INTRODUCTION

1. The twenty-second meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) will be held in Montreal, Canada, at the headquarters of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), from 2 to 7 July 2018. Registration of participants will commence at 10 a.m. on Sunday, 1 July 2018.

2. The Subsidiary Body was established under Article 25 of the Convention on Biological Diversity. In addition, the Nagoya Protocol, in its Article 27, provides that any subsidiary body established by or under the Convention may serve the Nagoya Protocol. Similarly, the Cartagena Protocol, in its Article 30, provides that any subsidiary body established by or under the Convention may serve the Protocol, upon a decision by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol.

3. The purpose of the present document is to facilitate preparations for the meeting by Parties and observers.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

4. The meeting will be opened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 2 July 2018. Statements will be made by the Chair of the Subsidiary Body and the Executive Secretary.

ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Election of officers

5. Pursuant to rule 26, paragraph 3, of its rules of procedure, the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting, held in Cancun, Mexico, in December 2016, elected Ms. Theresa Mundita S. Lim (Philippines) Chair of the Subsidiary Body for a term of office extending until the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

6. The Bureau of the twenty-second meeting of the Subsidiary Body will comprise the members elected at the twentieth and twenty-first meetings.¹

¹ CBD/SBSTTA/22/1.
7. In order to have staggered terms of office within the Bureau, the Subsidiary Body will elect five new members to serve on the Bureau for a term commencing at the end of the twenty-second meeting and ending at the close of the twenty-fourth meeting. These new members will replace the outgoing members from Belgium, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Ukraine and Costa Rica.

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

8. The draft provisional agenda for the twenty-second meeting of the Subsidiary Body has been prepared by the Executive Secretary in consultation with the Bureau.²

9. The Subsidiary Body will be invited to consider the provisional agenda for its twenty-second meeting (CBD/SBSTTA/22/1) for adoption and to agree on the proposed organization of work (annex I).

10. In line with the budget adopted by the Conference of the Parties³ it is proposed that all agenda items be considered in plenary (see annex I). Selected agenda items will be introduced by a keynote presentation or a panel of experts in line with decisions of the Conference of the Parties and taking into account experience from the seventeenth, eighteenth, nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first meetings of the Subsidiary Body.⁴

11. A list of pre-session documents for the meeting is provided in annex II. As appropriate, the documents, including those that contain scientific assessments, will be peer-reviewed.

ITEM 3. DIGITAL SEQUENCE INFORMATION ON GENETIC RESOURCES

12. The issue of digital sequence information on genetic resources emerged as a cross-cutting issue under the Convention and the Nagoya Protocol at the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (decision XIII/16) and the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol (decision NP 2/14). Through these decisions, it was decided to consider, at the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the third meeting of Parties to the Nagoya Protocol, any potential implications of the use of digital sequence information on genetic resources for the three objectives of the Convention, and for the objective of the Nagoya Protocol, respectively. The same decisions established a coordinated and non-duplicative process to address this issue during the intersessional period.

13. As part of this process, the Executive Secretary is requested to compile and synthesize views and information submitted, including information gathered from engagement with relevant ongoing processes and policy debates, to commission a study to clarify terminology and concepts and to assess the extent and the terms and conditions of the use of digital sequence information in the context of the Convention and the Nagoya Protocol, and to convene a meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group established by the Conference of the Parties to consider this information. The Group is expected to hold its face-to-face meeting in February 2018.

14. The Subsidiary Body will have before it a report on the outcomes of this process (CBD/SBSTTA/22/2).

15. The Subsidiary Body is expected to consider this information and to prepare a recommendation for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth meeting and a recommendation for

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¹ Members elected at the twentieth meeting are Mr. Hendrick Segers (Belgium), Mr. Yousef Al-Hafedh (Saudi Arabia), Mr. Samuel Dieme (Senegal), Mr. Sergiy Gubar (Ukraine) and Ms. Eugenia Arguedas Montezuma (Costa Rica).

² At its twelfth meeting, the Conference of the Parties established the Subsidiary Body on Implementation and specified that the Subsidiary Body on Implementation and the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice should carry out their respective functions taking into account their role and functions with a view to ensuring complementarity in their work and avoiding overlap (see decision XII/26, annex). This will be taken fully into account in the preparation for the various agenda items.

³ See decision XIII/32.

