



Convention on Biological Diversity

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Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific,
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Conference call, 15 January 2013

MINUTES OF THE CONFERENCE CALL OF THE BUREAU OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE (SBSTTA)

Present: Mr. Gemedo Dalle Tussie (Chair, Ethiopia), Mr. Floyd Homer (Trinidad and Tobago), Ms. Risa Smith (Canada), Mr. Jean-Patrick Le Duc (France), Mr. Maadjou Bah (Guinée), Mr. Yousef Al-Hafedh (Saudi Arabia), Ms. Ivna Vuksic (Croatia), and Mr. Alexander Shestakov (Russian Federation). Ms. Brigitte Baptiste (Colombia) and Ms. Nenenteiti Teariki-Ruatu (Kiribati) were unable to attend. From the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the following staff members were present: Mr. David Cooper, Ms. Simone Schiele and Ms. Annie Cung.

1. The teleconference was opened at 9:15 am (Montreal time). Mr Gemedo Dalle Tussie, SBSTTA Chair, welcomed the members of the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) to the conference call, and thanked the secretariat for convening the call. He noted that the goal of this informal teleconference was to initiate discussions on preparation for the next meeting of SBSTTA. He requested Mr David Cooper, SBSTTA Secretary, to outline the issues for discussion.

2. Mr. Cooper noted that, in decision XI/13, Section B, SBSTTA was requested to identify the Scientific and technical needs related to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and in preparation, the Executive Secretary was requested to prepare information relating to:

- (i) Scientific and technical needs related to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets;
- (ii) Existing policy support tools and methodologies developed or used under the Convention and their adequacy, impact and obstacles to their uptake, and identify gaps and needs for further development of such tools and methodologies;
- (iii) The adequacy of observations, and of data systems, for monitoring the biodiversity attributes addressed in the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, drawing, *inter alia*, upon information in the report of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/6) and the report on the adequacy of biodiversity observation systems to support the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/INF/8);

(iv) Options for assessing the effects of the types of measures taken in accordance with the provisions of the Convention.

3. The Bureau noted the challenge that the requests by the COP present. However, it also highlighted the opportunity for a broad and open discussion at the next meeting of the SBSTTA and for a more scientific and technical meeting, or dialogue, while respecting the mandate of the Conference of the Parties.

4. The Bureau also noted that the next meeting of the SBSTTA will need to be prepared through an iterative process to collect information and support the engagement of Parties. The Bureau highlighted the importance of facilitating the contribution of National Focal Points and SBSTTA Focal Points to this process.

5. The Secretariat informed the Bureau that a background note containing a number of guiding questions, will be sent as a notification, to collect information and views on scientific and technical needs related to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets. This will be part of an iterative process. The information collected will be compiled and presented into a discussion paper for further consideration and comments by Parties and stakeholders before finalizing the documents for the next SBSTTA meeting.

6. The Bureau noted that it would be useful to remind Parties of existing sources of information, which they may wish to consider when responding to the notification, such as National Reports, National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) and National Capacity Self-Assessments (NCSAs).

7. To facilitate the identification of items for the agenda of the next meetings of the SBSTTA, the Secretariat will send by email a list of tasks and reports to be prepared by SBSTTA arising from decisions of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

8. The Bureau agreed that the next conference call will take place in February 2013 to discuss further preparation of SBSTTA-17, including its agenda. 25 February 2013 was proposed as a concrete date. The Secretariat will also explore the possibility for a face-to-face meeting on the margins of the Trondheim Conference (27-31 May 2013, Trondheim, Norway).

9. The Chair and Mr. Cooper thanked the Bureau for their participation in the teleconference. The meeting was closed at 11 am (Montreal time).
