



**Convention on
Biological Diversity**

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

Sixteenth meeting
Montreal, 30 April - 5 May 2012
Item 2 of the provisional agenda*

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Annotations to the provisional agenda

INTRODUCTION

1. The sixteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) established under Article 25 of the Convention will take place in Montreal, at the headquarters of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), from 30 April to 5 May 2012. Registration of participants will commence at 10 a.m. on Sunday, 29 April 2012.

ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

2. The meeting will be opened at 10 a.m. on 30 April 2012.

ITEM 2. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Item 2.1. Election of officers

3. Pursuant to rule 26, paragraph 3, of its rules of procedure, the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting, held in Nagoya, Japan, in October 2010, elected Dr. Senka Barudanovic (Bosnia and Herzegovina) as the Chair of SBSTTA for a term of office commencing at the end of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and expiring at the end of the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (UNEP/CBD/COP/10/27, paragraph 47).

4. In accordance with the elections held at the fourteenth and fifteenth meetings of the Subsidiary Body, the Bureau of the sixteenth meeting of SBSTTA will comprise the following members, in addition to its Chair: Dr. Alexander Shestakov (Russian Federation), Ms. Gabriele Obermayr (Austria), Mr Ole Hendrickson (Canada), Mr. Ignatius Makumba (Zambia), Mr. Maadjou Bah (Guinea), Ms. Larissa Maria

• UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/1.

** This revised version includes a correction in paragraph 21 and updates the list of information documents in annex II. Minor editorial adjustments are made in a number of paragraphs.

Lima Costa (Brazil), Mr. Floyd Homer (Trinidad and Tobago), Ms. Nenenteiti Teariki-Ruatu (Kiribati) and Dr. Monyrak Meng (Cambodia).

5. In order to achieve staggered terms of office within the Bureau, the Subsidiary Body will elect five new members to serve on the Bureau for a term, commencing at the end of the sixteenth meeting and ending at the end of the eighteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body, to replace the members from, Austria, Brazil Cambodia, the Russian Federation or Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Zambia.

Item 2.2. Adoption of agenda and organization of work

6. At its fifteenth meeting, the Subsidiary Body took note of the draft provisional agenda for the sixteenth meeting, prepared by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/16), noting the need to include an additional item, on the review of the draft Capacity-building Strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative. As requested by that meeting, and with the guidance of the SBSTTA Bureau, the Executive Secretary has finalized the provisional agenda and made it available to Parties as UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/1.

7. Regarding the organization of work, the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Bureau, proposes the following allocation of tasks between the plenary and the two working groups (see annex I below):

- (a) The following items would be considered in plenary at the beginning of the meeting:
 - 1. Opening of the meeting;
 - 2. Organizational matters:
 - 2.1 Election of officers;
 - 2.2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work;
 - 3. Ways and means to improve the effectiveness of SBSTTA in light of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and issues, modalities and options for collaboration with IPBES.
- (b) Working Group I would consider the following items:
 - 4. Global Biodiversity Outlook: preparation of the fourth edition;
 - 7. Biodiversity and climate change:
 - 7.1 Advice on the application of relevant REDD+¹ safeguards for biodiversity, and on possible indicators and potential mechanisms to monitor or assess impacts REDD+ measures on biodiversity;
 - 7.2 Integration of biodiversity considerations into climate change-related activities, including addressing gaps in knowledge and information;
 - 7.3 Geo-engineering: impacts on biodiversity and gaps in regulatory mechanisms;
 - 11. Biofuels and biodiversity: progress in implementing decision X/37;

¹ With reference to relevant decisions and documents of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the term REDD+ refers to “reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries”.

12. Incentive measures: progress in implementing decision X/44;
 13. Reports on collaborative work in the areas of agriculture, forests and health.
- (c) Working Group II would consider the following items:
5. Island biodiversity: in-depth review of the implementation of the programme of work;
 6. Marine and coastal biodiversity:
 - 6.1 Ecologically or biologically significant marine areas;
 - 6.2 Addressing adverse impacts of human activities on marine and coastal biodiversity, including coral bleaching, ocean acidification, fisheries, and underwater noise;
 - 6.3 Marine spatial planning, marine protected areas and voluntary guidelines for the consideration of biodiversity in environmental assessments in marine and coastal areas;
 8. Global Strategy for Plant Conservation: progress in implementing decision X/17;
 9. Global Taxonomy Initiative: revised draft comprehensive capacity-building strategy;
 10. New and emerging issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity; and

(d) After the sessions of the Working Groups to consider pending issues, the meeting will be convened in plenary to consider any other matters and for the adoption of the report and closure of the meeting.

