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Item 4.3.2 of the provisional agenda*

AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUPS: TERMS OF REFERENCE, AND ROSTER OF EXPERTS
AND PROPOSAL ON A UNIFORM METHODOLOGY FOR THEIR USE

Note by the Executive Secretary

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with the modus operandi of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA), the Secretariat of the Convention has established six rosters of experts on: access and benefit-sharing; agricultural biological diversity; biological diversity indicators; forest biological diversity; inland waters biological diversity; and marine and coastal biological diversity. In line with SBSTTA recommendation IV/1 C, the present note includes a proposal for a uniform methodology for the use of the rosters of experts, which comprises the basic principles, functions of the roster of experts, and ways and means to contact/communicate with the experts. The note also includes proposals for the terms of reference for the ad hoc technical expert groups on marine and coastal protected areas and mariculture, as well as information for the consideration of SBSTTA regarding the possible establishment of one or several ad hoc experts groups on the following themes:

- (a) Inland waters biodiversity; and
- (b) Forest biodiversity.

SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATIONS

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice may wish to recommend that the Conference of the Parties:

1. Endorses the proposed uniform methodology for the use of rosters of experts as described in annex III to the present note;

* UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/5/1.

2. Approves the terms of reference and the duration of work specified for the ad hoc technical expert groups on marine and coastal protected areas, and mariculture, which were requested by its decision IV/5, attached as annex IV to the present note;

3. Approves the establishment of the following additional ad hoc technical expert groups with the duration of work and terms of reference specified in annex V to the present note, on:

- (a) Inland waters biodiversity; and
- (b) Forest biodiversity.

CONTENTS

	<u>Paragraphs</u>	<u>Pages</u>
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY		1
SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATIONS		2
I. INTRODUCTION	1-6	6
II. ESTABLISHMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ROSTERS OF EXPERTS ON THEMATIC AREAS	7-12	6
III. PROPOSAL ON A UNIFORM METHODOLOGY FOR THE USE OF THE ROSTERS	13-18	8
IV. AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUPS: TERMS OF REFERENCE AND DURATION OF WORK	24-37	10
<u>Annexes</u>		
I. FORM FOR INCLUSION IN THE ROSTER OF EXPERTS UNDER THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY		13
II. INDICATIVE LIST OF DISCIPLINES/BACKGROUND AND CATEGORIES OF SPECIALIZATIONS		16
III. PROPOSAL ON A UNIFORM METHODOLOGY FOR THE USE OF ROSTERS OF EXPERTS		19
IV. PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE AND DURATION OF WORK FOR AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON MARINE AND COASTAL PROTECTED AREAS AND MARICULTURE		21
V. PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE AND DURATION OF WORK FOR AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUPS ON INLAND WATERS BIODIVERSITY AND/OR FOREST BIODIVERSITY		23

I. INTRODUCTION

1. By endorsing the revised modus operandi of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) and through a number of decisions, the Conference of the Parties has recommended the establishment of rosters of experts in various fields of relevance to the Convention as a way to mobilize scientific, technical and technological expertise available in countries and within international and regional organizations, in order to assist in the implementation of the Convention.

2. With the view to strengthening the management of the different rosters of experts and enhancing the effectiveness of their use, SBSTTA, at its fourth meeting, invited the Executive Secretary in its recommendation IV/1 C to propose a uniform methodology for the use of the rosters of experts for consideration at its fifth meeting.

3. In addition, in paragraph 21 of its decision IV/16, the Conference of the Parties requested the Subsidiary Body, taking into account its proposals for the programme of work, to advise the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the terms of reference for the ad hoc technical expert groups on thematic areas.

4. At its fourth meeting, SBSTTA had before it a note by the Executive Secretary on terms of reference for the ad hoc technical expert groups (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/4/5), which included proposals for terms of reference for a number of such groups. In view of the fact that different views were expressed in SBSTTA on the themes to be addressed by the groups, and pending the satisfactory development of the rosters of experts, the Subsidiary Body decided that further consideration of the terms of reference for ad hoc technical expert groups should be deferred to its fifth meeting (see UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/4/14, para. 92).

5. The Executive Secretary has prepared the present note to assist SBSTTA at its fifth meeting in formulating recommendations on: (i) the management of the roster of experts, including proposal on a uniform methodology for its use; and (ii) the terms of reference for the ad hoc technical expert groups and the duration of their work.

