

**Convention on
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JOINT MEETING OF THE BUREAUX OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE
PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND
THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC,
TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE
Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre
Kuala Lumpur, 20 February 2016

**MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE BUREAUX OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE
PARTIES AND THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND
TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE**

INTRODUCTION

1. A joint meeting of the Bureaux of the Conference of the Parties (COP) and the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) was held on 20 February 2016, 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m., at the margins of the fourth meeting of the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
2. The meeting was attended by the following members of the COP Bureau: Mr. Jae Choe, (Republic of Korea, COP Presidency), Mr. Mike Ipanga (Democratic Republic of the Congo), Ms. Skumsa Mancotywa (South Africa), Mr. Yousef Al-Hafedh (Saudi Arabia), Ms. Fumiko Nakao (Japan), Mr. Hem Pande (India substitute for Japan for matters related to the Nagoya Protocol), Ms. Natalya Minchenko (Belarus), Ms. Senka Barudanovic (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Ms. Elvana Ramaj (Albania, the substitute for Bosnia and Herzegovina for matters related to the Nagoya Protocol), Ms. Maria Luisa del Rio Mispireta (Peru), Mr. Randolph Edmead (St. Kitts and Nevis), Ms. Tia Stevens (Australia), Ms. Mette Gervin Damsgaard (Denmark) and Mr. Andreas Obrecht (Switzerland, the substitute for Australia for matters related to the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols). Apologies were received from: Dr. Indarjit Ramdass (Guyana, the substitute for St. Kitts and Nevis for matters related to the Nagoya Protocol).
3. The meeting was attended by the following members of the SBSTTA Bureau: Mr. Andrew Bignell (New Zealand), Chair; Mr. Horst Korn (Germany); Ms. Prudence Galega (Cameroon); Ms. Lourdes Coya de la Fuente (Cuba); Mr. Nialuga Evaimalo Tavita (Samoa); Ms. Shirin Karryeva (Turkmenistan); and Mr. Aleksandar Mijović (Montenegro). Ms. Malta (Nopasika) Qwathekana (South Africa) participated by video conference. Apologies were received from Mr. Endang Sukara (Indonesia); Ms. Eugenia Arguedas Montezuma (Costa Rica) and Mr. Norbert Bärlocher (Switzerland).
4. Also present, as observers were Mr. Alberto Glender and Mr. Hesiquio Benitez (Mexico - representing the incoming COP Presidency), and Mr. Jiri Hlavacek, representing UNEP. The Secretariat

was represented by: Mr. Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias, Mr. David Cooper, Mr. Ravi Sharma and Ms. Amy Fraenkel.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

5. The meeting was opened by Messrs Jae Choe and Andrew Bignell who co-chaired the meeting. The co-chairs and the Executive Secretary, Mr. Braulio Ferreira de Souza Dias, made brief introductory remarks.

ITEM 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

6. The Bureaux adopted the agenda for their joint meeting prepared by the Executive Secretary (document UNEP/CBD/COP/Bur/2016/1/2 and UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/Bur/2016/1/2).

ITEM 3. 2020 AND BEYOND: FUTURE DIRECTIONS UNDER THE CONVENTION

7. The Secretariat made a presentation providing an overview of possible next steps beyond 2020, in light of the 2050 vision of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and the multi-year programme of work. This complemented the informal note that had been circulated to COP and SBSTTA Bureaux members in advance of the meeting. The note and presentation are annexed to these minutes.

8. The Bureaux engaged in an informal dialogue on possible future directions under the Convention. While a number of ideas were discussed, there was no attempt to reach formal conclusions.

9. Members recognized that in considering the post 2020 agenda, Parties should not be distracted from efforts to achieve the Aichi Targets. All efforts would be needed to enhance progress towards the Aichi Targets. The Convention might lose credibility if the failure to achieve the 2010 targets were to be repeated. At the same time, discussion on a longer term perspective, beyond 2020, could be useful so that actions taken now remain relevant in the longer term and to ensure that preparations for the post-2020 period would be carried out in due time. It was noted that the Convention is concerned with important and difficult issues which take time to implement as they may require changes in policy, law, institutions and individual behaviour.

10. The Bureaux also exchanged views on the role of the global agenda in helping to drive national and local action and how the post-2020 Strategic Plan could be linked to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Developments and the Paris Climate Agreement. Ideas were also exchanged on the time period for the new Strategic Plan (while maintaining the 2050 vision) and how the updated targets might take into account what is needed to achieve the 2050 Vision. This discussion also touched upon the role of strategic partnerships, capacity building and mainstreaming, among others.

11. When asked whether post-2020 Strategic Plan and related targets should be a simple update of the current Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 with essentially the same structure, or whether it should be radically changed, participants indicated a wide range of views.

ITEM 4. STRENGTHENING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION THROUGH REPORTING, ANALYSIS AND REVIEW

12. The Secretariat made a brief presentation providing an introduction to matters related to reporting, analysis and review, including relevant items on the agenda of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation and with a particular focus on mechanisms to support review of implementation. This complemented the informal note that had been circulated to the COP and SBSTTA Bureaux members in advance of the meeting. The note and presentation are annexed to this report.

13. Bureaux members engaged in an informal discussion on the role of reporting, analysis and review under the Convention. While a number of ideas were discussed, there was no attempt to reach formal conclusions. Noting that the establishment of SBI provides an opportunity to improve reporting, analysis and review, and to strengthen compliance and transparency, Bureaux members undertook discussions around ways to strengthen the review mechanisms and the reporting obligations. It was noted that the

reporting obligation is taken seriously by Parties and can be an important driver of action by Parties, and sectors, including the private sector.

14. When asked whether they were satisfied with existing mechanisms for reporting, analysis and review under the Convention or would like to see radical change, participants indicated positions ranging from moderate to radical change (meaning an expectation of significant enhancement of the review processes currently in place). No one indicated satisfaction with the status quo.

ITEM 5. EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF THE THIRTEENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES AND THE HIGH LEVEL SEGMENT REGARDING MAINSTREAMING OF BIODIVERSITY WITHIN AND ACROSS SECTORS

15. Representatives of the Government of Mexico presented an overview of the preparations for COP 13 and the high-level segment, as well as the outcomes of the workshop on mainstreaming organized in Mexico in November 2015. This complemented the informal note that had been circulated to the COP and SBSTTA Bureaux members in advance of the meeting by the Secretariat. The note is annexed to this report. Mexico also circulated a draft of elements of a possible ministerial declaration.

16. The Bureaux was invited to discuss their expectations regarding the organization of the high-level segment and the draft of the ministerial declaration. They emphasized the importance of engaging ministers in active dialogue and the need to allow for sufficient time to do so.

17. Mr. Alberto Glender invited the COP and SBSTTA Bureaux members to provide comments and inputs for the development of the declaration that is envisaged to be considered and adopted at the high-level segment. The COP and SBSTTA Bureaux members encouraged Mexico to consult the regional groups in the development of the ministerial declaration, for example, during the SBSTTA and/or SBI meetings in Montreal.

ITEM 6. OTHER MATTERS

18. No other matters were raised.

ITEM 7. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

19. Bureaux members noted the usefulness of informal dialogue for initiating thinking on long-term issues, and called for further opportunities for such discussions in future joint meeting meetings.

20. The meeting was closed at 5:00 p.m. on 20 February 2016.