



**Convention on
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**MEETING OF THE BUREAU OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON
SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE**

Second meeting
CBD Offices

Montreal, Canada, 10 December 2017

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BUREAU OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON
SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE**

INTRODUCTION

1. A meeting of the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) was held on Sunday, 10 December 2017, from 9.30. to 11h 45 a.m., on the margins of the twenty-first meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA 21). The meeting was followed by a joint meeting of the two Bureaus.

The meeting was attended in person by the following members of the Bureau: Mrs. Theresa Mundita Lim (The Philippines), Chair; Mr. Norbert Bärlocher (Switzerland); Mr. Hendrik Segers (Belgium); Ms Prudence Galega (Cameroun); Mr. Samuel Dieme (Senegal); Ms. Lourdes Coya de la Fuente (Cuba); Ms. Eugenia Arguedas Montezuma (Costa Rica); Mrs. Czarina Iese-Stowers (Samoa); Mr. Sergiy Gubar (Ukraine); Mr. Yousef Al-Hafedh (Saudi Arabia). Apologies were received from Mr. Aleksandar Mijović (Montenegro).

2. The meeting was supported by Mrs. Cristina Paşca Palmer, Executive Secretary, and Mr. David Cooper, Deputy Executive Secretary. Mr. Sarat Babu Gidda, Mr. Robert Hoft, Ms. Cristina Romanelli Ms. Sakhile Koketso and Ms. Monica Kobayashi from the Secretariat were also in attendance. UNEP was represented by Mr. Andreas Obrecht.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

3. The meeting was opened by Mrs. Theresa Mundita Lim, Chair of the Subsidiary Body.

ITEM 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

4. The Bureau was invited by the Chair, Ms. Mundita Lim, to adopt the provisional agenda (document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/Bur/2017/3/1) and invited the Secretariat to further report on progress on the preparations for the meeting. The agenda was adopted without modification.

5. The Secretariat provided an overview of progress on the preparations for the meeting, item by item, including the preparation of documents and related expert meetings. The Members of the Bureau

discussed the preparations, providing further updates on information that was discussed in the last meeting of the bureau, held by teleconference on 29th November 2017.

ITEM 3. OVERVIEW OF PREPARATIONS FOR SBSTTA-21 INCLUDING CHAIRS FOR POSSIBLE CONTACT GROUPS AND FRIENDS OF CHAIRS

6. The Secretariat confirmed to Bureau members that it would provide logistical information regarding the daily morning meetings of the Bureau held from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.

7. The Bureau discussed the availability of members of the bureau to participate in contact groups during the meeting, should these be required.

8. Members of the bureau also discussed the chairing of agenda items during the meetings. In the course of exchanges, all members assigned to oversee a specific agenda item were asked if they wished to Chair the agenda item they were assigned. With a view to maximizing efficiency, and given that all items had to be covered over a period of only three days, members expressed a general preference that all items, except agenda item 6, the fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, would be chaired by Ms. Mundita Lim.

9. It was agreed that Mr. Norbert Bärlocher (Switzerland) would chair agenda item 6 on the fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook.

ITEM 4. BRIEF UPDATE ON PREPARATIONS FOR SBSTTA-22.

10. The Secretariat briefed the Bureau on the preparations of the twenty second meeting of SBSTTA including information on recently concluded experts meetings on synthetic biology, Invasive Alien Species and Pollinators.

11. Ms Prudence Galega (Cameroun) also reported on the workshop held on Saturday 9 December, in support of preparations for the 6th national reports. Ms. Galega noted that approximately 100 representatives from all regions were in attendance and presentations covered a wide range of issues on national reporting, including: the national report template and online reporting tool; support available from UNDP, UNEP and FAO. Discussions during the meeting also covered how to assess effectiveness and included a presentation from the Auditor General of Canada, and further addressed harmonizing reporting and synergies in reporting processes.

12. Ms. Galega also noted that conversations were very frank and informal and provided significant opportunities for participants to learn from the experience of others. The presentations and discussions also exposed participants to various ways in which the Secretariat, and other organizations, including UNDP, UNEP and FAO, could support Parties. Participants engaged with considerable enthusiasm and raised a number of issues which would assist the Secretariat to better support countries in preparing their national reports, and also identified issues or challenges that Parties may face in their preparation. It was also noted that a second follow up workshop on spatial tools, organized by UNDP, was also being held on 10 December. In closing, Ms. Galega also noted that she had been invited to provide a report back to the SBSTTA plenary under the GBO-5 agenda item.

ITEM 5. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

13. No further items were added to the agenda and the meeting of the Bureau concluded at 11h45 a.m. on 10 December 2017.
