

Ref: SCBD/SEL/DO/25495

20 February 2002

Madam/Sir,

NOTIFICATION

Re: Asia and Pacific Regional Meeting to Share Experiences in the Implementation of the Convention and Prepare for the Sixth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties, Bangkok, Thailand, 18 to 20 March 2002

Further to the Secretariat's Notification dated 31 January 2002 to National Focal Points concerning the Regional Preparatory Meetings for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, I have the honour to transmit herewith the Provisional Agenda and the Annotated Provisional Agenda for the Asia and Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting.

An Information Note for Participants prepared in collaboration with the UNEP/Regional Office for Asia & the Pacific is also attached.

I wish to thank you for your cooperation and continued support to the work of the Convention.

Accept Madam/Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Hamdallah Zedan
Executive Secretary

To: CBD National Focal Points





**CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL
DIVERSITY**

Distr.
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UNEP/CBD/Prep.Cop6.A&P/1
20 February 2002

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC REGIONAL
PREPARATORY MEETING FOR THE SIXTH
MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE
PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Bangkok, 18–20 March 2002

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Organizational matters:
 - 2.1 Officers;
 - 2.2 Adoption of the agenda;
 - 2.3 Organization of work.
3. Issues for in-depth consideration at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties:
 - 3.1 Forest biological diversity;
 - 3.2 Invasive alien species;
 - 3.3 Access and benefit-sharing;
 - 3.4 Strategic Plan, national reporting, and implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity.
4. Selected cross-cutting and implementation issues:
 - 4.1 Article 8(j) and related provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity;
 - 4.2 Financial resources and mechanism;
 - 4.3 Biological diversity and tourism;
 - 4.4 Biodiversity education and public awareness.

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5. Issues of special concern to the region.
6. Other matters.
7. Adoption of the report.
8. Closure of the meeting.



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Bangkok, 18–20 March 2002

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

INTRODUCTION

1. In paragraph 33 of decision V/20, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity recognized that activities at the subregional and regional levels have an important role to play in preparing for meetings under the Convention and enhancing its implementation, and called upon Parties to participate actively in suitable subregional and regional activities, as well as on the Executive Secretary, subject to necessary voluntary contributions, to facilitate the involvement in such subregional and regional activities of developing country Parties, in particular the least developed and small island developing States, and other Parties with economies in transition.
2. The Open-ended Inter-Sessional Meeting on the Strategic Plan, National Reports and Implementation of the Convention, convened in Montreal from 19 to 21 November 2001, pursuant to paragraph 38 of decision V/20, also acknowledged the important role that regional and subregional mechanisms and networks play in promoting the implementation of the Convention and providing forums for the preparation of regional inputs to meetings of the Convention and for translating decisions of the Conference of the Parties into regional actions.
3. Accordingly, the Executive Secretary is convening an Asia and the Pacific regional preparatory meeting for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in Bangkok from 18 to 20 March 2002.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

4. The meeting will take place at the United Nations Building in Bangkok. It will be opened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 18 March 2002. Registration of participants will take place on Monday, 18 March 2002 from 8.30 a.m. to 10 a.m.

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ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

2.1. *Officers*

5. Participants will be invited to elect a Chairperson and a Rapporteur for the meeting.

2.2. *Adoption of the agenda*

6. The meeting is invited to consider and adopt the provisional agenda contained in document UNEP/CBD/Prep.Cop6.A&P/1, which has been prepared by the Executive Secretary.

2.3. *Organization of work*

7. The meeting may wish to consider carrying out its deliberations only in plenary. The language of the meeting will be English.

8. Participants are invited to consider the suggested timetable for its deliberations as proposed in the provisional organization of work annexed to the present document.

9. The documents prepared for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in particular draft decisions recommended by inter-sessional meetings and proposals by the Executive Secretary, will form the basis of discussions at the meeting. All national focal points for the Convention on Biological Diversity have been sent the relevant pre-session documents for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and participants are, therefore, requested to bring their own copies of these documents. These documents can also be down-loaded from the Secretariat's website at <http://www.biodiv.org>.

