



Convention on Biological Diversity

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ENGLISH ONLY

AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP MEETING
ON INDICATORS FOR THE STRATEGIC PLAN
FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020
Geneva, Switzerland, 14-17 September 2015

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Annotations to the provisional agenda

INTRODUCTION

1. In decision XII/1, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to convene a meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on Indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and provided the terms of reference for the Group.
2. The task of the AHTEG is intended to build on, and where possible complete, the work undertaken by an earlier meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (High Wycombe, United Kingdom, 20-24 June 2011)¹ whose report formed the basis for indicator framework for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets contained in decision XI/3.²
3. Reference to indicators is also made in other decisions, including in decisions that add specific tasks to complement the indicator framework. These include in particular decisions on: national biodiversity strategies and action plans (XII/2); resource mobilization (XII/3); the post-2015 United Nations development agenda and the sustainable development goals (XII/4); mainstreaming gender considerations (XII/7); business engagement (XII/10); traditional knowledge, innovations and practices (XII/12); biodiversity and human health (XII/21); the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (XI/26); and the Global Taxonomy Initiative (XI/29).
4. The desire to ensure complementary and synergies with monitoring schemes and indicators of other conventions and processes including, inter alia, the biodiversity-related conventions, the Basel, Rotterdam, and Stockholm Convention processes, conventions relevant to marine biodiversity, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, processes and conventions under the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and the development of indicators for the sustainable development goals will be a major consideration in the work of the AHTEG.
5. In developing documentation to assist the AHTEG in its work, the Executive Secretary has benefited from the support of the United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Programme, other members of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership and a range of other partners. An online survey followed by telephone interviews has also been conducted to complement

¹ <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=AHTEG-SP-IND-01>

² <http://www.cbd.int/decision/cop/default.shtml?id=13164>

information contained in the fourth and fifth national reports (see notification 2015-037).³ The preparatory process for the AHTEG has been enabled through generous financial contributions from the European Union, Switzerland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

6. The AHTEG meeting is being convened with the generous financial support from Switzerland and will be held in Geneva, Switzerland from 14 to 17 September 2015. Details on the venue will be made available in the information note for participants accessible from the meeting page.⁴

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

7. The AHTEG meeting will be opened by a representative of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity at 9:30 a.m. on Monday, 14 September 2015. A representative from the host Government is expected to welcome participants.

ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

2.1. Adoption of the agenda

8. The Group may wish to adopt its agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda (UNEP/CBD/ID/AHTEG/2015/1/1).

2.2. Election of officers

9. After a self-introduction of participants, the Group will be invited to elect its Chair or Co-chairs based on proposals from the floor.

2.3. Organization of work

10. Under this item, the Group will consider the proposed organization of work for the meeting. The Group may wish to conduct its deliberations in plenary while retaining the option to break into smaller groups on specific issues, as appropriate. The language of the meeting will be English.

ITEM 3. SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

3.1. Indicators for monitoring progress at the global level towards the Aichi Biodiversity Target of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020

11. The AHTEG is tasked to identify a small set of measurable potential indicators that could be used to monitor progress at the global level towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets with a focus on those that are currently not well addressed and those that may be relevant to the United Nations post-2015 development agenda and sustainable development goals. It should do so by drawing on information in the fourth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* and its underlying technical studies,⁵ the fifth national reports⁶ and other reports provided by Parties, considering the use of indicators to date in monitoring progress in the implementation the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and build on previous work and experiences related to indicators for the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, while recognizing that a range of conceptual and methodological frameworks and approaches exists.

12. The AHTEG will have before it an information document analysing gaps in the existing framework (indicators listed in decision XI/3 and indicators used in the fourth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*) and presenting options to fill those gaps (UNEP/CBD/ID/AHTEG/2015/1/INF/1). Main points are summarized in the background note for the meeting (UNEP/CBD/ID/AHTEG/2015/1/2).

³ <http://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2015/ntf-2015-037-indicators-en.pdf>

⁴ <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=ID-AHTEG-2015-01>

⁵ <http://www.cbd.int/gbo4/>

⁶ <http://www.cbd.int/reports/nr5/>

13. The Group may wish to review the suggested indicators and their proposed application to specific Aichi Biodiversity Targets drawing on the documentation for the meeting.

14. The AHTEG will also have before it an information document presenting a pilot approach for an index based on the assessments of progress reported by Parties on their national targets and related Aichi Biodiversity Targets (UNEP/CBD/ID/AHTEG/2015/1/INF/2).

15. The Group may wish to review the approach and make recommendations on the further development of this index.

3.2. Guidance on indicators and approaches to monitor progress in the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 at the regional, national and subnational levels

16. The AHTEG is tasked to prepare guidance on the different types of indicators and approaches used to monitor progress in the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 at the regional, national and subnational levels, reflecting, as appropriate, different perspectives among Parties for achieving conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, drawing on a review of national reports and other relevant submissions to the Convention as well as reports prepared in compliance with other relevant processes.

17. The AHTEG will have before it an information document providing an overview of the indicators reported as being in use (UNEP/CBD/ID/AHTEG/2015/1/INF/3) as well as a document considering how information from national reporting can be used for the review of implementation and to report on the biodiversity contribution towards the achievement of sustainable development goals (UNEP/CBD/ID/AHTEG/2015/1/INF/4). Main points are summarized in the background note for the meeting (UNEP/CBD/ID/AHTEG/2015/1/2).

18. The Group may wish to review the documentation and draw conclusions on the adoption of appropriate approaches for monitoring biodiversity at regional, national and subnational levels.

ITEM 4. OTHER MATTERS

19. Under this item, participants will be invited to raise other matters related to the subject matter of the meeting for discussion.

ITEM 5. ADOPTION OF REPORT

20. The Group will be invited to consider the draft report of the meeting as well as the process for finalizing the report.

ITEM 6. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

21. It is expected that the meeting will be closed at 5 p.m. on Thursday, 17 September 2015.

*Annex***DOCUMENTATION FOR THE MEETING**

| <i>Symbol</i> | <i>Title</i> |
|--|---|
| UNEP/CBD/ID/AHTEG/2015/1/1 | Provisional agenda |
| UNEP/CBD/ID/AHTEG/2015/1/1/Add.1 | Annotated provisional agenda |
| UNEP/CBD/ID/AHTEG/2015/1/2 | Global indicators and sub-global approaches to monitor progress in the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 |
| UNEP/CBD/ID/AHTEG/2015/1/INF/1 | Review of the global indicator suite, key global gaps and indicator options for future assessment of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 |
| UNEP/CBD/ID/AHTEG/2015/1/INF/2 | Review of national approaches to assessing progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets |
| UNEP/CBD/ID/AHTEG/2015/1/INF/3 | The use of indicators to assess progress towards the attainment of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets in the fifth national reports to the Convention on Biological Diversity |
| UNEP/CBD/ID/AHTEG/2015/1/INF/4 | Drawing information from national reporting processes for the implementation of the Convention and to report on the contribution of biodiversity to the sustainable development goals |
| www.cbd.int/gbo4 | Link to fourth edition of the <i>Global Biodiversity Outlook</i> and underlying technical reports |