



Convention on Biological Diversity

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EXPERT WORKSHOP ON SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ASPECTS RELEVANT TO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN MARINE AREAS BEYOND NATIONAL JURISDICTION

Manila, 18 - 20 November 2009

ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

INTRODUCTION

1. At its ninth meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, in its decision IX/20, invited Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations, including in the context of the United Nations Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group to study issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction, to cooperate in further developing scientific and technical guidance for the implementation of environmental impact assessments and strategic environmental assessments for activities and processes under their jurisdiction and control which may have significant adverse impacts on marine biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction, taking into consideration the work of Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Maritime Organization, and other relevant organizations, with a view to ensuring such activities are regulated in such a way that they do not compromise ecosystem integrity, and to report to the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting on progress made in that regard.
2. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties (COP) also noted the need for capacity-building for developing countries, in order to fully implement existing provisions of environmental impact assessment, as well as the challenges and difficulties in carrying out environmental impact assessment in areas beyond national jurisdiction.
3. For the purposed of the above-mentioned paragraphs, taking into account the relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the Convention on Biological Diversity, COP decided to convene an expert workshop, including experts from different relevant organizations, with balanced regional and sectoral representation, to discuss scientific and technical aspects relevant to environmental impact assessment in areas beyond national jurisdiction with a view to contributing to the development of such scientific and technical guidance, building on ongoing relevant sectoral, regional and national environmental impact assessment efforts.
4. Pursuant to this request, the Executive Secretary is convening, with financial support from the European Commission, an Expert Workshop on Scientific and Technical Aspects relevant to Environmental Impact Assessment in Marine Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction, to be held at the Pan Pacific Manila Hotel in Manila, the Philippines, from 18 to 20 November 2009.

5. In this regard, the Secretariat issued a notification (ref. No. 2009-091) dated 10 August 2009, requesting Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to submit relevant information concerning the objectives of the workshop. Submissions received are compiled and made available as information to participants at this Workshop.

6. To further facilitate effective contribution of inputs to this expert workshop, the Secretariat has commissioned a background study, with a financial support from the Government of Spain, to review key scientific and technical elements in selected global, sectoral, regional and national environmental impact assessment (EIA) and strategic environmental assessment frameworks with a view to identifying which of those elements should be considered in developing scientific and technical guidance for the implementation of environmental impact assessments and strategic environmental assessments for activities and processes under their jurisdiction and control which may have significant adverse impacts on marine biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction. The results of this study are compiled and submitted for consideration to the Workshop as information documents, UNEP/CBD/ EW-EIAMA/1/INF/1 and UNEP/CBD/ EW-EIAMA/1/INF/1/Add.1.

7. A list of the working and information documents for the Workshop is attached as annex I to the present document. Other documents, including, in particular, contributions from Governments, international and non-governmental organizations, and other stakeholders can be found at <http://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=EWEIAMA-01>.

8. The Secretariat has issued an information note for participants containing details of logistical arrangements including information on travel, visa requirements, accommodation and other matters for the Workshop. The language of the Workshop will be English.

9. Registration of participants will commence at 8.30 a.m. on Wednesday, 18 November 2009.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

10. A representative of the host Government will open the meeting at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, 18 November 2009. The representative of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Executive Director of the PEMSEA will also welcome the participants.

ITEM 2. ELECTION OF THE CHAIRPERSON, ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

11. After a brief self-introduction of the participants, the participants will be invited to elect the Workshop Chairperson based on proposals from the floor. Participants will then be invited to consider the provisional agenda (UNEP/CBD/EW-EIAMA/1) and adopt it following any amendments if needed.

12. The Workshop Chairperson will describe the objectives and the expected outputs of the Workshop. Participants will be invited to consider the proposed organization of work as contained in annex II below.

13. The Workshop will be organized in plenary and break-out group sessions. The Workshop Chairperson will nominate chairs and rapporteurs for break-out groups, taking into consideration the expertise and experiences of the participants and in consultation with the Secretariat of the Convention.