ITEM 3. ISSUES FOR IN-DEPTH CONSIDERATION AT THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES

10. At its fourth meeting, the Conference of the Parties by its decision IV/16 adopted a programme of work for the period from the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties until the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties as contained in annex II to the decision. In accordance with the decision, the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties will focus on the following as issues for in-depth consideration: forest biological diversity; alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species; and access and benefit-sharing. In addition, the Conference of the Parties will consider the report and recommendations of the Open-ended Inter-Sessional Meeting on the Strategic Plan, National Reports and the Implementation of the Convention as one the key issues. The regional preparatory meeting may wish to further review the respective recommendations contained on these issues in documents prepared for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The following pre-session documents for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties will be relevant to the discussions:

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
UNEP/CBD/COP/6/3	Report of the sixth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice
UNEP/CBD/COP/6/4	Report of the seventh meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice
UNEP/CBD/COP/6/5	Report of the Open-ended Inter-Sessional Meeting on the Strategic Plan, National Reports and Implementation of the

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	Strategic Plan, National Reports and Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity
UNEP/CBD/COP/6/6	Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Access and Benefit-sharing
UNEP/CBD/COP/6/17	Forest biological diversity
UNEP/CBD/COP/6/18	Alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species
UNEP/CBD/COP/6/19	Access and benefit-sharing as related to genetic resources

ITEM 4. SELECTED CROSS-CUTTING AND IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

11. The Conference of the Parties will also be considering a number of cross-cutting and implementation issues. Most of these issues have been discussed in inter-sessional meetings held under the Convention. Specific recommendations have been made by such meetings for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties. The Executive Secretary has also proposed several recommendations regarding the way forward on these agenda items for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties. Cross-cutting and implementation issues of specific interest to the region on the agenda of the Conference of the Parties include: Article 8(j) and related provisions of the Convention; financial resources and mechanism; biological diversity and tourism; and biodiversity education and public awareness. Under this agenda item, the meeting may wish to further consider the various proposals regarding these agenda items as contained in the documents prepared for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The following pre-session documents for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties will be relevant for the discussions:

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>
UNEP/CBD/COP/6/7	Report of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Inter-Sessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions
UNEP/CBD/COP/6/12	Progress report on cross-cutting issues
UNEP/CBD/COP/6/13	Progress report on mechanisms for implementation
UNEP/CBD/COP/6/13/Add.2	Education and Public Awareness
UNEP/CBD/COP/6/14	Financial resources and mechanism

ITEM 5. ISSUES OF SPECIAL CONCERN TO THE REGION

12. Under this agenda item, the meeting may wish to identify and underline specific issues of concern to the region and possible action by the Conference of the Parties to be drawn to the attention of the Conference at its sixth meeting.

ITEM 6. OTHER MATTERS

13. Under this item, the meeting will have the opportunity to consider any other items proposed and accepted for discussion.

ITEM 7. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

14. At the end of the meeting, the meeting will be invited to adopt its report, which will be presented to the Conference of the Parties at its sixth meeting for consideration. The report of the meeting will be adopted in English only.

ITEM 8. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

15. The Asia and the Pacific regional preparatory meeting for the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties will be closed on Wednesday, 20 March 2002.

Annex

**PROVISIONAL ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR THE ASIA AND THE
PACIFIC REGIONAL PREPARATORY MEETING FOR THE SIXTH
MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY**