⁴ Detailed plans will be developed in consultation with the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and will be communicated to Parties well ahead of the meeting, together with the names of presenters and the scope of the presentations.
the consideration of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol at their third meeting. In the latter case, only Parties to the Protocol will participate in decision-making during the meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.

ITEM 4. RISK ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT OF LIVING MODIFIED ORGANISMS

16. The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, at its eighth meeting, acknowledged the work of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment and Risk Management and took note of the voluntary Guidance on Risk Assessment of Living Modified Organisms as the outcome of the Group’s deliberations. It invited interested Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to take the Guidance into account as a voluntary tool to assist in conducting risk assessment in accordance with the Cartagena Protocol, while also acknowledging other guidance and national approaches, and to share an assessment of their applicability and usefulness through the Biosafety Clearing-House (decision VIII/12, paras. 3 and 4).

17. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol also invited Parties to submit to the Executive Secretary (a) information on their needs and priorities for further guidance on specific topics of risk assessment of living modified organisms, (b) proposals on criteria, including the technical justification, and (c) views on perceived gaps in existing guidance materials.

18. Further, the Parties at their eighth meeting decided to extend the Online Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management with a lead moderator appointed by the Bureau (paras. 7, 8 and 9 of the same decision).

19. The Subsidiary Body will have before it a document containing a synthesis of the views from Parties referred to in paragraph 16 above and a report of the online discussions, prepared by the lead moderator and peer reviewed by the Online Forum (CBD/SBSTTA/22/3) supplemented by addendums and/or information documents as needed.

20. The Subsidiary Body is expected to review the information provided and to recommend a way forward to address the needs, priorities and gaps identified by Parties for consideration by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol at its ninth meeting, including the possible establishment of a new ad hoc technical expert group. Only Parties to the Cartagena Protocol will participate in decision-making on this item during the meeting of the Subsidiary Body.

ITEM 5. SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY

21. At its thirteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties, acknowledging the conclusions of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group, encouraged Parties and other actors to undertake certain measures, and invited the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to take into account in its future deliberations relevant information resulting from the processes under the Convention (decision XIII/17).

22. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties decided to extend the mandate of the current Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Synthetic Biology (with new terms of reference as annexed to the decision) and of the open-ended online forum to support the work of the Group (paras. 11 and 12). The Group is expected to hold its meeting in December 2017.

23. The Subsidiary Body will have before it a document containing the outcomes of the above-mentioned process (CBD/SBSTTA/22/4) supplemented by addendums and/or information documents as needed.

24. The Subsidiary Body is expected to review the information provided and to make recommendations to the Conference of the Parties for consideration at its fourteenth meeting and, as appropriate, to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena
Protocol for consideration at its ninth meeting. In the latter case, only Parties to the Protocol will participate in decision-making at the meeting of the Subsidiary Body.

**ITEM 6. UPDATED SCIENTIFIC ASSESSMENT OF PROGRESS TOWARDS SELECTED AICHI BIODIVERSITY TARGETS AND OPTIONS TO ACCELERATE PROGRESS**

25. In decision XIII/30, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to prepare, in collaboration with members of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership and other relevant partners, updated scientific assessments of progress towards Aichi Biodiversity Targets, focusing in particular on those targets on which the least progress has been made and to develop options for accelerating progress towards the achievement of those targets.

26. The Subsidiary Body will have before it a document summarizing, for each Aichi Biodiversity Target for which relevant information is available, an assessment of progress based on recent scientific literature and making use of global indicators which have data points for the period since the preparation of the fourth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* (CBD/SBSTTA/22/5). The document will also include options for accelerating progress towards the achievement of those targets which have been identified as the least advanced. An overview of relevant information arising from the regional assessments, and the thematic assessment on land degradation, of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.\(^5\) and implications for the work of the Convention, will be provided in an addendum (CBD/SBSTTA/22/5/Add.1). Additional details of the updated assessments will be provided in information documents.

27. The Subsidiary Body is invited to consider this documentation and provide advice to the Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth meeting. The Subsidiary Body on Implementation may also take this advice into account in its review of progress.

