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SUBSIDIARY BODY ON IMPLEMENTATION

Second meeting
Montreal, Canada, 9-13 July 2018
Agenda item 10

RECOMMENDATION ADOPTED BY THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON IMPLEMENTATION

2/8. Capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer

The Subsidiary Body on Implementation

1. *Takes note* of the progress report on the implementation of the short-term action plan (2017-2020) to enhance and support capacity-building for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols supported and facilitated by the Executive Secretary in collaboration with various partners;¹

2. *Welcomes* the elements of the process for the preparation of a long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020 and the terms of reference for the study to provide an information base for the preparation of the framework, emphasizing the need to maximize synergies with the preparatory process for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;²

3. *Invites* Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant organizations, including women's and youth organizations, to provide the Executive Secretary with information that is relevant to the above study, including their priority capacity needs and gaps, major ongoing capacity development initiatives, case studies highlighting best practices and lessons learned, as well as views and suggestions on the possible elements of the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Informal Advisory Committee to the Clearing-house Mechanism, to further review the draft terms of reference for an informal advisory committee on technical and scientific cooperation contained in annex II and to make the updated draft terms of reference available for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting;

5. *Recommends* that the Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth meeting adopt a decision along the following lines:³

I. Draft decision for the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity

The Conference of the Parties,

A. Capacity-building

Recalling decisions XIII/23 and XIII/24,

¹ CBD/SBI/2/INF/6.

² See General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015.

³ The draft decision is based on conclusions of the note by the Executive Secretary and its addendum as well as the elements from recommendation XXI/4, paragraph 9, of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.

Taking note of the progress report on the implementation of the short-term action plan (2017-2020) to enhance and support capacity-building for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols supported and facilitated by the Executive Secretary in collaboration with various partners,⁴

Noting with appreciation the support provided by Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations for capacity-building activities and technical and scientific cooperation activities to assist developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States and countries with economies in transition, including countries that are centres of origin and diversity of genetic resources, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth,

Emphasizing the importance of careful prioritization of capacity-building needs in alignment with the post-2020 biodiversity framework,

Recalling decision XIII/23 paragraph 14, in which it invited Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations in a position to do so to provide financial, technical and human resources to support capacity-building and technical and scientific cooperation for developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States and countries with economies in transition;

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources:

(a) To commission a study to provide an information base for the preparation of the framework in accordance with the terms of reference contained in the appendix to annex I hereto;

(b) To include, in the independent evaluation of the impacts, outcomes and effectiveness of the short-term action plan (2017-2020) requested in decision XIII/23, paragraph 15(g), monitoring and evaluation of the outcomes and effectiveness of ongoing capacity-building activities supported and facilitated by the Secretariat in the light of the contribution to the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;

(c) To organize, in conjunction with the preparatory process for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, regional and stakeholder-specific consultative workshops and online discussion forums to enable Parties to the Convention and Parties to its Protocols, as well as indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant organizations, including women's and youth organizations, to contribute to the preparation of the draft long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020, taking into account the synthesis of views and information received;

(d) To submit a draft long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020 aligned with the draft post-2020 biodiversity framework and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development⁵ for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its third meeting and for subsequent consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting;

2. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations, as appropriate, to provide financial and technical support for the organization of the regional consultative workshops and online discussion forums referred to above;

B. Technical and scientific cooperation

Recalling decisions XIII/23, XIII/31, XII/2, X/16, IX/14, VIII/12 and VII/29 regarding technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer,

Taking note of the report on the progress made to promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation, including the achievements made under the Bio-Bridge Initiative;⁶

⁴ Updated version of CBD/SBI/2/INF/6.

⁵ See General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015.

⁶ Updated version of CBD/SBI/2/9.

3. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations in a position to do so to register as providers of technical assistance through the clearing-house mechanism;

4. *Invites* providers of technical and scientific assistance, including the Consortium of Scientific Partners, to communicate to the Executive Secretary through the clearing-house mechanism the priority themes, geographic coverage and types of services that they are able to offer to other Parties;

5. *Decides* to consider establishing at its fifteenth meeting an informal advisory committee on technical and scientific cooperation to be operational at the end of the mandate of the current Informal Advisory Committee to the Clearing-house Mechanism in 2020, to provide the Executive Secretary with advice on practical measures, tools and opportunities to promote technical and scientific cooperation for the effective implementation of the Convention;

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with partners and subject to the availability of resources, to further promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation, in particular the promotion of cooperation on training in DNA technologies, such as DNA barcoding for rapid species identification in countries and regions concerned, through the Global Taxonomy Initiative, as well as promotion of cooperation through the Bio-Bridge Initiative, and to submit a progress report for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its third meeting and by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting;

C. Clearing-house mechanism

Noting the progress made with the implementation of the web strategy for the Convention and its Protocols and the development of national clearing-house mechanisms, including the roll-out of the Bioland tool by the Executive Secretary to assist Parties in the establishment or improvement of their national clearing-house mechanisms,⁷

7. *Invites* Parties and other Governments that do not have national clearing-house mechanisms and those wishing to redesign existing ones to use the Bioland tool developed by the Executive Secretary;

8. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations, as appropriate, to continue providing the necessary financial, technical and human resources to support the further development of national clearing-house mechanisms, or migration of existing national clearing-house mechanism websites to the Bioland tool;

9. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources:

(a) To continue to support the efforts of Parties to establish, sustain, and further develop their national clearing-house mechanisms, including through:

(i) Ongoing development and promotion of the Bioland tool;

(ii) Facilitating and organizing training, in collaboration with Parties and relevant organizations, to assist Parties in developing their national clearing-house mechanisms;

(b) To continue to implement the work programme for the clearing-house mechanism in support of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with the guidance of the Informal Advisory Committee to the Clearing-House Mechanism;

(c) To contribute to the development and testing of the Data and Reporting Tool, in collaboration with the InforMEA Initiative, with a view to learning from Parties' experiences in delivering their sixth national reports to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and facilitating its use for further reporting processes across the biodiversity-related conventions, as appropriate;

⁷ See CBD/SBI/2/9.

(d) To seek advice from the Informal Advisory Committee to the Clearing-house Mechanism on matters relating to technical and scientific cooperation in accordance with Article 18 for the duration of its current mandate;

(e) To submit a progress report on the above activities, including progress on the use of the Bioland tool and its effectiveness, to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation for consideration at its third meeting;

II. Draft decision for the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol

6. *Recommends* that the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol at its third meeting adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol, Recalling decisions [NP-1/8](#) and [NP-2/8](#),

1. *Takes note* of the progress report on the implementation of the short-term action plan (2017-2020) to enhance and support capacity-building for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols supported and facilitated by the Executive Secretary in collaboration with various partners;⁸

2. *Welcomes* the terms of reference for the study to provide an information base for the preparation of a long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020, as contained in the appendix to annex I to the present decision, and *notes* that, in decision XIV/--, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to commission a study, subject to the availability of resources, to provide an information base for the preparation of a long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020, and *requests* that aspects relevant to the Nagoya Protocol be considered in the study;

3. *Invites* Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant organizations to provide the Executive Secretary with views and suggestions on the possible elements of the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020;

4. *Also invites* Parties as well as indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant organizations to participate in the consultative workshops and online discussion forums on the draft long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020, in conjunction with the preparatory process for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

5. *Requests* the Informal Advisory Committee on Capacity-building for the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol to contribute to the development of the draft long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020;

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to submit a draft long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020 for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its third meeting and for subsequent consideration by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its fourth meeting;

III. Draft decision for the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol

7. *Recommends* that the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol at its ninth meeting adopt a decision along the following lines:

⁸ Updated version of document CBD/SBI/2/INF/6.

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,

Recalling decisions [BS-VI/3](#) and [CP-VIII/3](#),

1. *Takes note* of the progress report on the implementation of the short-term action plan (2017-2020) to enhance and support capacity-building for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols supported and facilitated by the Executive Secretary in collaboration with various partners;⁹

2. *Welcomes* the terms of reference for the study to provide an information base for the preparation of a long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020, as contained in the appendix to annex I to the present decision, and *notes* that, in decision XIV/--, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to commission a study, subject to the availability of resources, to provide an information base for the preparation of a long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020, and *requests* that aspects relevant to the Cartagena Protocol be considered in the study;

3. *Invites* Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant organizations to provide the Executive Secretary with views and suggestions on the possible elements of the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020;

4. *Also invites* Parties, as well as indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant organizations to participate in the consultative workshops and online discussion forums on the draft long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020, in conjunction with the preparatory process for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

5. *Requests* the Liaison Group on Capacity-building for Biosafety to contribute to the development of the draft long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020;

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to submit a draft long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020 for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its third meeting and for subsequent consideration by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety at its tenth meeting.