<i>Monday</i> <i>18 March 2002</i> 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Opening of the meeting 2. Organizational matters: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1 Officers; 2.2 Adoption of the agenda; 2.3 Organization of work. 3. Issues for in-depth consideration at the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3.1 Forest biological diversity;.
3 – 6 p.m.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3.2. Alien species that threaten ecosystems, habitats or species; 3.3. Access and benefit-sharing.
<i>Tuesday,</i> <i>19 March 2002</i> 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3.4. Strategic Plan, national reporting and implementation of the Convention 4. Selected cross-cutting and implementation issues: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4.1 Article 8(j) and related provisions of the Convention
3 – 6 p.m.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4.2. Financial resources and mechanism; 4.3. Biological diversity and tourism; 4.4. Biodiversity education and public awareness.
<i>Wednesday</i> <i>20 March 2002</i> 10 a.m to 1 p.m	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Issues of special concern to the region.
3 p.m to 6 p.m	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Other matters 7. Adoption of the report 8. Closure of the meeting

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ENGLISH ONLY

ASIA AND THE PACIFIC REGIONAL
PREPARATORY MEETING FOR THE SIXTH
MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE
PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

Bangkok, Thailand
18–20 March 2002

Information for Participants

The Asia and the Pacific Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Sixth Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity will be held from Monday, 18 March to Wednesday, 20 March 2002. The meeting will be held at the United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC), Bangkok, Thailand.

Venue United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC)
The United Nations Building
Rajdamnern Nok Avenue
Bangkok 10200
Thailand
Contact through UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
Telephone: + 662-288-2126 / 1899
Facsimile: + 662-280-3829
E-mail: katepasook@un.org / kasemsant@un.org

Registration

Registration will take place on Monday, 18 March 2002 from 8:00 am to 9:45 am at the ground floor, UNCC. The official opening of the meeting will take place on Monday, 18 March at 10:00 am. **Delegates are kindly requested to pre-register using the attached form (Annex I) in order to facilitate the registration process.**

For identification and security reasons, participants are reminded that they should wear their name badges at all times during the meeting at social functions and in the United Nations complex.

Documents

The pre-session documents for the meeting have already been dispatched to the National Focal Points. These documents are also available at the Secretariat's web page at www.biodiv.org. **Delegates are kindly reminded to bring their documents, as they will only be available in Bangkok in limited quantities for reasons of economy.**

Working languages of the meeting

The meeting will be held in English only.

All the microphones on the tables in the meeting room are automatically operated. Before speaking, participants are requested to press the button on their microphones until the red light is on. At the end of each intervention, participants are requested to press the button again until the red light is off.

Medical services

First aid and medical services are available at the Medical Centre, fourth floor, Service Building, during weekdays. The ESCAP doctor is available from 0700 to 1515 hours. Appointment should be made through the Nurse at extension 1352.

Postal services

Postal services are available at the Post and Telegraphic Office, UN Branch, ground floor, UNCC. It is open from 0800 to 1600 hours, without lunch break, Monday to Friday, except for official holidays. Services of overseas telephone calls and fax transmission are also available at the Post and Telegraphic Office at government regulated charge rates.

Catering services

Food and beverage are served at the Delegates' Dining Room, level 1, UNCC from 1130 to 1400 hours. In addition, a snack bar serving sandwiches, pastries, coffee/tea and soft drinks is located at the Delegates' Lounge, level 1, UNCC. It is open from 0800 to 1600 hours. Catering services mainly for U.N. staff are also available at the Cafeteria and Canteen on the fourth and ground floors of the Service Building respectively. They are open from 0700 to 1400 hours.

Arrival at the airport

Participants should make their own transportation arrangements from Bangkok International Airport (Don Muang Airport) to their respective hotels. Public metered-taxi and bus services are readily available at the airport at the following prevailing rates:

Thai Limousine Service	Baht 500 (standard) 650 (larger sedan) /per car (pre-pay at the counter and obtain a coupon)
Public metered-taxi	Fare shown on meter, plus Baht 50 surcharge Tollway fee is exclusive

Hotel, Bangkok Centre Hotel, Wongwien 22 and stop at Bangkok Railway Station (Hua Lampong).

Out Bound: From Bangkok Railway Station (Hua Lampong), pass Rama IV Road, Phayathai Road, Pathumwan Princess Hotel, Maboonkroong, Siam Centre, Siam Inter-Continental Hotel, along the same routes and stop at Don Muang Airport.