**ITEM 3. REVIEW OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF
SECTORAL, REGIONAL AND NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS
ASSESSMENT EFFORTS OF RELEVANCE TO MARINE AREAS BEYOND
NATIONAL JURISDICTION**

14. In its consideration of this item, the Workshop will have before it :
- (a) CBD Voluntary Guidelines on Biodiversity-inclusive Environmental Impact Assessment (endorsed by the Conference of the Parties to the CBD in its decision VIII/28), as contained in the CBD Technical Series 26;
 - (b) CBD Draft Guidance on Biodiversity-inclusive Strategic Environmental Assessment (endorsed by the Conference of the Parties to the CBD in its decision VIII/28), as contained in the CBD Technical Series 26;
 - (c) Information documents (UNEP/CBD/ EW-EIAMA/1/INF/1 and UNEP/CBD/ EW-EIAMA/1/INF/1/Add.1) prepared by the Executive Secretary based on the results of the background study, as described above in paragraph 6; and
 - (d) Submissions by Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations in response to the above-mentioned notification dated 10 August 2009 (ref. No. 2009-091).
15. Workshop participants will be invited to share, through open discussions, the scientific and technical aspects of their global, regional and national experiences on environmental impact assessment and strategic environmental impact assessment efforts, relevant to marine areas beyond national jurisdiction, and in particular to guide the output of this Workshop.
16. For its deliberation, the Workshop will focus on identifying the following:
- (a) Key scientific and technical elements that should be considered in developing scientific and technical guidance for the implementation of environmental impact assessments and strategic environmental assessments for activities and processes under their jurisdiction and control which may have significant adverse impacts on marine biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction; and
 - (b) Gaps in CBD Voluntary Guidelines on Biodiversity-inclusive Environmental Impact Assessment and CBD Draft Guidance on Biodiversity-inclusive Strategic Environmental Assessment, with respect to the scientific and technical elements identified above.

**ITEM 4. CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF SCIENTIFIC AND
TECHNICAL GUIDANCE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
ASSESSMENT IN MARINE AREAS BEYOND NATIONAL JURISDICTION**

17. For the consideration of this item, based on the above-mentioned information documents (CBD Technical Series 26 and documents, UNEP/CBD/ EW-EIAMA/1/INF/1 and UNEP/CBD/ EW-EIAMA/1/INF/1/Add.1) and the submissions, and building on deliberations of the Workshop under agenda item 3, participants will then split into two break-out groups to consider specific suggestions for addressing identified gaps in CBD Voluntary Guidelines on Biodiversity-inclusive Environmental Impact Assessment and CBD Draft Guidance on Biodiversity-inclusive Strategic Environmental Assessment, with respect to the identified scientific and technical elements that should be considered in developing scientific and technical guidance for the implementation of environmental impact assessments and strategic environmental assessments for activities and processes under their jurisdiction and control which may have significant adverse impacts on marine biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction.
- (a) *Group 1.* Addressing Gaps in the CBD Voluntary Guidelines on Biodiversity-inclusive Environmental Impact Assessment with respect to identified scientific and technical elements for impact assessment in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction; and

(b) *Group 2.* Addressing Gaps in the CBD Draft Guidance on Biodiversity-inclusive Strategic Environmental Assessment with respect to identified scientific and technical elements for impact assessment in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction.

18. The results of the break-out group sessions will be submitted for consideration to the Workshop Plenary.

ITEM 5. OTHER MATTERS

19. Under this item, the Workshop may wish to consider any other matters of relevance raised by participants.

ITEM 6. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

20. Participants will be invited to consider and adopt the report of the Workshop on the basis of a draft report to be prepared and presented by the Workshop Chairperson.

ITEM 7. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

21. The Workshop is expected to be closed at 5.30 p.m. on Friday, 20 November 2009.

Annex I

**LIST OF DOCUMENTS FOR EXPERT WORKSHOP ON SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL
ASPECTS RELEVANT TO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN MARINE AREAS
BEYOND NATIONAL JURISDICTION**