**ITEM 7. PROTECTED AREAS AND OTHER MEASURES FOR ENHANCED CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT**

28. The Conference of Parties, in paragraph 9(a) of decision XIII/2, invited Parties and relevant agencies and partners to undertake a review of experiences on protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures (taking into account the work of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and other appropriate expert bodies), additional measures to enhance integration of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures into the wider land- and seascapes, mainstreaming of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures across sectors, and effective governance models for management of protected areas, including equity, taking into account work being undertaken under Article 8(j). In paragraph 10 of the same decision, the Conference of Parties requested the Executive Secretary to develop voluntary guidance on the above-mentioned elements, noting lessons learned from the relevant biodiversity-related conventions and agreements, to organize a technical expert workshop or workshops to provide scientific and technical advice on the definition, management approaches and identification of other effective area-based conservation measures and their role in achieving Aichi Biodiversity Target 11, and to report on progress to the Subsidiary Body.

29. The Conference of Parties, in paragraph 7 of decision XIII/9, requested the Executive Secretary in partnership with relevant organizations to compile national experiences and lessons learned on the development, and effective and equitable management, of ecologically representative and well connected systems of marine protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and their integration into the wider landscapes and seascapes, and to organize an expert workshop to consolidate this and related scientific and technical information for consideration by the Subsidiary Body.

30. In paragraph 4 of the same decision, the Conference of Parties requested the Executive Secretary to further consolidate existing guidance on marine spatial planning, and in paragraph 6 of the decision, to

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\(^5\) Expected to be accepted and approved by the Platform at its sixth plenary session, to be held from 18 to 24 March 2018.
compile and synthesize information provided by Parties, relevant organizations and others, on national, regional and subregional experiences and lessons learned in the application of marine spatial planning or other measures for enhanced conservation and management.

31. Under this item, the Subsidiary Body will have before it documents summarizing the outcomes of the workshops on protected areas, other area-based measures, and their integration into the wider landscapes and seascapes, referred to above, as well as the information on the application of marine spatial planning (CBD/SBSTTA/22/6 and CBD/SBSTTA/22/6/Add.1). The full reports of the workshops and other studies will be made available as information documents.

32. The Subsidiary Body is expected to consider this information and prepare recommendations for the Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth meeting.

ITEM 8. MARINE AND COASTAL BIODIVERSITY: ECOLOGICALLY OR BIOLOGICALLY SIGNIFICANT MARINE AREAS, ADDRESSING ANTHROPOGENIC UNDERWATER NOISE AND MARINE DEBRIS, BIODIVERSITY IN COLD-WATER AREAS AND MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING

33. At its thirteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties welcomed the summary report on the description, in three regions, of areas meeting the scientific criteria for ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (EBSA), and requested the Executive Secretary to include them in the EBSA repository and to transmit them to the United Nations General Assembly and other competent organizations (decision XIII/12, paras. 1 and 2). The Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to continue to facilitate the description of EBSAs through the organization of workshops where Parties wish them to be held (decision XIII/12, para. 8). Accordingly, the Executive Secretary has organized a workshop for the Black Sea and Caspian Sea (April, 2017), and other workshops will be organized as required.

34. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties considered the process for describing areas that meet the EBSA criteria and requested the Executive Secretary to continue work in this regard, including through the organization of an expert workshop to develop options regarding procedures for modification of the descriptions of EBSAs and for describing new areas, and for strengthening the scientific process (decision XIII/12, paras. 10 and 11).

35. In decision XIII/10, the Conference of the Parties considered the impacts of anthropogenic underwater noise on marine and coastal biodiversity. At its thirteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties invited Parties, competent organizations and others to further collaborate and share their experiences on the application of measures to avoid, minimize and mitigate the significant adverse impacts of anthropogenic underwater noise on marine and coastal biodiversity. It requested the Executive Secretary to continue the compilation, synthesis and dissemination of these experiences, and, based on scientifically identified needs, to develop and share practical guidance and toolkits on measures to avoid, minimize and mitigate these impacts, and to make information available for the consideration of the Subsidiary Body (para. 2).

36. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties also addressed the impacts of marine debris on marine and coastal biodiversity and requested the Executive Secretary to facilitate collaboration among Parties, relevant organizations, and others on the application of measures within the respective national jurisdictions and mandates of intergovernmental organizations, to prevent and mitigate the impacts of marine debris on marine and coastal biodiversity and habitats, by facilitating the sharing of experiences, information, toolkits and best practices (decision XIII/10, para. 10).