6. Section II of the note summarizes the experience of the Executive Secretary with the establishment and management of the six rosters of experts developed to date. A proposal for a uniform methodology for the use of the rosters of experts is presented in section III, and section IV contains proposals on the terms of reference of ad hoc technical expert groups and the expected time required to carry out the work.

II. ESTABLISHMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF ROSTERS OF EXPERTS ON THEMATIC AREAS

A. Establishment of the rosters

7. Guidance on the establishment of the rosters of experts in fields relevant to the Convention was provided by the Conference of the Parties in paragraph 2 of its decision II/1, which was subsequently revised by decision IV/16, paragraph 11, on the modus operandi of SBSTTA.

8. Rosters of experts have been established for the following six thematic issues: access and benefit-sharing; agricultural biodiversity; forest biodiversity; indicators of biodiversity; inland waters biodiversity; and marine and coastal biodiversity. Table 1 describes, in chronological order, the establishment and use of the rosters of experts and experiences of the Secretariat on their use.

B. Management of the rosters

9. The roster of experts on marine and coastal biodiversity was the first such roster to be developed under the Convention. In response to a letter from the Executive Secretary of December 1995, the Secretariat received for inclusion in the roster 701 names of experts from 74 Governments and one regional economic integration organization (the European Community). Many of the submissions did not provide a curriculum vitae of the nominee and, in some cases, no specific expertise or contact address was given. As of 31 August 1999, the number of experts in this roster had decreased to 624 experts because: (i) some experts withdrew for personal reasons or because their specialization was not in the field of marine and coastal biological diversity; (ii) some national focal points changed and deleted some experts during process of updating the roster; and (iii) the Secretariat reorganized the roster taking into account that some experts had expertise in other areas of biological diversity.

10. The initial database of experts was established in 1997 using a simple database program. The Secretariat used it for a number of purposes, including to prepare mailing lists, to search for information on individual experts and to assist in responding to queries from various organizations about regional experts with a specific specialization in the field of marine and coastal biodiversity.

11. To improve the management of the roster of experts and enhance the efficiency and transparency in its use, a more advanced database program was introduced. The same program is now used by the Secretariat for all the rosters of experts. In addition, with the establishment of rosters of experts on other thematic issues, the Secretariat has created one database for all the rosters which is accessible through the clearing-house mechanism, 1/ and has designed a single form for inclusion in the rosters (see annex I below). This form is to be filled by the experts and certified by the national focal point or the head of the organization concerned. It is used for new nominations and for the purpose of updating information on individual experts on the individual thematic rosters.

12. Work is under way to simplify the access and use of the database, which will be made available on the Convention website before the fifth meeting of SBSTTA. The on-line database will have search facilities, and roster users will be able to run queries on themes, disciplines, specialization, nationalities, nominating countries or organizations. As of 31 August 1999, 2023 experts had been included in the database.

III. PROPOSAL ON A UNIFORM METHODOLOGY FOR THE USE OF THE ROSTERS

A. Background

13. Section XI of the modus operandi of SBSTTA (decision IV/16, annex I) provides the framework for the methodology for the use of the rosters of experts that includes six core elements:

- (a) Compilation and administration;
- (b) Updating, information and access;
- (c) Users of the rosters;
- (d) Notification to the Parties;
- (e) Types of request/consultations; and
- (f) Expertise.

1/ Access and benefit-sharing: 321 experts; agriculture: 252; indicators: 266; forest: 337; inland waters: 223; marine and coastal: 624; total 2023 experts as of 31 August 1999.

14. Within the Convention process, experts are needed for:

(a) The provision of general information that may help clarify issues and identify broad knowledge gaps and needs in the fields of biodiversity. The Open-ended Intergovernmental Meeting of Scientific Experts on Biological Diversity, held in Mexico City from 11 to 15 April 1994, is an example under this category;

(b) Sources of information such as workshop reports, published articles, case-studies, or references to relevant publications;

(c) Specific, and usually detailed information obtained, for example through the completion of questionnaires; clarifications of scientific, technological and technical issues. This type of contribution can be in writing or be made through participation in an ad hoc technical expert or liaison group meeting to assist the Executive Secretary in preparing pre-session documents;

(d) Peer reviews, as it was the case for the pre-session document on the consequences of the use of the new technology for the control of plant gene expression for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/4/9/Rev.1). Reports of the ad hoc technical expert group will, as a general rule, be submitted for peer review (see the modus operandi of SBSTTA, section VI, para. 12 (f)).