⁹ Updated version of document CBD/SBI/2/INF/6.

*Annex I***ELEMENTS OF THE PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF A LONG-TERM STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR CAPACITY-BUILDING BEYOND 2020****A. Introduction**

1. At its thirteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to initiate a process for preparing a long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020, ensuring its alignment with the follow-up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the work of the Protocols, and ensuring its coordination with the timetable for the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, with a view to the timely identification of the priority capacity-building actions.
2. In paragraph 15(n) of decision XIII/23, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive to prepare terms of reference for a study to provide the knowledge base for the preparation a long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its second meeting and subsequently by the Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth meeting, ensuring that the study takes into account, inter alia, the implementation of the short-term action plan for capacity-building and relevant experiences reported by Parties in their national reports.
3. Under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its sixth meeting adopted a Framework and Action Plan for Capacity-Building for the Effective Implementation of the Protocol and agreed to review it at its eighth meeting (decision BS-VI/3). Following that review, Parties to the Protocol decided to maintain the Framework and Action Plan until 2020 (decision CP-VIII/3).
4. Similarly, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol, in its decision NP-1/8, adopted a strategic framework for capacity-building and development to support the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol covering the period until 2020. In the same decision, the Executive Secretary was requested to prepare an evaluation of the strategic framework in 2019 and submit a report for consideration by the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol in 2020 to facilitate the review and possible revision of the strategic framework in conjunction with the review of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

B. Scope of the process for preparing the framework

5. The process will encompass the following tasks:
 - (a) Conduct a study to provide the knowledge base for the preparation the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020 in accordance with the terms of reference in the appendix below;
 - (b) Preparation of draft elements of the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020, taking into account information contained in the report on the above study, including the needs and circumstances of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, and countries with economies in transition;
 - (c) The draft elements will include, inter alia, an overall vision and a theory of change defining bold long-term capacity development benchmarks and outcomes to support the transformational change towards achieving the 2050 Vision of “living in harmony with nature”, general guiding principles, possible pathways to achieve effective and impactful capacity development; and a monitoring and evaluation framework, including possible measurable intermediate and long-term capacity outcome indicators;
 - (d) Organization of regional consultative workshops and online discussion forums, carried out in conjunction with the preparatory process for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.
6. Subject to the availability of funding, a consultancy firm will be engaged to conduct the study and prepare a draft study report as well as draft elements of the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020. The drafts will be discussed during the regional consultative workshops and online

discussion forums to be organized by the Secretariat and relevant organizations in conjunction with the preparatory process for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. The consultancy firm will integrate the input received through consultative workshops and online discussion forums into the final draft strategic framework for capacity development, which will then be submitted for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its third meeting and ultimately by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting.

C. Indicative schedule of activities

7. The process for preparing a long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020 will include the following activities, to be aligned with the timetable for the development of a follow-up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020:

<i>Activity/Task</i>	<i>Timeframe</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>
1. Invitation of Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth and relevant organizations to submit information on capacity development needs and priorities, relevant experiences and lessons learned, as well as views/suggestions on possible elements of the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020, complementing information provided through the national reports	Aug-Nov 2018	Secretariat; Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant organizations
2. Submission of the national reports	Dec 2018	Parties
3. Independent evaluation of the outcomes and effectiveness of the short-term action plan (2017-2020) to enhance and support capacity-building for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols	Jun-Dec 2019	Consultant
4. Conduct of the study to provide the knowledge base for the preparation the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020, including a desk review of relevant reports and documents; synthesis of the information received from Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, and relevant organizations; and surveys/interviews with key stakeholders, including women's and youth organizations	Jan-April 2019	Consultant
5. Preparation of a draft study report based on the submissions received from Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, women's and youth and relevant organizations and stakeholders and the review of the national reports and other relevant documents	April-May 2019	Consultant; Secretariat
6. Preparation of draft elements of the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020	May-June 2019	Consultant; Secretariat

