



## Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr.  
GENERAL

UNEP/CBD/GTI-CM/13/1/Add.1  
27 April 2012

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

### COORDINATION MECHANISM FOR THE GLOBAL TAXONOMY INITIATIVE

Thirteenth meeting  
Montreal, 29 April 2012

### ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

#### INTRODUCTION

1. In decision X/2, the Conference of the Parties adopted the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 with 20 global targets (the Aichi Biodiversity Targets). In this context, it is apparent that the Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI) has an important contribution to make in assisting Parties to achieve many of the targets, in particular, target 9 (invasive alien species), target 12 (threatened species), target 13 (genetic diversity), target 16 (access and benefit-sharing) and target 19 (knowledge, the science base and technologies relating to biodiversity) at national, regional and global levels.
2. In the same decision, Parties were urged to review and, as appropriate, update and revise their national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs), in line with the Strategic Plan and the guidance adopted in decision IX/9.
3. In paragraph 3 (g) of decision X/2, the Conference of the Parties urged Parties and other Governments, with the support of intergovernmental and other organizations, as appropriate, to implement the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and in particular to promote the generation and use of scientific information, develop methodologies and initiatives to monitor status and trends of biodiversity and ecosystem services, share data, develop indicators and measures, and undertake regular and timely assessments.
4. Pursuant to paragraph 16 of decision X/39, the Executive Secretary prepared a draft comprehensive capacity-building strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative to support the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/5), which was considered by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at its fifteenth meeting (SBSTTA 15).
5. To facilitate the implementation of the Strategic Plan (decision X/2), the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with Parties, other Governments and relevant international organizations, to provide support for regional and/or subregional workshops on updating and revising NBSAPs, the mainstreaming of biodiversity and the enhancement of the clearing-house mechanism (decision X/5).
6. Accordingly, two subregional workshops were held in 2011, organized by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity with support from the Japan Biodiversity Fund: a workshop for Latin

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American countries<sup>1</sup> was held 12-13 November 2011 and a subregional workshop for Africa<sup>2</sup> was held from 7 to 9 December 2011. A third subregional workshop was held in 5-6 March 2012 in Hanoi under the auspices of the Government of Japan. It was organized by the East and Southeast Asia Information Initiative (ESABII) and the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity and was attended by the Secretariat.

7. At the eleventh meeting of the Coordination Mechanism, it was agreed that outreach materials should be closely linked to regional workshops, and that the Coordination Mechanism could work on specific modules of those workshops. It was suggested that one module should specifically relate taxonomy to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and another module should focus on technical cooperation and research networks; in this module it would be relevant to integrate case studies.

8. An initial draft of the module on the GTI was prepared by the Secretariat prior to the twelfth meeting of the Coordination Mechanism. A small sub-group of the Coordination Mechanism formed a working group to discuss and review the draft module.

9. The Secretariat agreed to take into account the proposals made by the working group and suggests a revised version of the module divided into three modules: (i) GTI to support Parties to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Targets, (ii) technical cooperation and research networks, and (iii) awareness raising on access and benefit-sharing. The first module, on the GTI to support Parties to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Targets, will be presented for receiving comments at the thirteenth meeting of the Coordination Mechanism.

10. It was agreed at the twelfth meeting of the Coordination Mechanism that its thirteenth meeting should be held prior to SBSTTA 16, followed by another meeting in October 2012, around the time of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

11. The specific objectives of the thirteenth meeting of the Coordination Mechanism are to:

(a) Discuss the upcoming GTI-related workshops and training activities planned by the Secretariat before the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and to ask the Coordination Mechanism for support for technical collaboration;

(b) Inform the Secretariat on upcoming GTI-related events organized by Coordination Mechanism members;

(c) Suggest methods and provide advice to the Executive Secretary on promoting taxonomy at the upcoming Asian and African workshops planned in 2012; provide suggestions to the Executive Secretary on who should be targeted at these workshops and what taxonomic tools are available to share and/or need to be developed; and advise the Executive Secretary on whether these workshops should focus on a specific topic (e.g., invasive alien species);

(d) Suggest to the Executive Secretary ways to facilitate and conduct needs assessments possible prior to workshops and training activities under the GTI capacity-building strategy (actions 2 and 3 of the GTI capacity-building strategy);

(e) Suggest an agenda to the Executive Secretary for the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) workshop planned for 2013;

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<sup>1</sup> Relevant documents, including the report of recommendations from the workshop, can be accessed on the meeting's website at <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=RWIAST-LAM-01>.

<sup>2</sup> Relevant documents, including the recommendations resulting from the workshop, can be accessed on the meeting's website at <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=WSCBIAS-AFR-01>.