37. In decision XIII/11, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations, to facilitate, promote and support the implementation of the voluntary specific workplan on biodiversity in cold-water areas within the jurisdictional scope of the Convention contained in annex II to the decision, including by the sharing of information on experiences and lessons learned from the implementation of the workplan.
38. The Subsidiary Body will have before it a document on these issues (CBD/SBSTTA/22/7), supplemented by addendums providing a summary report on the description of areas meeting the scientific criteria for ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (CBD/SBSTTA/22/7/Add.1) and options regarding procedures for modification of the descriptions of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas, describing new areas, and strengthening the scientific process (CBD/SBSTTA/22/7/Add.1).

39. The Subsidiary Body is expected to consider this information and prepare conclusions and recommendations for the Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth meeting. Matters related to marine spatial planning and to marine protected areas are addressed under agenda item 7.

ITEM 9. BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE: ECOSYSTEM-BASED APPROACHES TO CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

40. At its thirteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopted decision XIII/4 on ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and mitigation and disaster risk reduction. In paragraph 10 of the decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to prepare, in collaboration with relevant organizations, in particular the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, voluntary guidelines for the design and effective implementation of ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body.

41. The Subsidiary Body will have before it a note by the Executive Secretary containing the text of the proposed voluntary guidelines for the design and effective implementation of ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction (CBD/SBSTTA/22/8).

42. The Subsidiary Body will be invited to review the information and prepare conclusions and recommendations for the Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth meeting.

ITEM 10. INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES

43. At its twelfth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopted voluntary Guidance on Devising and Implementing Measures to Address the Risks Associated with the Introduction of Alien Species as Pets, Aquarium and Terrarium Species, and as Live Bait and Live Food (decision XII/16, annex). At its thirteenth meeting, recognizing the need to supplement this guidance to consider unintentional introductions of invasive species, through “hitchhikers” or contaminants, and materials associated with the trade in live alien species, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with member organizations of the inter-agency liaison group on invasive alien species, to prepare draft supplemental guidance (CBD/SBSTTA/22/8).

44. Also at its thirteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to explore with the World Customs Organization, as well as member organizations of the inter-agency liaison group on invasive alien species, the need for tools or guidance for Parties that may assist national customs authorities in facilitating the necessary control of live alien species via e-commerce, building on the national experience or legislation related to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and its enforcement, and to develop such tools or guidance where appropriate (para. 5).

45. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to further collaborate with the International Plant Protection Convention, the World Organisation for Animal Health, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, other members of the inter-agency liaison group on invasive alien species and other relevant organizations, such as the International Organization for Biological Control, to identify options for supplementing risk assessment and risk management standards for the use of biological control agents against invasive alien species, including in aquatic environments (para. 16).
46. Also in the same decision, the Executive Secretary was also requested to compile information on invasive alien species management that takes into consideration the impacts of climate change, natural disasters and land-use change on the management of biological invasions, and on the potential consequences of invasive alien species on social, economic and cultural values, including the values and priorities of indigenous peoples and local communities, and to develop tools for conducting cost-benefit and cost-effectiveness analysis for the management of invasive alien species (para. 17).

47. The Subsidiary Body will have before it a note by the Executive Secretary pertaining to these requests, including draft conclusions and recommendations (CBD/SBSTTA/22/9).

48. The Subsidiary Body is expected to review this information and prepare conclusions and recommendations for the Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth meeting.

ITEM 11. CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF POLLINATORS

49. On the basis of the thematic assessment of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, and work under the International Initiative on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Pollinators of the Convention, the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting adopted decision XIII/15 providing policy guidance on pollinators, pollination and food production.

50. In this decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to compile information on relevant national initiatives and activities to promote the conservation and sustainable use of pollinators (para. 8); to review, together with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and in collaboration with other partners, the implementation of the International Initiative on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Pollinators and prepare a draft updated and streamlined plan of action based on the IPBES assessment (para. 10); and to compile, in partnership with relevant organizations and indigenous peoples and local communities, information on pollinators and pollination relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in all ecosystems, beyond their role in agriculture and food production (para. 11), for consideration by the Subsidiary Body.

51. The Subsidiary Body will have before it a note by the Executive Secretary addressing these requests (CBD/SBSTTA/22/10).

52. The Subsidiary Body is expected to consider the information and provide advice and recommendations for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth meeting.

ITEM 12. SECOND WORK PROGRAMME OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL SCIENCE-POLICY PLATFORM ON BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

53. In decision XII/25, the Conference of the Parties established procedures for the relationship between the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and the Convention, including the role of the Subsidiary Body in this regard. At its thirteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties requested the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, in accordance with these procedures, to prepare a list of requests for the second work programme of the Platform (decision XIII/29, para. 11).

