



**Convention on
Biological Diversity**

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JOINT MEETING OF THE BUREAU OF THE
CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
AND THE BUREAU OF THE SUBSIDIARY
BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND
TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

Montreal, Canada
7 November 2009

**MINUTES OF THE SECOND JOINT MEETING OF THE BUREAU OF THE NINTH
MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND THE BUREAU OF SBSTTA**

INTRODUCTION

1. The joint meeting of the COP-9 and SBSTTA Bureau was held on 7 November 2009 in Montreal, Canada. It was preceded by an informal presentation of the Satoyama initiative by the representatives of Japan. The meeting was co-chaired by Ms. Nicola Breier, who represented the President of the ninth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and Dr. Linus Spencer Thomas, SBSTTA Chair.

2. The following members of the COP Bureau attended the meeting:

Ms. Somaly Chan (Cambodia)
Ms. Tania Temata (Cook Islands)
Mr. Joseph Ronald Toussaint (Haiti)
Professor James H. Seyani (Malawi)
Mr. Damaso Luna (Mexico)
Ms. Snežana Prokic (Serbia)
Mr. Abdelbagi Mukhtar (Sudan)
Ms. Åsa Norrman (Sweden)
Mr. Robert Lamb (Switzerland)
Dr. Volodymyr Domashlinets (Ukraine)

3. The following SBSTTA Bureau members attended the meeting:

Ms. Gabriele Obermayr (Austria)
Ms. Senka Barudanovic (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

Mr. Habib Gademi (Chad)
Mr. Mustafa Panahi (Iran)
Mr. Hesiquio Benitez (Mexico)
Mr. Krishna Chandra Paudel (Nepal)
Ms. Tone Solhaug (Norway)
Mr. Nabil Hamada (Tunisia)
Ms. Shirin Karryeva (Turkmenistan)

4. The meeting was also attended by Mr. Kazuaki Hoshino of the Ministry of Environment of Japan, and Mr. Masaki Ushiba, ex-officio members of the Bureau, as the host of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The Executive Director of UNEP was represented by Mr. Bakary Kante, Director of the Division of Environmental Law and Conventions (DELIC) and Mr. Balakrishna Pisupati. The Secretariat was represented by the Executive Secretary of the Convention, Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaif, Mr. Kalemani Mulongoy, Principal Officer, Mr. David Cooper, Senior Programme Officer, and Ms. Nandhini Iyer Krishna, CBD liaison officer in New York.

ITEM 1: OPENING OF THE MEETING

5. The COP Bureau President, in her capacity as Co Chair (President), opened the meeting. The Executive Secretary, referring to the first joint COP and SBSTTA bureau meeting in Berlin, stated that such joint meetings of the Bureau were beginning to establish an effective interface between science and policy. He expressed appreciation to the Presidency for facilitating these meetings, as also intersessional meetings of the SBSTTA Bureau. He also expressed appreciation to UNEP for facilitating regional consultations on the third Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO 3) and the Strategic Plan. He thanked Brazil and UK for hosting the forthcoming consultations in London. He indicated that two issues were on the agenda: i.e. the Revision of the Strategic Plan and GBO 3. Inputs of Bureau members were welcome on these two documents. He referred to the success of GBO 3 Scientific Review Committee chaired by Mr. Thomas Lovejoy. He indicated that the Secretariat intended to launch GBO 3 on 10 May in Nairobi at the opening of SBSTTA 14 meeting. There would be a simultaneous launch in several other capitals, notably Berlin, Tokyo, Paris, London, New York, Bangkok as well as New Delhi, as the country offering to host COP 11.

ITEM 2: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

6. The meeting adopted the agenda indicated below:

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Preparations for the third Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO 3)
4. Revision of the new strategic plan: 2010 biodiversity target and post 2010 target
5. Other matters
6. Closure of the meeting

ITEM 3: PREPARATIONS FOR THE THIRD GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY OUTLOOK (GBO 3)

7. The SBSTTA Chair, in his capacity as Co Chair, (SBSTTA Chair) paid a tribute to the excellent work done by the Secretariat, particularly the team led by Mr. Kalemani Mulongoy, Mr.

