



**Minutes of the SBSTTA Bureau Teleconference
4 March 2011**

Present*: Senka Barudanovic - Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chair; Joyce Thomas Peters – Grenada; Maria Barcelos Cavalcante Vieira – Brazil; Tone Solhaug – Norway; Ignatius Makumba – Zambia; Krishna Chandra Paudel – Nepal; Monyrak Meng – Cambodia; and Alexander Shestakov – Russian Federation.
From SCBD: Jo Mulongoy, Jaime Webbe and Annie Cung.

*Gabriele Obermayr – Austria (excused but submitted comments in writing in advance); and Nabil Hamada – Tunisia, could not be contacted (submitted comments in writing).

Introduction:

1. The teleconference was convened by the Chair of the Bureau with the objective of reviewing and revising the proposed agendas for SBSTTA 15 and 16 as well as addressing any other matters Bureau members and the Secretariat wished to raise.
2. After introductory comments from the Chair, it was proposed that each Bureau member in turn comment on each agenda item before moving to the next. At the end of each agenda item the Secretariat and the Bureau Chair summarized the discussions and issues that were resolved were noted.
3. The minutes below reflect the main discussions and agreements in addition to identifying additional and follow-up items for the next meeting of the Bureau. The revised agendas following the minutes are presented by the Chair for the consideration and possible approval of the Bureau members.

Opening of the meeting:

4. The teleconference started at 8:30 a.m. (Montreal time).
5. The Chair of SBSTTA welcomed participants and called for the adoption of the agenda. The agenda was adopted as follows noting that under Item 4, other matters, the meeting will consider in addition to the item submitted by the SCBD on AHTEG on indicators: (i) the possibility of a face-to-face meeting and (ii) timing for the next teleconference.

1. Consideration of draft SBSTTA 15 and 16 agendas and annotated agendas: Items
2. Consideration of draft SBSTTA 15 and 16 annotated agendas: Organisation of work
3. Ways and means to enhance scientific discussions at SBSTTA 15 and 16
4. Other matters
5. Forthcoming meetings organized by the CBD Secretariat

1. Consideration of draft SBSTTA 15 and 16 agendas and annotated agendas: Items

6. The Bureau generally trusted that the Secretariat had captured from COP 10 decisions all the agenda items that have to be considered. However, the Bureau also requested that the Secretariat develop a table based on the MYPOW indicating under which SBSTTA agenda item each issue will be taken up. This table should be shared with the Bureau to allow for the easy comparison of the links between the MYPOW and the SBSTTA agendas.

7. The Bureau also clarified the relationship between SBSTTA and WGRI in so far as discussions concerning indicators and targets for the Strategic Plan. In particular, the Bureau agreed that the technical rationale for indicators should be discussed at SBSTTA while milestones, as a political issue, should be discussed at WGRI.

8. The Bureau went through all items for both SBSTTA 15 and 16 provisional agendas and suggested some changes. The Bureau also commented that the current agenda for SBSTTA 15 seems much heavier than the agenda for SBSTTA 16. Taking into account the views of Bureau Members, the revised provisional agendas are provided in Annexes I and II.

9. Regarding SBSTTA 15 item 4.2 on Inland water biodiversity, the Bureau suggested to discuss everything related to Inland water biodiversity under this agenda item at SBSTTA 15 only (i.e., move to SBSTTA 15 the reporting item related to Inland waters which was included in the SBTTA 16 agenda).

10. Regarding geo-engineering, the Bureau expressed concern over this item being considered under different agenda items. It was agreed to keep this item under the discussions on biodiversity and climate change as geo-engineering has not followed the procedures to be considered as a new and emerging issue. Some members also requested that this item be moved to SBSTTA 16.