54. The Subsidiary Body will have before it an annotated compilation of possible requests, prepared by the Executive Secretary, drawing on inputs from Parties and partners, and taking into account the guidance for requests and any initial draft elements for the work programme prepared by the Platform (CBD/SBSTTA/22/11).

55. The Subsidiary Body is invited to recommend, for approval by the Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth meeting, a list of requests for the second work programme of the Platform.

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6 Expected to be approved by the Platform at its sixth plenary session, to be held from 18 to 24 March 2018.
ITEM 13. OTHER MATTERS

56. Under this item, participants will be invited to raise other matters of relevance to the meeting.

ITEM 14. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

57. Under this item, the Subsidiary Body will consider and adopt the report on its twenty-second session. In accordance with established practice, the Subsidiary Body is invited to authorize the Rapporteur to complete the final report after the meeting, with the guidance of the Chair and the assistance of the Secretariat.

ITEM 15. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

58. The twenty-second meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice is scheduled to close at 1 p.m. on Saturday, 7 July 2018.
Annex I

PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR THE TWENTY-SECOND MEETING OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Monday 2 July 2018</th>
<th>Tuesday 3 July 2018</th>
<th>Wednesday 4 July 2018</th>
<th>Thursday 5 July 2018</th>
<th>Friday 6 July 2018</th>
<th>Saturday 7 July 2018</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10 a.m. – 1 p.m.</td>
<td>1. Opening of the meeting</td>
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<td>2. Organizational matters</td>
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<td>3. Digital sequence information on genetic resources</td>
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<td>5. Synthetic biology</td>
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<td>6. Updated scientific assessment of progress towards selected Aichi Biodiversity Targets and options to accelerate progress</td>
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<td>7. Protected areas and other measures for enhanced conservation and management</td>
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<td>3 p.m. – 6 p.m.</td>
<td>8. Marine and coastal biodiversity: ecologically or biologically significant marine areas, addressing anthropogenic underwater noise and marine debris, biodiversity in cold-water areas and marine spatial planning</td>
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<td>9. Biodiversity and climate change: ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction</td>
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<td>10. Invasive alien species</td>
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<td>11. Conservation and sustainable use of pollinators</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12. Second work programme of the Intergovernmental Science-policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services</td>
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<td></td>
<td>13. Other matters</td>
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<td>14. Adoption of the report</td>
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<td>14. Continued, as necessary</td>
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<td>15. Closure of the meeting</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## Annex II

**LIST OF WORKING DOCUMENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Symbol</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Agenda item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CBD/SBSTTA/22/1</td>
<td>Revised provisional agenda</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBD/SBSTTA/22/1/Add.1</td>
<td>Annotated provisional agenda</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBD/SBSTTA/22/2</td>
<td>Digital sequence information on genetic resources</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBD/SBSTTA/22/3</td>
<td>Risk assessment and risk management of living modified organisms</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBD/SBSTTA/22/4</td>
<td>Synthetic biology</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBD/SBSTTA/22/5</td>
<td>Updated scientific assessment of progress towards selected Aichi Biodiversity Targets and options to accelerate progress</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBD/SBSTTA/22/5/Add.1</td>
<td>Overview of relevant information from the regional assessments and the thematic assessment on land degradation by the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, and implications for the work of the Convention</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBD/SBSTTA/22/6</td>
<td>Protected areas and other measures for enhanced conservation and management</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBD/SBSTTA/22/6/Add.1</td>
<td>Marine protected areas and spatial planning</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBD/SBSTTA/22/7</td>
<td>Marine and coastal biodiversity</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBD/SBSTTA/22/7/Add.1</td>
<td>Summary report on the description of areas meeting the scientific criteria for ecologically or biologically significant marine areas</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBD/SBSTTA/22/7/Add.2</td>
<td>Ecologically or biologically significant marine areas: options regarding procedures for modification of the descriptions of EBSAs, describing new areas, and strengthening the scientific process</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBD/SBSTTA/22/8</td>
<td>Biodiversity and climate change: ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBD/SBSTTA/22/9</td>
<td>Invasive alien species</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBD/SBSTTA/22/10</td>
<td>Conservation and sustainable use of pollinators</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBD/SBSTTA/22/11</td>
<td>Second work programme of the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>