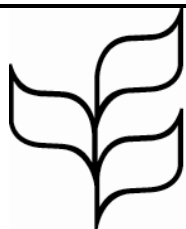




CBD



Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/CBD/RM/WS/2016/1/1
2 February 2016

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SUBREGIONAL CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOP ON FINANCIAL REPORTING AND RESOURCE MOBILIZATION FOR EASTERN EUROPEAN AND CENTRAL AND WEST ASIAN COUNTRIES

Tbilisi, Georgia, 25-26 February 2016

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 Eastern European and Central and West Asian countries is part of a series of capacity-building workshops and webinars, organized by the Secretariat of the Convention pursuant to the request of the Conference of the Parties above, and with financial support provided by the European Union and the Government of Japan. The workshop will be hosted by the Government of Georgia.
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, 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 on 5-7 May 2015.
4. The workshop was preceded by a webinar providing a succinct introduction to the Financial Reporting Framework, on 16 February 2016 for the one in English and on 17 February 2016 for the one in Russian. 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 and Environmental Accounting (SEEA), which was recently adopted as an international statistical standard by the United Nations Statistics 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 strategy 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: Afghanistan, Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Ukraine, Uzbekistan and Yemen.

7. A logistics note for participants was made available under <https://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=RMWS-2016-01>. The languages of the workshop will be English and Russian.

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 break out 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 the 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 25 February 2016, at the Holiday Inn Tbilisi, Georgia.

II. DRAFT PROGRAMME

Time	Session
DAY 1	
08:30	Registration
09:00	Welcome and opening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opening Statement by Mr. Csoban Somodi, on behalf of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity
09:15	Self-introductions by participants; Overview of workshop objectives and process; group photo
09:45	International biodiversity-related flows Presentation (CBD) Q&A; discussion
10:30	Tea/coffee break
11:00	Work in break out groups: using the OECD CRS database (exercise)
11:30	Assessing biodiversity-related expenditures Presentation: methodologies and guidance from the Mexico workshop; linkages to statistical classifications and related work (CBD) Q&A; discussion
12:30	Lunch
13:30	Assessing biodiversity-related expenditures (cont.) Work in break-out groups: Making use of statistical frameworks for assessing biodiversity-related expenditures: towards a crosswalk or indicative checklist
15:00	Tea/coffee break
15:30	Reporting back from break-out groups; group discussion: Identification of initial results and further discussion needs
17:00	Evening break
DAY 2	
09:00	Assessing funding needs: costing the NBSAPs Presentation: methodologies and guidance from the Mexico workshop (CBD) The BIOFIN methodology, Mr. David Myers, BIOFIN Work in break out groups: moving from strategic targets to costed activities (exercise)
11:00	Tea/coffee break
11:30	Feedback from exercise Roundtable on progress in revising NBSAPs and costing the revised NBSAP
13:00	Lunch
14:00	Towards national finance plans: Biodiversity finance mechanisms Presentation: Biodiversity finance mechanisms: the work under the Convention (CBD) Q&A; discussion

Time	Session
15:00	Tea/coffee break
15:30	Round table on developing finance plans: next steps, remaining challenges
16:30	Evaluation and closure
17:00	End of workshop