15. The Secretariat has been contacting experts from the roster in different ways:

(a) Individually after a selection process based on set criteria, for example for peer reviews, liaison groups and specific contributions to the drafting of pre-session documents (see paras. 14 (c) and (d) above);

(b) As a group or an organization, for example, the Global Invasive Species Programme (GISP) and DIVERSITAS.

B. Description of types of expert groups

16. The Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies make use of different types of groups of experts for assistance in the implementation of the Convention. The following paragraphs highlight the differences between them, for the sake of clarity and consistency in the use of terms.

1. Ad hoc technical expert groups

17. In accordance with section VI of the modus operandi of SBSTTA, ad hoc technical expert groups will be established by SBSTTA to assist this body in preparing its advice to the Conference of the Parties. The expert groups are to prepare peer reviewed reports and submit them to SBSTTA. Their duration will be determined by SBSTTA. Their establishment and terms of reference must be approved by the Conference of the Parties. With regard to their composition, the Executive Secretary will select not more than 15 experts from the roster of experts in consultation with the SBSTTA Bureau, taking into account a geographical balance in representation. The experts are expected to draw on knowledge and experience within, and liaise with, international, regional and national organizations, including non-governmental organizations, and the scientific community in fields relevant to the Convention.

2. Liaison groups

18. Section IV of the modus operandi of SBSTTA, on documentation, provides that the Executive Secretary may establish, in consultation with the Chairman and the members of the SBSTTA Bureau, liaison groups, as appropriate and depending on availability of resources, to facilitate the preparation of documentation for meetings. The purpose of establishing of such liaison groups is to coordinate efforts and ensure the use of available scientific, technical and technological competence available worldwide in the fields relating to conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. In the meetings held in Montreal on the occasion of the fourth meeting of SBSTTA, the Bureau decided to leave to the discretion of the Executive Secretary the establishment of liaison groups and the selection of experts. The Bureau advised that the Executive Secretary should rely mainly on international organizations active in the areas in which assistance is needed. The liaison groups are therefore established by, and report to, the Executive Secretary. Their life is relatively short as compared to the duration of work of ad hoc technical expert groups. It may last the duration of the meeting of the groups concerned or can be extended through informal contacts until finalization of the document for the preparation of which the Executive Secretary is seeking assistance from the liaison group.

3. Expert panels

19. Expert panels, such as the Panel of Experts on Access and Benefit-sharing, are called for by, and report directly to, the Conference of the Parties, which defines the panel's terms of reference. In the case of the Panel of Experts on Access and Benefit-sharing, experts were nominated by Parties and non-Party Governments. The Executive Secretary selected the fifty experts for the Panel, in accordance with the decision of the Inter-Sessional Meeting on the Operations of the Convention.

4. Informal task forces

20. Informal task forces, involving United Nations agencies and other relevant international bodies, are established by, and report to, the Executive Secretary to assist the Secretariat in implementing specific activities under the thematic and cross-cutting programmes of work. Examples include the informal task force on alien species and genotypes under the programme of work on the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biological diversity, which assisted the Secretariat in implementing activities pertaining to the better understanding of the causes of introduction and impacts of alien species and genotypes.

21. As can be seen from the foregoing, the main difference between these categories of expert groups is in their establishment, membership, selection, duration and lines of reporting, whether it be to the Executive Secretary, the Subsidiary Body or the Conference of the Parties.

C. A uniform methodology for the use of the rosters

22. Through its recommendation IV/1 C, paragraph 5, SBSTTA invited the Executive Secretary to further develop a uniform methodology for the use of rosters of experts and agreed to consider the proposal at its fifth meeting. The proposal in annex III below was prepared in response to the above invitation. Efforts also will be made to link the Convention roster to other similar rosters of experts in other processes, including United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Convention to Combat Desertification, etc., and national and regional rosters.

23. The database of experts will be accessible to any user on the Convention on Biological Diversity website. All the information requested on the application form will be available, except optional information that individual experts wish to keep confidential. The Secretariat will contact experts as need

arises for example following requests by the Conference of the Parties or other requests described in paragraphs 14 (a) and (b) above.

IV. AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUPS: TERMS OF REFERENCE AND DURATION

A. Background

24. In its decision IV/16, paragraph 21, the Conference of the Parties requested the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA), to advise the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the terms of reference for the ad hoc technical expert groups on thematic areas.