<i>Activity/Task</i>	<i>Timeframe</i>	<i>Responsibility</i>
7. Regional consultation workshops and online discussion forums on the draft study report and associated discussion papers and the draft elements of the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020 (in conjunction with the preparatory process for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework)	Jan-July 2019	Secretariat; consultant
8. Submission of the revised study report and the revised draft elements of the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020	Aug 2019	Consultant;
9. Consultation workshop(s) on the revised draft elements of the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020	Sept-Oct 2019	Experts nominated by governments and relevant organizations
10. Preparation of the final draft long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020, taking into account, inter alia, inputs from consultation workshops, relevant information provided in the fourth national reports under the Cartagena Protocol and relevant information provided in the interim national reports under the Nagoya Protocol	Nov 2019	Secretariat; consultant
11. Notification inviting views on the final draft long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020	Dec 2019 - Feb 2020	Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant organizations
12. Consideration of the final draft long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020 by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its third meeting	May/June 2020	Subsidiary Body on Implementation, third meeting

Appendix

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A STUDY TO PROVIDE AN INFORMATION BASE FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE LONG-TERM STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR CAPACITY-BUILDING BEYOND 2020

A. Scope of the study and the process for preparing the framework

1. The study will encompass the following tasks:
 - (a) Take stock of the status of capacity development related to the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols, including major existing capacity development initiatives/programmes, tools, networks and partnerships;
 - (b) Identify and map the main providers of capacity-building support for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols in various regions, including their competencies and strengths;
 - (c) Review the emerging experiences and lessons learned with the various capacity development delivery modalities and approaches used and assess their relative effectiveness and limitations;
 - (d) Identify the Parties' main capacity development and technological needs and gaps, including at the regional level;

(e) Analyse what has been done and the types of capacity development activities that have contributed to advancements made;

(f) Make recommendations on the general direction for the long-term framework for capacity-building beyond 2020 and the priority capacity-building actions to be taken to achieve the goals and targets of the follow-up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

B. Methodology and sources of information

2. The study will use the following data collection methods and will draw on a range of data sources:

- (a) Desk review of relevant documents, including:
 - (i) The sixth national reports for the Convention;
 - (ii) Outcomes of the first Assessment and Review of the Nagoya Protocol;
 - (iii) The second (as baseline) and fourth national reports for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;
 - (iv) The second edition of the *Local Biodiversity Outlook*;
 - (v) National capacity-building strategies and action plans;¹⁰
 - (vi) Reports of the evaluations of the strategic frameworks for capacity-building of the Nagoya Protocol and the Cartagena Protocol;
 - (vii) Report of the independent evaluation of the impacts, outcomes and effectiveness of the short-term action plan (2017-2020) to enhance and support capacity-building for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols;
 - (viii) Reports of relevant studies, surveys and needs assessments conducted by relevant organizations;¹¹
 - (ix) Evaluation reports of relevant capacity-building projects;
- (b) Survey of Parties and key partners, including indigenous peoples and local communities, and women's and youth organizations, to identify, among other things, their priority capacity needs and required capacities over the next decade as well as potential offers of assistance and other capacity development opportunities, tools and services;
- (c) Analysis of capacity-building needs and priorities and other relevant information made available through the clearing-house mechanism and the clearing-houses of the Protocols;
- (d) Interviews with a representative sample of stakeholders, including CBD staff and representatives of Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, partner organizations and other actors from different regions, including technical and scientific institutions and women's and youth organizations. The interviewees will be invited to share, inter alia, information and views regarding the observed strengths and weaknesses of various capacity development approaches and delivery modalities under difference circumstances, relevant experiences and lessons learned, examples of good practices that could be leveraged as well as views on possible drivers of transformational change for future capacity development.

¹⁰ As noted in CBD/SBI/2/2/Add.1, paragraph 12, 18 out of the 154 revised national biodiversity strategies and action plans submitted to the Secretariat include a national capacity development plan.

¹¹ Including the survey of national capacity development related to the implementation of biodiversity-related conventions conducted by the International Union for Conservation of Nature on behalf of the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Development Programme report based on the analysis of over 140 national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the regional assessments carried out by Intergovernmental Science/Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.

