



**CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

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**SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL
AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE**

First meeting

Paris, 4-8 September 1995

Item 2.2 of the provisional agenda

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting

1. In accordance with decision 1/7 of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the first meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) will be held in Paris at the headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), 125 Av. de Suffren, from 4 to 8 September 1995.

2. Mr. J.H. Seyani from Malawi, Chairman of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice will open the meeting at 10 a.m. on Monday, 4 September 1995, in Room II. A meeting of the representatives nominated by governments to be elected as members of the Bureau of the SBSTTA will be held on Sunday, 3 September 1995.

2. Organizational matters

2.1 Election of officers

3. At its first meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, in accordance with rule 26, paragraph 3, of the rules of procedure, by which the Conference of the Parties shall elect the chair of each subsidiary body, elected Mr. J.H. Seyani (Malawi), Chairman of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice for 1995. The Conference of the Parties also elected Mr. P.J. Schei (Norway) Chairman for 1996.

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4. At its organizational meeting, held in Nassau, The Bahamas, on 9 December 1994, the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice decided that the officers of the Bureau of its first meeting will be elected from the following countries:

Africa	Malawi, Tunisia
Asia and the Pacific	India, Indonesia
Eastern Europe	Hungary, Kazakhstan
Latin America and the Caribbean	Brazil, Cuba
Western European and Others Group	Australia, Italy

5. It was also agreed that Mr P.J. Schei (Norway) would be an *ex officio* member of the Bureau of the first meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.

6. It was also agreed that the designated countries would notify the Secretariat of the names of the respective members of the Bureau no later than 25 February 1995.

7. The names of the following nominees were received by the Secretariat:

Australia	Mr. Peter Bridgewater
Brazil	Mr. Bráulio Ferreira de Souza Dias
Cuba	Mr. Ricardo Herrera Peraza
Hungary	Mr. Gabor Nechay
India	Mr. Madhav Gadgil
Indonesia	Ms. Setijati Sastrapradja
Italy	Mr. Francesco Mauro
Kazakhstan	Mr. Isa Omarovich Baitulin
Tunisia	Ms. Zeineb Belkhir

8. At a meeting of the above nominees, held in Geneva on 6-7 June 1995, the candidature of Mr. Peter Bridgewater to the post of rapporteur for the first meeting of the SBSTTA was recommended.

9. Under agenda item 2.1 of the provisional agenda, in accordance with rule 26, paragraph 4, of the rules of procedure for meetings of the Conference of the Parties, the first meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice may wish to elect the designated candidates for its Bureau.

2.2 Adoption of the agenda

10. The first meeting of the Conference of the Parties proposed a provisional agenda for the first meeting of the SBSTTA, which was annexed to its decision 1/7 (UNEP/CBD/COP/1/17, pages 54 and 55).

11. Under agenda item 2.2, the first meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice may wish to adopt formally the recommended provisional agenda contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/1/1.

2.3 Organization of work

12. The meeting of nominees for the Bureau, held in Geneva on 6-7 June 1995, considered that the

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organization of work of the first meeting of the SBSTTA should not prejudice the discussion under agenda item 3 on the *modus operandi* of the SBSTTA. Accordingly it is proposed that all items of the agenda be considered in a plenary and, in the light of the limited time available for the business of this first meeting, that a limited number of open-ended informal contact groups be established.

13. The proposed organization of work contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/1/1/Add.2 has been prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of this discussion. The Bureau will propose to the meeting details of informal contact groups.

3. Matters related to the *modus operandi* of the SBSTTA

14. The Conference of the Parties at its first meeting decided that the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice shall consider, at its first meeting, its *modus operandi*, taking fully into account all views expressed on this matter at the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties and submitted to the Secretariat in writing by the end of February 1995, as well as the need to draw on relevant institutional structures.

15. To facilitate this discussion, the Secretariat has prepared a note, contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/1/2, reflecting the views expressed by Governments during the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the written submissions received from Governments and international organizations, the experience of other relevant institutional structures, as well as the advice of the nominees to the Bureau at the meeting held in Geneva on 6-7 June 1995. The written submissions by Governments and international organizations received by the Secretariat are contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/1/Inf.1.

4. Programme of work of the SBSTTA for 1995-1997

16. At its first meeting the Conference of the Parties requested the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to prepare a proposal for a medium-term programme of work (1995-1997) based on the priorities set in the programme of work of the Conference of the Parties and on Article 25 of the Convention, and to submit it to the Conference of the Parties at its second meeting (UNEP/CBD/COP/1/17, page 53).

17. The Secretariat has prepared a note to facilitate the consideration of this agenda item, contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/1/3. The work programme for 1995 consists of the substantive matters contained in the draft provisional agenda recommended by the Conference of the Parties for the first meeting of the SBSTTA. The suggested work programme for 1996-1997 is based on the relevant provisions of the Convention and in particular Article 25, the medium-term programme of work of the Conference of the Parties (UNEP/CBD/COP/1/17, pages 63-65), as well as the guidance provided by the nominees to the Bureau at the meeting held in Geneva on 6-7 June 1995.