25. It may be noted that paragraph 12 of the modus operandi of SBSTTA states that a "limited number of ad hoc technical expert groups on specific priority issues on the programme of work of the SBSTTA may be established, as required, for a limited duration" and that SBSTTA is to "recommend the exact duration and specific terms of reference, when establishing such expert groups for the approval of the Conference of the Parties".

26. As part of its decision IV/5, the Conference of the Parties has already decided on the establishment of ad hoc technical expert groups for marine and coastal protected areas (programme element 3) and mariculture (programme element 4).

27. In addition, the work programme of SBSTTA comprises a number of priority issues, including, in particular, the development of programmes of work under each of the thematic areas and further conceptualization of cross-cutting issues. Progress on those issues may require the establishment of ad hoc technical expert groups.

28. In order to assist SBSTTA in the selection of additional issues for consideration by other ad hoc technical expert groups, the Secretariat sent in early August 1999 a questionnaire in English, French and Spanish to the national biodiversity focal points and many organizations that participated in the fourth meeting of SBSTTA. The objective of the questionnaire was to obtain guidance on the terms of reference of the ad hoc technical expert groups and time-frame for such groups to carry out their work. The result of the survey is described in section B below.

B. Result of the survey

29. As of 30 September 1999, 42 responses had been received from the national focal points, government institutions, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations. Because the number of responses was too small to make a meaningful distinction between different categories of respondents, all the data were pooled together.

30. About 70 per cent of the respondents considered that priority issues for which the ad hoc technical expert groups could be established should cover both thematic and cross-cutting issues. The remaining 30 per cent answered that only cross-cutting issues should be considered by ad hoc technical expert groups. Of all issues proposed in the questionnaire, including all the thematic areas and cross-cutting issues being addressed under the Convention, the following five issues were chosen most frequently as those to which highest priority should be given:

- (a) Inland waters;
- (b) Marine and coastal biodiversity;

- (c) Forest biodiversity;
- (d) Sustainable use; and
- (e) Economic valuation of biodiversity.

31. Sustainable use is an item for in-depth consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its fifth meeting and forest biodiversity at its sixth meeting. It has also been proposed that SBSTTA would consider forest biological diversity as the main issue at its seventh meeting and reports on progress of ongoing work on inland waters and marine and coastal biodiversity at its sixth meeting.

32. With regard to the specific tasks to be considered by the ad hoc technical expert groups under the thematic areas, the Secretariat proposed the following tasks based on Article 25 of the Convention and decision IV/16, paragraph 21, which states that the terms of reference should also take into account the need, *inter alia*, to provide peer-reviewed scientific and technical assessment of the status and trends of, and impact on, biological diversity, including the effectiveness of the types of measures for conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity:

- (a) Assessment of the status and trend of biodiversity, at the regional and global levels;
- (b) Assessment of the effects of types of measures taken in accordance with the Convention;
- (c) Identification of innovative, efficient and state-of-the-art technologies and know-how relating to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, and provision of advice on the ways and means of promoting the development and/or transfer of such technologies; and
- (d) Provision of advice on scientific programmes and international cooperation in research and development related to conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.

33. In light of the discussion on indicators of biodiversity, the Secretariat proposed also the following task: Identification of biodiversity thresholds and/or proposal of some targets and time-frames for conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity with some explanation of the levels of the targets (e.g., experts may try to determine the proportion and nature of forest to be kept as protected areas or under sustainable management/use, by, for example, the year 2050).

34. The three tasks identified most frequently in the survey for the terms of reference of the ad hoc technical expert group under the thematic areas were:

- (a) Provision of advice on scientific programmes and international cooperation in research and development related to conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity;
- (b) Assessment of the status and trend of biodiversity, at the regional and global levels, and
- (c) Assessment of the effects of types of measures taken in accordance with the Convention.

35. The average duration of the work proposed by the respondents for the above tasks were 10, 12 and 9 months, respectively. One respondent noted that "provision of advice on scientific programmes and international cooperation in research and development related to conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity" should be carried out on a continual basis.

36. The survey also considered the selection of priority cross-cutting issues. However, these issues were not included in the request of the Conference of the Parties, which was limited to thematic areas (see decision IV/16, paragraph 21).

37. It is important to note that the Conference of the Parties has already decided, in its decision IV/5, on the establishment of ad hoc technical expert groups on marine and coastal protected areas and mariculture. The proposed terms of reference and duration of ad hoc technical expert groups on these themes are presented in annex IV below. Terms of reference and duration for ad hoc technical expert groups for the other two thematic areas that were ranked highest in the survey are presented in annex V to this note.