David Cooper and Mr. Robert Hoft, in preparing the Strategic Plan and GBO 3. He requested the Executive Secretary to convey, on behalf of the members of the Bureau, their deep gratitude to Mr. Thomas Lovejoy and Prof. Zakri for their contribution to the GBO 3 process. He gave a brief overview of GBO 3, highlighting its main messages as also of SBSTTA deliberations on this issue. He also briefed the group on the deliberations of the Scientific Review Committee on GBO 3. He flagged the role of the Bureau in facilitating comments and inputs by Parties on the draft text. He thanked UNEP for facilitating an extended SBSTTA meeting in May in Nairobi. He stressed the need to link the GBO 3 findings and integrate them appropriately in the Strategic Plan. The Chairman also requested the Executive Secretary to invite Mr. Lovejoy to make a key note presentation at the opening of SBSTTA 14 on 10 May 2010.

8. Responding to a query from the President on the process ahead for finalization of GBO 3, the Executive Secretary stated that the peer review of the draft by the Scientific Review Committee had been useful and their comments would be integrated in the draft. The comments of SBSTTA, as also the joint COP-SBSTTA Bureau meeting, would also be integrated. The revised draft is expected to be available for further comments from 25 November to 25 December. Additional comments would be sought and the sixth Trondheim International Conference on Biodiversity to be held in early February 2010 would provide another opportunity for further consultation. The summary of GBO 3 would be translated into the U.N. official languages and distributed as an official document of SBSTTA 14. He reiterated the request to the Bureau to assist in expediting the submission of remaining national reports and expressed the hope that 100% submission of national reports could be achieved before COP 10. He also requested the Bureau to assist in the implementation of the GBO 3 communication strategy. He stressed that SBSTTA and its Bureau had an important role to play during the IYB in promoting the findings of GBO 3.

9. The Executive Secretary also stressed the need for a differentiated, scaled approach in outreach, as also phased release of findings, comparable to approach used by IPCC, so as to maximize effective communication of the findings of GBO 3. It would therefore be important to target specific regions, stakeholders and high level events with relevant extracts from GBO 3, suitably packaged. The important role of women was acknowledged by CBD and this would be reflected in the possible convening of a Summit on Women and Biodiversity on 8 March, and also a special event on the sidelines of COP 10. He also stressed the crucial importance of adequate funding for translation, packaging, and invitation of crucial advocates for GBO 3 e.g. members of STAP to high level events. The Executive Secretary also expressed appreciation to the donors that have provided financial resources and invited others to do so as additional funds were required to implement the GBO 3 communication strategy. In response to some observations on the modalities of national launches of GBO 3, the Executive Secretary clarified that the launch and promotion of GBO 3 were two distinct processes. The multiple location press conferences would serve to launch the GBO 3. Mexico had organized a national level event to promote nationally relevant findings. Others might wish to consider a comparable event. The Executive Secretary of ESCAP agreed to launch GBO 3 in Bangkok on 10 May 2010, but would require Asia specific findings to be packaged for effective outreach.

10. Other high level, high impact, events with a specific focus on biodiversity would include the African Development Summit, Francophonie Summit and the high level event of the UNGA. There are also opportunities to input to the MDG and Mauritius plus Five Summits in the UNGA in 2010. For this, the Secretariat would need funding for an additional staff who could extract such event/region/interest group specific findings/information from GBO 3 for effective outreach. The Executive Secretary also flagged the need for strong interlinkages between GBO 3, NBSAPs,

TEEB, as also the UNDP Commission for Biodiversity, Ecosystems, Finance and Development and the Strategic Plan, for effective uptake of GBO 3 findings.

11. A detailed discussion ensued. The main points made included: the importance of comments by Parties on the draft, since there would be no intersessional SBSTTA session; the need for targets as a means of promoting GBO 3; the need to target groups such as women, youth, SIDS; the need for information extracts from GBO 3 which would be relevant in other fora/negotiations e.g. climate change or for the public, different Ministries in capitals e.g. Finance; the need for greater emphasis on marine and oceans; more information targeted at operationalising the relevant GEF windows; the utility of a link to TEEB; and the need for training for environmental journalists at the regional level.

12. The representative of UNEP indicated that UNEP was ready to examine the possibility of providing the necessary financial assistance for the preparation of the “policy” briefs, targeting the high level events indicated as also major stakeholders, including different regions.