*Annex II***DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE INFORMAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON
TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION****1. Background**

1. Article 18 of the Convention on Biological Diversity requires Parties to promote technical and scientific cooperation in the field of conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, including cooperation in human resources development and institution building, development and use of relevant technologies (including indigenous and traditional technologies), training of personnel, exchange of experts, and establishment of joint research programmes and joint ventures for development of relevant technologies.

2. In decisions XIII/23, XIII/31, XII/2, X/16, IX/14, VIII/12 and VII/29, the Conference of the Parties adopted a number of measures and provided guidance on various aspects relating to technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer. The Bio-Bridge Initiative (BBI) was established at the twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties with initial support from the Government of the Republic of Korea to promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation for the effective implementation of the Convention. A Bio-Bridge Action Plan was launched in December 2016, at the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in Cancun, Mexico, to guide the activities and operations of the Initiative for the period 2017-2020.

2. Purpose

3. The Informal Advisory Committee shall provide advice to the Executive Secretary on ways and means to promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation among Parties to the Convention. In particular, the Informal Advisory Committee shall:

4. Provide timely advice and recommendations on practical measures, approaches and mechanisms to promote technical and scientific cooperation for the effective implementation of the Convention;

5. Provide strategic and programmatic guidance to the Bio-Bridge Initiative and other programmes contributing to the implementation of Article 18 and related provisions of the Convention, including the review and approval of their proposed programme priorities, work plans, progress reports and operational policies and procedures, including project selection criteria and procedures;

6. Monitor implementation of the Bio-Bridge Initiative and other programmes contributing to the promotion of technical and scientific cooperation;

7. Work closely with the Subsidiary Body on Technical and Technological Advice to provide the Executive Secretary with advice on the development and implementation of tools and mechanism to promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation, including guidance on the resolution of technical and practical issues relating to the clearing-house mechanism;

8. Provide advice and guidance on resource mobilization opportunities, sustainability and transformational plans to promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation.

9. The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity will serve the Informal Advisory Committee, including the provision of the necessary logistical and secretarial support for its work.

3. Membership

10. The Informal Advisory Committee shall comprise experts nominated by Parties to the Convention from each of the five regions as well as experts from indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant organizations including women's and youth organizations. Members of the Informal Advisory Committee are expected to be authorities in their respective fields of expertise, such as conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and/or describe relevant topics and drivers of change. Members shall be selected on the basis of the following criteria, as evidenced in their curriculum vitae:

11. At least five years of working experience on technical and scientific areas related to the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and/or other biodiversity-related conventions;
12. Interdisciplinary expertise in science, technology and innovation relating to the themes outlined under Article 18 and other relevant provisions of the Convention, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets;
13. Demonstrated experience with regional or international cooperation processes and capacity development programmes related to the Convention.
14. Members of the Informal Advisory Committee shall be selected through a formal nomination process based on the above criteria. The Executive Secretary may select experts for specific themes or issues to be discussed at each of the Informal Advisory Committee meetings, ensuring a balance of experts on matters related to the Convention. The members shall serve in their personal capacity and not as representatives of a Government, organization or other entity.
15. Members of the Informal Advisory Committee shall serve for a term of two years, with a possibility of renewal for one additional two-year term, subject to their contributions and achievements.

4. Modus operandi

16. The Advisory Committee shall meet face-to-face at least once per year, wherever possible in the margins of other relevant meetings. The frequency of meetings can be adjusted by the members as the need arises. The Committee will work intersessionally, as appropriate, via electronic means;
 17. The Advisory Committee members shall not receive any honorarium, fee or other remuneration from the United Nations. However, costs for the participation of Committee members nominated by developing country Parties and Parties with economies in transition are covered, in line with the rules and regulations of the United Nations;
 18. The Informal Advisory Committee shall elect a Chair to steer its meetings on a rotational basis. The Chair shall serve for a period of one year at a time;
 19. The Informal Advisory Committee shall make its decisions and recommendations by consensus;
 20. The Informal Advisory Committee may, at any time, revise its working methods by consensus;
 21. The working language of the Committee shall be English.
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