37. The suggested duration of work of the ad hoc technical expert groups in annexes IV and V below takes into account that the completion time should coincide with the timing of the meetings of SBSTTA and consideration of their provisional agenda, so that the reports of the ad hoc technical expert groups could contribute to the SBSTTA process.

Table 1. ESTABLISHMENT AND USE OF THE ROSTERS OF EXPERTS

<u>Field of expertise</u>	<u>Legislative authority</u>	<u>Number of experts*</u>	<u>Nominating body or institution</u>	<u>Experience in using of experts and/or other remarks</u>
Marine and coastal biodiversity (established in 1996)	Decision II/1 and recommendation I/1, on the <u>modus operandi</u> of SBSTTA; decision II/10, para.8(b); decision IV/5, annex, para. 8; decision IV/16, annex I, para. 19.	624	74 Governments** and the European Community.	In line with decision IV/16, this roster was expanded to include nominations from relevant bodies and organizations. Fifteen experts were selected to participate in the first Meeting of Experts (Indonesia, March 1997) and assisted the Executive Secretary in identifying scientific, technical and technological advice and options for recommendation to the Conference of the Parties. Some experts also assisted the Secretariat through various substantive advice and contributed materials relevant to the Jakarta Mandate programme of work, including the issues of coral bleaching and indicators. Two Governments indicated that they would not nominate any experts for inclusion in the roster of experts on marine and coastal biodiversity.
Forest biodiversity (established in 1997)	Decision II/1 and recommendation I/1, on the <u>modus operandi</u> of SBSTTA; decision IV/16, annex I, para. 19.	337	82 Governments	The list is being updated to include experts from relevant bodies and organizations.
Agrobiodiversity (established in 1997)	Decision II/1 and recommendation I/1, on the <u>modus operandi</u> of SBSTTA; decision II/11; decision IV/16, annex I, para. 19.	253	52 Governments	The Secretariat used experts from this roster for peer-reviewing the document submitted to SBSTTA at its fourth meeting on consequences of the use of the new technology for the control of plant gene expression for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity). In addition, some selected experts from the same roster were invited to take part in the Workshop on Sustaining Agricultural

* As of 31 August 1999.

** For the purpose of this document, the term "Government" is used instead of "country", as reflected in decision II/10.

<u>Field of expertise</u>	<u>Legislative authority</u>	<u>Number of experts*</u>	<u>Nominating body or institution</u>	<u>Experience in using of experts and/or other remarks</u>
				Diversity and Agro-Ecosystem Functions, held in Rome from 2 to 4 December 1998.
Inland waters biodiversity (established in 1998)	Decision IV/4, annex I, Part A1, para. 4; decision IV/16, annex I, para. 19.	223	44 Governments	A number of experts have been consulted in preparing the note by the Executive Secretary on inland water biological diversity: ways and means to implement the work programme (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/5/6) for the fifth meeting of SBSTTA.
Access and benefit-sharing (established in 1999)	Decision IV/8, para. 3; decision IV/16, annex I, para. 19.	321	87 governments	Decision IV/8 clearly indicated that the Parties and Governments were invited to submit up to five names of experts on the issue of access and benefit-sharing. Some fifty experts were selected to participate in the meeting of the Panel of Experts on Access and Benefit-sharing, held in Costa Rica from 4 to 8 October 1999. Additional experts were nominated by international organizations.
Indicators of biodiversity (established in 1999)	Decision IV/16, annex I, para. 19.	366	41 Governments	A number of experts were requested to provide comments on the core set of indicators prepared by a liaison group that met in Montreal on 24 and 25 September 1999.

Annex IFORM FOR INCLUSION IN THE ROSTER OF EXPERTS UNDER THE
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITYA. To be completed by the expert

(For those fields marked with an asterisk (*), please refer to the instructions on the page 18)

1. Major thematic area(s) of expertise:*

2. Family or last name:	Other name(s):	3. Sex: M / F
4. Nationality:		
5. Year of birth: (optional)		
6. Current employment/ organization:*		
7. Position:*		
8. Mailing address:		
9. Telephone No. (include country & area codes):		
10. Facsimile:		
11. E-mail address:		
12. Education and/or qualifications:*		
13. Main disciplines or scientific background:*		
14. Area(s) of expertise or specialization:*		
15. Summary of relevant work experience:*		
16. Number of publications:	Books: Peer reviewed articles: Book chapters: Conference papers: Other:	

<p>17. List the three most relevant publications (author(s), year, title, journal/book volume, pages). If necessary, provide the list on separate sheet of paper:</p>	
<p>18. Knowledge of UN languages: [Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish]</p>	<p>Spoken well: Written well:</p>
<p>19. Scientific awards and honorary memberships:</p>	

I hereby confirm that the information above is correct and agree for its inclusion in the Roster of Experts of the Convention on Biological Diversity. I have no objection to this information being made publicly available.