13. The President summarised the discussions by stating that effective outreach on GBO 3 was essential. It was agreed that a notification would be issued calling on Parties to provide comments on the draft GBO 3 and underscoring the importance of this exercise in view of the absence of an intersessional session of SBSTTA, where GBO 3 could be reviewed. It was agreed that for effective communication of GBO 3 findings, it would be important to develop differentiated extracts/policy briefs for specific targets such as regions, high level events etc. The offer by UNEP to assist in this, by providing the necessary funding, was welcomed with appreciation.

ITEM 4: REVISION OF THE NEW STRATEGIC PLAN: 2010 BIODIVERSITY TARGET AND POST 2010 TARGET

14. The Secretariat described the process for the revisions and updating of the Strategic plan, post 2010. In response to numerous notifications from the Secretariat, submissions had been received from approximately (20) Parties, including the EU. Some submissions had also been received from NGOs. A number of consultations/meetings had already provided opportunities for further inputs (High level meeting of eminent experts, Liege meeting). The Secretariat had prepared an analysis/synthesis of views submitted and together with the submissions received and, together with the submissions received; this is available on the CBD website. Regional consultations are also being planned, in the coming months, in collaboration with UNEP and IUCN Countdown 2010, with the support of Japan, among others. An expert workshop being co-hosted by Brazil and UK in London from 18-20 January 2010 would provide inputs to the Strategic Plan. The sixth Trondheim Conference, being organised in Norway in February, would provide yet another opportunity for input to the process of revising and updating the Strategic Plan. The formal draft of the Strategic Plan would then be finalized by the Secretariat and submitted for formal consideration by SBSTTA 14 and WGRI 3.

15. Points that came up in the detailed discussions that ensued included: the need for the Strategic Plan to reflect, in its structure and outcome, the three objectives of the Convention; greater emphasis on the “means of implementation”, particularly financing, transfer of technology, and capacity building; if specific targets were being included for other sectors, then targets should also be included for “means for implementation”; reflection of synergies with other MEAs as also role of other relevant biodiversity related Conventions; greater visibility for Climate Change, Ocean acidification issues; “Mission” section of the draft should cover not just threats but also mainstream biodiversity in development; financial and programmatic implications should be reflected in the Strategic plan; the need for more action oriented outcomes; the need to include means to monitor progress; link between water scarcity crisis and biodiversity; the role of

private sector; existing programmes/initiatives such as on Global Taxonomy, Plant Conservation Strategy to be included; the need for a more eye-catching title; the need for more conceptual rigour when addressing objective and outcome; and the need to take into account the long gestation periods for biodiversity/ecosystems to recover, which might not synchronise with international target timelines.

16. The representative of UNEP stressed the need to address “means of implementation” and ABS. Integration of inputs from the other MEAs as also from the EMG would be useful. He also flagged the need to launch a United Nations Decade for Biodiversity, to run in parallel with the Strategic Plan.

17. The Executive Secretary thanked the Bureau for the extraordinary richness of inputs and perspectives. He indicated that targets were a useful means of generating political buy in. The 2010 target had served its purpose by galvanizing international attention on the issue of biodiversity loss. The Strategic Plan would be endorsed by over 10,000 participants at COP10. This itself would be significant. Ownership was necessary of the targets and this could be done by forging a close link with NBSAPS. Monitoring would be undertaken through the national reports. “Means of implementation” were crucial. The Executive Secretary paid tribute to Japan for planning ahead on this issue. The input of business was also essential and would be solicited at forthcoming consultations. The Executive Secretary also paid tribute to Japan for launching networks of civil society to serve as “Friends of CBD”, and these groups would be forging twining arrangements with comparable networks in other countries. The Executive Secretary also welcomed the suggestion for a United Nations Decade on Biodiversity

18. The President summarized the rich discussions. She stated that the Secretariat had noted the various proposals and would refine the document in the light of the proposals made. There would be further opportunities, during the coming week, to provide additional comments on the document and the Bureau would address the issue again, if necessary. As the Secretariat had noted, there would be many opportunities to further discuss the Strategic Plan in the coming months.

ITEM 5: OTHER MATTERS

19. No specific issues were raised under this agenda item.

ITEM 6: CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

20. The President noted that joint meetings of the COP and SBSTTA Bureau are very useful. The third meeting will take place in May 2010 in Nairobi. The meeting was closed at 1800 on Saturday, 7 November.