(f) Invite Coordination Mechanism members to host regional workshops and training activities in 2013-2014;

(g) Suggest to the Executive Secretary ideas on how to improve the GTI website;

(h) Suggest to the Executive Secretary ideas and comments on the GTI training module and outreach materials for the GTI.

12. Expected outcomes of this meeting include:

(a) Plan GTI-related workshops and training activities to be held prior to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, such as the 2012 African and Asian workshops; identify available tools and tools that require development; and gather support for technical collaboration;

(b) Plan workshops and training activities under the GTI capacity-building strategy and gather ideas to facilitate needs assessments prior to these workshops, such as the SIDS workshop planned for 2013;

(c) Improve the GTI website;

(d) Continue planning the GTI training module and outreach materials for GTI.

13. Registration of participants will commence in the conference room on the sixth floor of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity at 9.30 a.m. on 29 April 2012.

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

14. The Executive Secretary will open the meeting at 10 a.m. on 29 April 2012 in the conference room on the sixth floor of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

15. Following self-introductions of participants, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity will give an overview of the objectives and expected outcomes of the meeting.

16. The provisional agenda of the meeting is available as document UNEP/CBD/GTI-CM/13/1. Relevant documents are listed in annex I below.

## **ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS**

### ***2.1. Officers***

17. The meeting will be co-chaired by Mr. Mark Graham and Ms. Patricia Koref. A member of the Coordination Mechanism will act as rapporteur.

### ***2.2. Adoption of the agenda***

18. The Coordination Mechanism may wish to adopt its agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda (UNEP/CBD/GTI-CM/13/1) prepared by the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Chair of the Coordination Mechanism. The Coordination Mechanism members will be invited to raise any additional agenda items to be discussed under agenda item 4 on other matters.

### ***2.3. Organization of work***

19. The work of the Coordination Mechanism will conduct its work in plenary.

## **ITEM 3. SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS**

### ***3.1 GTI-related workshops and training activities prior to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties***

20. Under this agenda item, the Secretariat will present workshops and training activities planned by the Secretariat, and will ask for support for technical collaboration.

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21. The Coordination Mechanism members will be invited to share their planned events related to GTI.
22. A discussion on how to promote taxonomy at upcoming workshops will focus on the following questions:
  - (a) Who should be targeted at the Asian and African workshops in 2012?
  - (b) What taxonomic tools are available to share?
  - (c) Should there be a specific topic of focus (e.g., invasive alien species)?
  - (d) What tools need to be developed?

### **3.2. *Workshops and training activities under the GTI capacity-building strategy***

23. Under this agenda item, Coordination Mechanism members will be invited to share their ideas to facilitate needs assessments prior the organization of GTI workshops (actions 2 and 3 of the GTI capacity-building strategy);
24. Coordination Mechanism members will be invited to share possible agenda items for the upcoming SIDS workshop planned for 2013.
25. Coordination Mechanism members will be invited to host upcoming regional workshops/training activities in 2013-2014.

### **3.3. *Pending issues***

26. Coordination Mechanism members will be invited to provide ideas to improve the GTI website. Some example of new pages/contents are suggested:
  - (a) Calendar of events;
  - (b) Link to social networks;
  - (c) Capacity-building progress;
  - (d) Outcome-oriented deliverables;
  - (e) Other tools;
  - (f) GTI training module.
27. Coordination Mechanism members will be invited to introduce the websites that are relevant to the GTI and to explain their thoughts to improve the GTI website.
28. Coordination Mechanism members will be invited to continue the discussions on the GTI training module and outreach materials for the GTI.

## **ITEM 4. OTHER MATTERS**

29. The Coordination Mechanism members are further invited to raise other matters to be discussed under this agenda item.

## **ITEM 5. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT**

30. Secretariat will present a draft report of this meeting, as appropriate, and members of the Coordination Mechanism will continue to review and comment on the report through the GTI-CM Listserv and to adopt it later.

## **ITEM 6. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

31. The meeting is expected to be closed at 3 p.m. on Sunday, 29 April 2012.

*Annex I***LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

<b>Document number</b>	<b>Document title</b>
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/12	Revised draft capacity-building strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/31	Progress report on capacity-building activities for the Global Taxonomy Initiative and invasive alien species
UNEP/CBD/WS-IAS-GTI/1/INF/1	Recomendaciones del taller de capacitación regional sobre especies exóticas invasoras y taxonomía para los países de América Latina
UNEP/CBD/WS-CB-IAS-AFR/1/2	Report of African subregional workshop to strengthen capacity for the Convention on Biological Diversity programmes of work relevant to invasive alien species

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