Signature:

Date:

B. To be completed by person making the nomination

- The National Focal Point of the Government of

Name:

Signature and date:

Or

- Head of organization/agency

Name

Signature and date:

INSTRUCTIONS

Field number	Instructions
1	<p>Choose one or more of the following thematic areas and enter the corresponding letter(s) in the space provided in the form:</p> <p>A. Access to genetic resources and benefit sharing B. Agricultural biodiversity C. Biodiversity indicators D. Dryland, Mediterranean, arid, semi-arid, grassland and savanna ecosystems F. Ecosystem approach G. Forest biological diversity H. Inland water ecosystems biodiversity I. Marine and coastal biodiversity J. Mountain ecosystem K. Traditional knowledge L. Biosafety</p>
6	For example: Ministry of Environment; Kenyatta University, etc.
7	For example: Senior Soil Scientist, Professor of Zoology, Dean of the Faculty of Science, traditional knowledge specialist, etc.
12	For example: Ph.D. in microbiology, M.Sc. in Environmental Education, etc.
13	See Annex II for details. For example, Biology, Oceanography, etc.
14	See Annex II for details. It is possible to indicate more than one area of specialization.
15	<p>Summarize relevant work experience, at the national and/or international levels, and years of experience in the fields mentioned in field 14 above. It is important to indicate also the geographical area in which field experience was acquired (for example: North America, South Asia, Pacific etc)</p> <p>e.g. 1990 – 1992: - Senior Agronomist at the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines - Field experience with community-based management of natural resources in the sub-Saharan Africa</p> <p>1992 to date: - Policy development in the Ministry of Agriculture in Chile to promote sustainable Agriculture and alternatives to slash-and-burn agriculture.</p>

Annex II

INDICATIVE LIST OF DISCIPLINES/BACKGROUND AND CATEGORIES OF SPECIALIZATIONS

Disciplines/Background

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Aboriginal studies | 12 Forestry |
| 2. Agricultural sciences | 13 Geography |
| 3. Anthropology | 14 Geomorphology |
| 4. Biochemistry | 15 Hydrology |
| 5. Biology (Botany, Zoology, etc) | 16 Law |
| 6. Chemistry | 17 Limnology |
| 7. Climatology | 18 Oceanography |
| 8. Economics | 19 Physics |
| 9. Engineering | 20 Political science |
| 10. Environmental science | 21 Social sciences |
| 11. Food sciences | 22 Statistics |

Category of specialization

A. Ecosystems

B. Living resources

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| A.1 Agroecosystems | B.1 Algae (micro/macro/seaweed) |
| A.2 Agroforests | B.2 Animal |
| A.3 Arid (Desert) | B.3 Benthos |
| A.4 Benthic ecosystems | B.4 Fish |
| A.5 Chaparral/Mediterranean | B.5 Fungi |
| A.6 Coastal waters | B.6 Invertebrates |
| A.7 Coral reefs | B.7 Mammals |
| A.8 Deep-sea | B.8 Micro-organisms |
| A.9 Drylands | B.9 Plankton |
| A10 Estuaries | B10 Plants |
| A11 Forest (boreal) | B11 Seagrass |
| A12 Forest (temperate) | B12 Wildlife |
| A13 Forest (tropical) | |
| A14 Freshwater marshes | |
| A15 Grasslands/steppes | |
| A16 Lakes/reservoirs | |
| A17 Mangroves | |
| A18 Mountains/highlands | |
| A19 Open ocean (pelagic) | |
| A20 Pastoral/rangelands | |
| A21 Peatlands | |
| A22 Polar seas | |
| A23 Rivers and streams | |
| A24 Salt marshes | |
| A25 Savannah | |
| A26 Semi-arid | |
| A27 Seagrass beds | |