5. Matters on which advice from the SBSTTA is required by the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties

5.1.1 Alternative ways and means in which the Conference of the Parties could start the process of considering the components of biological diversity particularly those under threat and the identification of action which could be taken under the Convention (priority item)

18. The Secretariat has prepared a note, contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/1/4, under

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which this item might be addressed. It provides a possible framework and options for actions which could be taken under the Convention.

5.3.1 Ways and means to promote and facilitate access to, and transfer and development of technologies as envisaged in Articles 16 and 18 of the Convention (priority item)

19. The Secretariat has prepared a note, contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/1/5, which draws on field experience of a number of international institutions such as the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (ICTA) and the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). The note suggests possible approaches for strengthening the interaction among relevant institutions and for partnership arrangements between Parties. It contains also some suggestions on how the clearing-house mechanism to be established under the Convention, in accordance with Article 18, paragraph 3, could facilitate access to and transfer of technology.

20. In considering this agenda item, the meeting should refer to the information contained in the section on the identification of state-of-the-art technologies and their transfer included in the note prepared by the Secretariat on scientific, technical and technological aspects of the conservation and sustainable use of coastal and marine biological diversity, document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/1/8.

5.5.1 What kind of scientific and technical information should be contained in national reports on measures taken for the implementation of the provisions of the Convention and their effectiveness in meeting the objectives of the Convention? (priority item)

21. Article 26 of the Convention provides that "each Contracting Party shall, at intervals to be determined by the Conference of the Parties, present to the Conference of the Parties reports on measures which it has taken for the implementation of the provisions of this Convention and their effectiveness in meeting the objectives of this Convention".

22. According to the provisions of Article 23, paragraph 4 (a) of the Convention, which states that the Conference of the Parties shall "establish the form and the intervals for transmitting the information to be submitted in accordance with Article 26 and consider such information as well as reports submitted by any subsidiary body", the Conference of the Parties at its first meeting decided, in adopting decision 1/9 on its medium-term programme of work, to consider at its second meeting the matter of reports by Parties and the intervals for reporting. It requested the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, at its first meeting, to advise on what kind of scientific and technical information should be contained in national reports on measures taken for the implementation of the provisions of the Conventions and their effectiveness in meeting the objectives of the Convention.

23. The Secretariat has prepared a note containing possible scientific and technical information which may be included in national reports of Parties (document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/1/6).

5.5.2 How can the Convention on Biological Diversity contribute to the preparation for the forthcoming International Technical Conference on the Conservation and Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture in 1996?

24. At its first meeting, the Conference of the Parties requested the first meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to consider and advise on how the Convention on Biological Diversity could contribute to the preparation for the forthcoming International Technical

Conference on the Conservation and Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, to be held in 1996.

25. The Secretariat has invited the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to prepare a background document for this item, which is annexed to document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/1/7.

5.5.3 Provision of advice on the scientific, technical and technological aspects of the conservation and sustainable use of coastal and marine biological diversity (also taking into account the other provisions in Article 25, paragraph 2) (priority item)

26. The Secretariat has prepared a note contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/1/8, in which a brief overview is presented of the status of marine and coastal biological diversity, including deep sea marine biodiversity, as well as the effects of types of measures taken for conserving and using in a sustainable manner coastal and marine biological resources. It identifies technologies and know-how relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal resources and identifies major relevant legal instruments. It contains also possible strategies and options for action under the Convention.

6. Draft provisional agenda of the second meeting of the SBSTTA

27. The Secretariat has prepared a draft provisional agenda for the second meeting of the SBSTTA, contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/1/9, based on the suggestions contained in the medium-term programme of work of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/1/3).

7. Date and venue of the second meeting of the SBSTTA

28. In accordance with the relevant provisions of the rules of procedure for meetings of the Conference of the Parties, the first meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice should decide on the dates and venue of its second meeting. The Secretariat has prepared document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/1/10, which reflects the consideration of this matter by the nominees to the Bureau at the meeting held in Geneva on 6-7 June 1995. Assuming that the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties will be held during the same period in 1996 as its second meeting, the second meeting of the SBSTTA may be held from 2 to 6 September 1996.

29. Governments or organizations interested in hosting the second meeting of the SBSTTA are invited to give advance consideration to this, in order that a proposal may be considered during the meeting. The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice should be guided by rule 3 of the rules of procedure which provides that "the meetings of the Conference of the Parties shall take place at the seat of the Secretariat, unless the Conference of the Parties decides otherwise or appropriate arrangements are made by the Secretariat in consultation with the Parties". It must be recalled that

rule 26, paragraph 5, of the rules of procedure for meetings of the Conference of the Parties provides that "unless otherwise decided by the Conference of the Parties, these rules shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the proceedings of subsidiary bodies".

8. Other matters

30. The meeting will consider any other items proposed and accepted for discussion.

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9. Adoption of the report

31. The meeting will consider and adopt its report.

10. Closure of the meeting

32. The meeting will be closed on Friday, 8 September 1995 at 6.00 p.m.