11. Regarding agenda SBSTTA 16 item 5. Ways and means to improve the effectiveness of the SBSTTA, which was initially only under the SBSTTA 16 agenda, the Bureau suggested to have this agenda item in both meetings (i.e. SBSTTA 15 and 16). It was suggested that if IPBES is to be addressed by SBSTTA that the following options be considered:

(a) issues related to IPBES should be discussed at SBSTTA 16 only, and in the form of either having a representative of IPBES brief the meeting or through the Secretariat producing an INF document;

(b) the report of the planned October, 2011 meeting of IPBES should be submitted to SBSTTA 15 as an INF document to allow for SBSTTA to provide feedback to the IPBES process in a timely manner. Additional consideration of issues related to IPBES could also be discussed at SBSTTA 16 as needed.

12. In both cases, consideration of IPBES could be made under 'ways and means to improve the effectiveness of the SBSTTA', taking into account the report that the Executive Secretary will prepare in collaboration with SBSTTA Bureau.

13. Regarding SBSTTA 16 item 3.1 In-depth review of the implementation of the programme of work on island biodiversity, the Bureau emphasized the need to carry out a good in-depth review of the implementation of the programme of work on island biodiversity by taking advantage of CBD meetings to collect the necessary information including SBSTTA 15 and other meetings/workshops (such as the regional NBSAP workshops) prior to SBSTTA 16. There was support for holding side events at SBSTTA 15 and/or addressing island biodiversity during relevant regional workshops such as the NBSAPs workshops.

14. Regarding SBSTTA 15 item 3.2 (version of 31 January) on the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, it was requested that this item be moved to SBSTTA 16 so that the discussions on indicators can be based on the conclusion of discussions on indicators under the Strategic Plan (SBSTTA 15 item 3.1).

15. Regarding SBSTTA 15 item 4.4 and SBSTTA 16 item 4.6, Reporting items, the Bureau recommended that, when possible, the reporting items should be addressed under their corresponding item.

16. It was noted that forest biodiversity and protected areas are not being addressed at neither SBSTTA 15 nor 16 except as reporting items. The Bureau did not believe that this is a problem but it is something to be aware of considering the importance of these items for the Strategic Plan and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

17. It was pointed out that when mentioning Arctic biodiversity, we should not refer to 'assessment' but rather to 'information on Arctic biodiversity'. This change should be reflected throughout the document including the annotated agenda. There was some concern over considering Arctic biodiversity at SBSTTA 15 and it was recommended to move it to SBSTTA 16. However, the Secretariat informed the Bureau that CAFF has agreed that a report can be available in time for SBSTTA 15.

18. A concern was raised about the dates of SBSTTA 16 in relation with the dates of the Ramsar COP. If possible, it should be considered to have SBSTTA 16 approximately one month after the Ramsar COP.

19. The large amount of work under the Marine and Coastal Biodiversity item at SBSTTA 16 raised concerns and doubt that all the requests could be fulfilled, including in particular the request to SBSTTA to produce reports. The Secretariat promised to look into this matter again but felt confident that with the support from many donors and organisations, all the requests would be met including the preparation of reports the SBSTTA could use as starting points for drafting its reports to COP.

20. The importance of respecting the COP mandates in the preparation of the documents on Marine and Coastal Biodiversity and Incentive Measures was mentioned.

2. Consideration of draft SBSTTA 15 and 16 annotated agendas: Organisation of work

21. Discussion under this item revolved around the question whether the meetings should be divided into two working groups or work only in one group (i.e. plenary only). The Bureau recognized the value of two working groups in terms of time efficiency, while also acknowledging that working in two working groups poses a challenge for one-person delegations. Therefore, it was suggested to, when preparing the organization of work, have some items that are considered more overarching in plenary (e.g. Ways and means to improve the effectiveness of the SBSTTA and the Strategic Plan) and other items in two working groups, while trying to avoid overlap between related topics.

22. The Bureau also briefly discussed the possible role of each Bureau Member at the meetings. It was suggested to have a French-speaking rapporteur at SBSTTA 15. The Chair proposed Nabil Hamada. The discussion was postponed until the next meeting of the Bureau.

3. Ways and means to enhance scientific discussions at SBSTTA 15 and 16

23. The Bureau mentioned that it would be useful to be provided with a review of the AHTEG on indicators and the NBSAP regional workshops. The Bureau requested the Secretariat to organize a side event to do this and encourages Bureau Members. It was also suggested that, whenever possible, Bureau members attend regional workshops and, as such, the Secretariat was requested to consider ways to facilitate this in light of the usual limitations of one sponsored participant per country. It was also suggested to have side events at SBSTTA 15 related to forest biodiversity given that 2011 is the International Year of Forests.