A28 Tundra
A29 Wetlands

C. Science

C.1 Alien/invasive species
C.2 Animal behaviour
C.3 Biodiversity
C.4 Bioenergetics
C.5 Biogeography
C.6 Climate change
C.7 Desertification
C.8 Ecology
C.9 Ecosystem approach
C10 Ecotoxicology
C11 Entomology/pest management
C12 Ethnobotany
C13 Evolution
C14 Fisheries science
C15 Genetics
C16 Hydrodynamics
C17 Ichthyology
C18 Marine pollution
C19 Microbiology
C20 Molecular/cellular biology
C21 Oceanography
C22 Pedology/soil science
C23 Pharmacology
C24 Physiology
C25 Population dynamic
C26 Taxonomy/systematics

E. Policy and planning

E.1 Coastal area management
E.2 Conservation
E.3 Ecotourism
E.4 Environmental administration
E.5 Environmental planning
E.6 Environmental policy
E.7 Environmental protection
E.8 Habitat restoration
E.9 Intellectual property rights
E10 Indigenous and local community
E11 Landscape planning
E12 Policy development
E13 Protected area

D. Technical and technological

D.1 Afforestation/reforestation
D.2 Aquaculture/mariculture
D.3 Agroforestry
D.4 Agronomy
D.5 Biotechnology
D.6 Conservation (*in situ*, *ex situ*)
D.7 Environmental impact assessment
D.8 Fishing technology
D.9 Genetic engineering
D10 Indicators
D11 Indigenous and traditional
knowledge
D12 Modelling
D13 Monitoring and evaluation
D14 Rapid assessment
D15 Remote sensing/ GIS
D16 Resource assessment
D17 Technical information systems

F. Management

F.1 Environmental management
F.2 Land/terrestrial
F.3 Livestock management
F.4 Resource management
F.5 Water resources
F.6 Watershed management

G. Economics

G.1 Agricultural economics
G.2 Benefit sharing/equity
G.3 Bioprospecting
G.4 Biotrade
G.5 Conservation economics
G.6 Environmental accounting
G.7 Economic development
G.8 Finance and investment
G.9 Incentive measures
G10 Resource economics

H. Social

- H.1 Communication
- H.2 Community development
- H.3 Education
- H.4 Environmental ethics
- H.5 Training and extension
- H.6 Participatory process
- H.7 Public awareness

I. Legal

- I.1 Access and benefit-sharing
- I.2 Biosafety regulation
- I.3 Customary law
- I.4 Environmental law
- I.5 International law
- I.6 Intellectual property rights
- I.7 Law of the sea

Annex III

PROPOSAL ON A UNIFORM METHODOLOGY FOR THE USE OF ROSTERS OF EXPERTS

Basic principles

- The Secretariat will develop one database for the rosters of experts covering the fields of expertise required for the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity, including, inter alia biological, legal, social and economic sciences, and traditional knowledge.
- The roster of experts will be compiled by the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity on the basis of nomination by Parties, other countries and relevant bodies.
- The Convention roster of experts will be accessible through the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention and be linked through it to other relevant roster of experts at national, regional, and international level.
- In administering the rosters of experts, the Executive Secretary will endeavour to use innovative and efficient means of communication and ensure transparency through the issuance of notifications.
- The Executive Secretary will update the rosters of experts regularly and will endeavour to ensure representation from all geographical regions.
- Experts from the rosters are expected to assist, upon request, the Executive Secretary, Parties, other Governments, or relevant bodies in further development of the scientific, technical and technological issues of the work programme of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

Functions of the roster of experts

- To perform specific tasks as requested by the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies, in particular SBSTTA, including involvement in the activities of ad hoc technical expert groups and liaison groups as well as other type of expert group which may be established.
- To provide the Executive Secretary and, as appropriate, Parties, other governments and relevant bodies with substantive contributions including, inter alia, peer reviews ^{2/} on matters relating to the Convention on Biological Diversity by drawing from a wide range of knowledge and expertise available in countries and at the regional and international levels.

Ways and means to contact/communicate with the experts

- Clearing-house mechanism of the Convention.
- Periodic newsletters (electronic and other forms) produced by the Secretariat, to be distributed to all experts on the roster, to communicate general information on activities - planned or undertaken - of the Secretariat, with a view to keeping the experts involved, well informed, and connected to the

^{2/} Peer reviews allow for a small group of experts to provide input, thereby broadening the perspective of, and participation in, the final product (reports, draft pre-session documents, etc.). Peer reviews may be used to analyse products of listserv discussions, ad hoc technical expert group, meetings of experts as well as draft documents. Requests for peer reviews should be accompanied by clear terms of reference from the Secretariat.

process. General information should preferably reach the experts on certain fixed intervals of, for instance, three months.