Working documents	Title
UNEP/CBD/ EW-EIAMA /1	Provisional agenda
UNEP/CBD/ EW-EIAMA /1/Add.1	Annotations to the provisional agenda
Information documents	Title
Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Netherlands Commission for Environmental Assessment (2006)	Biodiversity in Impact Assessment, Background Document to CBD Decision VIII/28: Voluntary Guidelines on Biodiversity-inclusive Impact Assessment (CBD Technical Series 26)
UNEP/CBD/ EW-EIAMA/1/INF/1	Background document for the Expert Workshop on scientific and technical aspects relevant to environmental impact assessment in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction (Part I)
UNEP/CBD/ EW-EIAMA/1/INF/1/Add.1	Background document for the Expert Workshop on scientific and technical aspects relevant to environmental impact assessment in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction (Part II)

*Annex II***PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK****WEDNESDAY, 18 NOVEMBER 2009**

9 a.m. to 9.30 a.m.	Agenda item 1. Opening of the meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representative of the Philippines • Representative of PEMSEA • Representative of the Executive Secretary of the CBD
9:30 a.m. to 9.45 a.m.	Agenda item 2. Election of the Workshop Chairperson, adoption of the agenda and organization of work
9.45 a.m. to 10 a.m.	<i>Coffee break</i>
10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.	Agenda item 3. Review of the scientific and technical aspects of sectoral, regional and national environmental impacts assessment efforts of relevance to marine areas beyond national jurisdiction <p><i>Plenary session</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation of the Background Study prepared by the Executive Secretary • Sharing global, regional and national experiences relevant to impact assessment in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction • Plenary discussion on identifying: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Key scientific and technical elements that should be considered in developing scientific and technical guidance for the implementation of environmental impact assessments and strategic environmental assessments for activities and processes under their jurisdiction and control which may have significant adverse impacts on marine biodiversity beyond national jurisdiction; and (b) Gaps in CBD Voluntary Guidelines on Biodiversity-inclusive Environmental Impact Assessment and CBD Draft Guidance on Biodiversity-inclusive Strategic Environmental Assessment, with respect to the scientific and technical elements identified above.
12.30 p.m. to 2 p.m.	<i>Lunch</i>
2 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.	<i>Continuation of agenda item 3.</i>
3.30 p.m. to 3.45 p.m.	<i>Coffee break</i>

3. 45 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.	<p>Agenda item 4. Contribution to the development of scientific and technical guidance for environmental impact assessment in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction</p> <p><i>Break-out group sessions</i></p> <p>(a) <i>Group 1.</i> Addressing Gaps in the CBD Voluntary Guidelines on Biodiversity-inclusive Environmental Impact Assessment with respect to identified scientific and technical elements for impact assessment in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction; and</p> <p>(b) <i>Group 2.</i> Addressing Gaps in the CBD Draft Guidance on Biodiversity-inclusive Strategic Environmental Assessment with respect to identified scientific and technical elements for impact assessment in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction.</p>
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THURSDAY, 19 NOVEMBER 2009

9 a.m. to 10.30 p.m.	<i>Continuation of agenda item 4.</i>
10.30 – 10.45 a.m.	<i>Coffee Break</i>
10.45 a.m.- 12.30 p.m.	<i>Continuation of agenda item 4.</i>
12.30 p.m. to 2 p.m.	<i>Lunch</i>
2 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.	<i>Continuation of agenda item 4.</i>
3.30 p.m. to 3.45 p.m.	<i>Coffee Break</i>
3.45 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.	<i>Continuation of agenda item 4.</i>
4.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.	<i>Compilation of the results of break-out group sessions and preparation of a draft workshop report by the workshop chair</i>

FRIDAY, 20 NOVEMBER 2009

9 a.m. to 10.30 p.m.	<i>Continuation of agenda item 4.</i> <i>Plenary session</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation of Break-out group sessions• Open discussion
10.30 – 10.45 a.m.	<i>Coffee Break</i>
10.45 – 12.30	<i>Continuation of agenda item 4.</i>
12.30 to 2.00 p.m.	<i>Lunch</i>
2 p.m. to 3 p.m.	<i>Revision and production of a draft workshop report by the workshop chair</i>
3 p.m. to 3.15 p.m.	Agenda item 5. Other matters
3.15 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.	Agenda item 6. Adoption of the report
4.00 p.m. to 4.15 p.m.	<i>Coffee Break</i>
4.15 p.m. to 5 p.m.	<i>Continuation of Agenda item 6.</i>
5 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.	Agenda item 7. Closure of the meeting