To avail themselves of the services of limousine and public metered-taxi as indicated above, it is strongly recommended that participants contact only the officials who are authorized to man the counters located at the airport arrival lounge. The officials, upon contact, will issue a ticket for the assignment of either a limousine or a public metered-taxi for transporting passengers to the desired destination.

Local transportation

It will not be possible to provide transportation for participants between hotels and the venue of the meeting. Metered taxis are generally available.

Return bookings

Participants are advised to ensure that their return bookings are confirmed soon after their arrival in Bangkok. For this purpose, they should contact the travel agent located on the first floor, Secretariat Building, extensions 2173 and 2174.

Weather

The weather in Bangkok is warm and humid. Light tropical clothing will be appropriate. The conference room where the meeting is to be held is air-conditioned and the temperature is maintained in the range of 21-25.5 degrees celsius (70-78 degrees fahrenheit).

Hotel Information

Block reservation has been made at the following hotels, which are closed to the venue and offer special rates. Please note that delegates are responsible for making their own bookings. When making reservation, delegates should indicate the name of the meeting and to avail the special rates, should cite the reference “**UNEP Bangkok**”, as the co-organizer of the meeting.

Special room rates, per day (in Baht)

	Single	Double
	(Nett)	(Nett)
Royal Princess Hotel 269 Larn Luang Road Bangkok Tel. (662) 2813088 Fax. (662) 2801314	1,750	1,950

E-mail: larnluang@dusit.com
<http://bangkok-larnluang.royalprincess.com/>

Prince Palace Hotel	1,200	1,300
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Prince Palace Hotel
 488/800 Bo Bae Tower,
 Damrongrak Road,
 (Krungkasem Road),
 Klong Mahanak, Promprab,
 Bangkok,10100, THAILAND
 Tel : (662) 628-1111
 Fax : (622) 628-1000
 E-mail: reservation@princepalace.co.th
<http://princepalace.co.th/>

The indicative rates quoted above represent group room rates, inclusive of daily American breakfast, service charge and government tax. Charges for meals other than the American breakfast will be extra and are subject to a 10 per cent service charge and 7 per cent VAT. The hotel room rents are subject to alteration without prior notice.

Time Zone

Thailand is GMT + 7.

Electricity

Electricity in Thailand is 220 Volts.

Visas

Please find attached Annex II, which lists the countries whose nationals require an entry visa for Thailand.

The requirements are :

- (a) must be in possession of a valid passport or an appropriate travel document recognized by Thailand.
- (b) must be in possession of an air ticket valid for return journey within 15 days.
- (c) two passport size photographs and a visa fee of Baht 300.

Participants from countries other than those mentioned above are requested to obtain information on entry visas from the Thai diplomatic or consular missions at the point of origin or en route prior to entering the Kingdom of Thailand.

Holders of a United Nations laissez-passer are exempted from visa requirements for stays not

exceeding 15 days.

In all cases, participants are reminded that the transit visa granted on arrival is not extendable.

Official Language

The official language of Thailand is Thai but English is understood and spoken in the hotels.

Foreign exchange

Participants may bring with them into Thailand unrestricted sums of foreign currency in the form of traveller's cheques, drafts, letter of credit or other banking instruments which may be exchanged for Thai currency at the prevailing exchange rates. The current rate vis-à-vis the US Dollar stands at approximately 44 Thai Baht for one US Dollar.

Credit Cards

Major credit cards are accepted in most hotels, shopping plazas and restaurants in the city.

Annex I

**ASIAN REGIONAL PREPARATORY MEETING FOR THE SIXTH CONFERENCE OF THE
PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
BANGKOK, THAILAND, 18-20 MARCH 2002**

Pre-Registration Form (Please print)

Mr. / Mrs. / Ms. / Amb. / Dr. / Prof.