- Direct contacts by e-mail, fax, letter or telephone with all the experts or experts on specific themes/issues.
- Personal contacts.
- Establishment of a listservs to allow and foster discussions by electronic mail between the experts themselves following a specific request from the Executive Secretary. Listservs should run for a fixed period of time, and should preferably be chaired by one, or two experts. The lead expert(s) is/are in charge of the discussion on the server, and report to the Secretariat with the results. For such a system to be fruitful, several conditions may apply:
 - (a) The number of experts involved in a listserv discussion should not exceed 20;
 - (b) The Executive Secretary should strictly define: (i) the requests; (ii) the type of expected outputs; and (iii) deadlines.

Annex IVPROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE AND DURATION OF WORK FOR THE AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUPS ON MARINE AND COASTAL PROTECTED AREAS AND MARICULTURE 3/A. Ad hoc technical expert group on marine and coastal protected areasTerms of reference 4/

1. Identify pilot research and monitoring projects, based on current proposals and ongoing projects aimed at assessing the value and effects of marine and coastal protected areas or similarly restricted management areas on sustainable use of marine and coastal living resources.
2. Review the desk-study called for in the operational objective 3.1, activity (c), of the programme of work (decision IV/5, annex). The desk-study to be conducted by the Executive Secretary consists of gathering and assimilating information relevant to the value and effect of marine and coastal protected areas on sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity.
3. Identify linkages between conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity.
4. Prepare recommendations on types of research to be carried out to understand the effects of marine and coastal protected or closed areas on population size and dynamics, subject to national legislation.

Duration of work

The ad hoc technical expert group on marine and coastal protected areas should start its work immediately after approval by the Conference of the Parties of the terms of reference and shall endeavour to complete the work not later than the eight meeting of SBSTTA, at which "protected areas" will be an item for in-depth consideration (see SBSTTA programme of work in recommendation IV/1 C), and the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties at which "protected areas" will be an item for in-depth consideration. 1, 3 and 4 can be undertaken immediately, but item 2 will start when the desk-study is complete.

B. Ad hoc technical expert group on maricultureTerms of reference 5/

1. Evaluate the current state of scientific and technological knowledge on the effects of mariculture on marine and coastal biodiversity.
2. Provide guidance on criteria, methods and techniques, that avoid the adverse effects of mariculture, and also subsequent stock enhancement, on marine and coastal biological diversity and enhance the positive effects of mariculture on marine and coastal productivity.

3/ Established by decision IV/5 of the Conference of the Parties.

4/ In accordance with programme element 3, operational objective 3.1, of the Jakarta Mandate programme of work.

5/ In accordance with programme element 4 of the Jakarta Mandate programme of work.

Duration of work

The ad hoc expert group on mariculture should start immediately after the approval on the terms of reference by the Conference of the Parties. The time for the completion of these activities so that their output can be considered in-depth by SBSTTA will depend on the time when SBSTTA might be requested by the Conference of the Parties at its fifth meeting to report or advise on aspects relating to sustainable use of biodiversity or when the Conference of the Parties might decide to review the Jakarta Mandate programme of work.

Annex V

PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE AND DURATION OF WORK FOR AD HOC TECHNICAL
EXPERT GROUPS FOR INLAND WATERS AND/OR FOREST BIODIVERSITY 6/

General terms of reference 7/

1. Provide advice on scientific programmes and international cooperation in research and development related to conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.
2. Assess the status and trend of biodiversity, at the regional and global levels.
3. Assess the effects types of measures taken in accordance with Convention.

Additional detailed guidance on these tasks can be found in the report of the Open Ended Intergovernmental Meeting of Scientific Experts on Biological Diversity (Mexico City, 11-15 April 1994)(UNEP/CBD/IC/2/11).

Duration of work

The work on forest biodiversity should be initiated immediately after the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties approval of the terms of references, and completed not later than the seventh meeting of the SBSTTA, in time for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties which will consider the forest biodiversity as one of the main priority issues.

The work on inland waters could be initiated immediately after approval by the Conference of the Parties at its fifth meeting of the terms of reference and should be completed not later than either the eight or ninth meeting of the SBSTTA, at which the workplan on inland waters biodiversity is expected to be reviewed (see SBSTTA recommendation IV/1 C, annex).

6/ SBSTTA may recommend ad hoc technical expert groups for one or both thematic areas.

7/ SBSTTA may choose one or more of the tasks listed.