24. The Bureau agreed to take up this item at a future meeting.

4. Other matters

25. For the next meeting of the Bureau, a face-to-face meeting was suggested. The Secretariat informed that there were no funds available for such a meeting but agreed to continue trying to find sources of funding. The Bureau proposed to explore the possibility of having a face-to-face meeting just before or during the June ABS meeting or just before or during the indicators AHTEG at which many Bureau

Members may be present. Additional funding through Norway may be possible (approx. 100,000 NOK). The Secretariat was requested to identify which meeting would be most cost effective based on estimated travel and logistic costs and the expected participation of Bureau members in associated meetings.

5. Forthcoming meetings organized by the CBD Secretariat

26. A list of CBD meetings relevant to SBSTTA was sent to Bureau Members for their information. The Secretariat will try to ensure that Bureau Member participation is facilitated whenever possible.

27. A proposal on the procedure and organization of work for the forthcoming AHTEG and Expert Meeting on indicators was presented to the Bureau for their consideration. The Bureau requested more time to examine the proposal and will send comments in writing as soon as possible.

6. Closure of the meeting

28. After thanking all the Bureau Members for their active participation including the comments received from Gabriele, and the SCBD, the Chair closed the meeting at 11:00 am (Montreal time).



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**Convention on
Biological Diversity**

Distr.
Limited

UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/1
4 March 2011

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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

Fifteenth meeting

Montreal, 7-11 November 2011

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

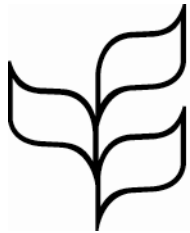
1. Opening of the meeting.
 2. Election of officers, adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
 3. Scientific and technical issues of relevance to the implementation of, reporting on, and follow-up to, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 - 2020:
 - 3.1 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 – 2020: Updated technical rationale, suggested milestones and indicators;
 - 3.2 Ways and means to support ecosystem restoration;
 - 3.3 Capacity-building strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative.
 4. Matters arising from other decisions adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties:
 - 4.1 Invasive alien species: proposals on ways and means to address gaps in international standards regarding invasive alien species introduced as pets, aquarium and terrarium species, as live bait and live food;
 - 4.2 Inland water biodiversity: Implications of changes in the water cycle, and freshwater resources in the implementation of the programmes of work;
 - 4.3 Sustainable Use: Options for small-scale food and income alternatives in tropical and sub-tropical countries and revised recommendations of the Liaison Group on Bushmeat;
 - 4.4 Arctic biodiversity;
 - 4.5 Reporting items.
 5. Ways and means to improve the effectiveness of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.
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6. Draft provisional agenda, and dates and venue for the sixteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.
7. Adoption of the report and closure of the meeting.

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

Sixteenth meeting

Montreal, 7-11 May 2012

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Election of officers, adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Scientific and technical issues of relevance to the implementation of, reporting on, and follow-up to, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011 - 2020:
 - 3.1 In-depth review of the implementation of the programme of work on island biodiversity;
 - 3.2 Global Biodiversity Outlook: plan for the preparation of the fourth edition.
 - 3.3 Global Strategy for Plant Conservation: updated technical rationales, milestones and indicators;
4. Matters arising from other decisions adopted at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties:
 - 4.1 Marine and coastal biodiversity: Identification of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas and addressing adverse impacts of human activities, including underwater noise, on marine and coastal biodiversity;
 - 4.2 Biodiversity and climate change: understanding and enhancing interlinkages;
 - 4.3 Incentive measures: progress report on activities undertaken by Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations and initiatives, and the Executive Secretary;
 - 4.4 New and emerging issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity;
 - 4.5 Reporting items.
5. Ways and means to improve the effectiveness of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.
6. Adoption of the report and closure of the meeting.