FAMILY NAME: _____

First name: _____

Representing:

GOVERNMENT : _____

Ministry/department/agency : _____	
Official Address : _____	

Telephone : + (_____) _____	
Fax : + (_____) _____	
Telex : + (_____) _____	
E-MAIL : _____	
URL: _____	
Signature : _____	Date: _____
Please return duly filled by 28 February 2002 to:	
Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity World Trade Center 393 Saint-Jacques St., Suite 300	
Montreal, Quebec, Canada H2Y 1N9 Fax : + 1 (514) 288-6588 E-mail: secretariat@biodiv.org	
URL: http://www.biodiv.org	Annex II

Nationals of the following 58 countries may enter the Kingdom of Thailand for a maximum period of 30 days without a visa. However, if the duration of their stay is expected to exceed 30 days, an appropriate entry visa must be obtained in advance from Thai diplomatic or consular missions in their respective countries.

1. Argentina
2. Australia
3. Austria
4. Bahrain
5. Belgium
6. Brazil
7. Brunei Darussalam
8. Canada
9. Chile
10. Cyprus
11. Denmark

12. Djibouti
13. Egypt
14. Fiji
15. Finland
16. France
17. Germany
18. Greece
19. Iceland
20. Indonesia
21. Ireland
22. Israel
23. Italy
24. Japan
25. Kenya
26. Kuwait
27. Luxembourg
28. Malaysia
29. Mauritania
30. Mexico
31. Morocco
32. Myanmar
33. Netherlands
34. New Zealand
35. Norway
36. Oman
37. Papua New Guinea
38. Philippines
39. Portugal
40. Qatar
41. Republic of Korea
42. Samoa
43. Saudi Arabia
44. Senegal
45. Singapore
46. Slovenia
47. South Africa
48. Spain
49. Sweden
50. Switzerland
51. Tunisia
52. Turkey
53. United Arab Emirates
54. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
55. United States of America
56. Vanuatu
57. Viet Nam
58. Yemen

7. Nationals of the following 96 countries may be granted a permit to stay for a period of 15 days

upon arrival by the Thai immigration authority at Bangkok International Airport, conditional on meeting certain requirements.

1. Albania
2. Andorra
3. Antigua and Barbuda
4. Armenia
5. Azerbaijan
6. Bahamas
7. Barbados
8. Belarus
9. Belize
10. Bhutan
11. Bolivia
12. Botswana
13. Bulgaria
14. Burkina Faso
15. Burundi
16. Cameroon
17. Cape Verde
18. Central African Republic
19. Chad
20. Colombia
21. Comoros
22. Costa Rica
23. Cote D'Ivoire
24. Croatia
25. Czech Republic
26. Dominica
27. Dominican Republic
28. Ecuador
29. Equatorial Guinea
30. Estonia
31. Ethiopia
32. Gabon
33. Gambia
34. Georgia
35. Grenada
36. Guatemala
37. Guinea
38. Guinea Bissau
39. Haiti
40. Honduras
41. Hungary
42. India
43. Jamaica
44. Kazakstan
45. Kiribati

46. Kyrgyzstan
47. Latvia
48. Lesotho
49. Liberia
50. Liechtenstein
51. Lithuania
52. Malawi
53. Maldives
54. Mali
55. Malta
56. Mauritius
57. Monaco
58. Nauru
59. Niger
60. Panama
61. Paraguay
62. People's Republic of China
63. Peru
64. Poland
65. Republic of Moldova
66. Romania
67. Russian Federation
68. Rwanda
69. Saint Christopher and Nevis
70. Saint Lucia
71. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
72. San Marino
73. Sao Tome and Principe
74. Seychelles
75. Sierra Leone
76. Slovak Republic
77. Solomon Islands
78. Somalia
79. Suriname
80. Swaziland
81. Tajikistan
82. Tanzania
83. Togo
84. Tonga
85. Trinidad and Tobago
86. Turkmenistan
87. Tuvalu
88. Uganda
89. Ukraine
90. Uruguay
91. Uzbekistan
92. Vatican City State
93. Venezuela
94. Zaire

95. Zambia
96. Zimbabwe