8. The Subsidiary Body will be invited to consider for adoption the provisional agenda and proposed organization of work as outlined above and in annex I below.

ITEM 3. WAYS AND MEANS TO IMPROVE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SBSTTA IN LIGHT OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020 AND ISSUES, MODALITIES AND OPTIONS FOR COLLABORATION WITH THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL SCIENCE-POLICY PLATFORM ON BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES (IPBES)

9. At its tenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopted a Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 including the Aichi Biodiversity Targets (decision X/2) and decided to review, at its eleventh meeting, progress in implementation of the Strategic Plan 2011-2020, progress in the provision of support for its implementation, and further development of tools and guidance for monitoring implementation (decision X/9, paragraphs (a) (i)-(iii)). In paragraph 1 of its decision X/12, the Conference of the Parties requested the Subsidiary Body to take into account the need to focus its work, in particular, on the scientific and technical aspects of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the multi-year programme of work.

10. In line with the multi-year programme of work (decision X/9, paragraph (a) (vi)), the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties to be held in 2012 will address, among other issues, the need for and possible development of additional mechanisms, ways and means, to enhance existing mechanisms such as the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on the Review of Implementation of the Convention, to strengthen the ability of Parties to meet their commitments under the Convention. Furthermore, decision X/11 calls for

consideration, once the arrangements and modalities for the intergovernmental science-policy platform for biodiversity and ecosystem services (IPBES) are decided, how the Convention could make full and effective use of the platform, seeking complementarity and avoiding duplication between the work of the Convention, in particular the Subsidiary Body, and the platform.

11. At its fifteenth meeting, the Subsidiary Body considered ways and means to improve the effectiveness of SBSTTA and adopted recommendation XV/8. In paragraph 3 of that recommendation, the Subsidiary Body, recalling decision X/11, requested the Executive Secretary in collaboration with the SBSTTA Bureau and the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties to identify issues, modalities and options for collaboration with IPBES, taking into consideration the views presented at the fifteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body, and to prepare a report for consideration by the Subsidiary Body at its sixteenth meeting.

12. Accordingly, the Executive Secretary, has prepared a note on ways and means to improve the effectiveness of SBSTTA in light of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and issues, modalities and options for collaboration (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/2). Additional information will be provided if necessary in the light of the conclusion of the second session of the plenary meeting to determine modalities and institutional arrangements for an IPBES, to be held in Panama City from 16 to 21 April 2012. In addition, the report of the first session of the plenary meeting to determine modalities and institutional arrangements for an IPBES, held in Nairobi from 3 to 7 October 2011 (UNEP/IPBES.MI/1/8) is available through <http://www.ipbes.net/plenary-sessions/first-session-of-plenary.html> and the report of the second session is expected to be made available at <http://www.ipbes.net/plenary-sessions/second-session-of-plenary.html> as soon as it is finalized.

13. The Subsidiary Body may wish to consider the note by the Executive Secretary and prepare its advice to the Conference of the Parties.

ITEM 4. GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY OUTLOOK: PREPARATION OF THE FOURTH EDITION

14. The third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-3) was launched at the fourteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body and informed the preparation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, including the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. At its tenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to commission a review of the process of preparation and production of GBO-3 in order to further improve the process for future editions of the Global Biodiversity Outlook and maintain comparability with earlier editions where necessary and to report to a meeting of SBSTTA prior to eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (decision X/4, paragraph 11 (b)). In paragraph 17 (d) of its decision X/2, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to prepare a plan, to be considered by the Subsidiary Body prior to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, for the preparation of the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-4) on the basis of the fifth national reports, use of headline global biodiversity indicators and other relevant information.

15. Accordingly, a plan for the preparation of the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook is contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/3. This also includes a summary of the main points arising from the review of the process of preparation and production of GBO-3. The full evaluation is presented as an information document.

16. The Subsidiary Body may wish to review the plan for the preparation of the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/3) and prepare its advice to the Conference of the Parties.

ITEM 5. ISLAND BIODIVERSITY: IN-DEPTH REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF WORK

17. The programme of work on island biodiversity was adopted in 2006 through decision VIII/1. At its ninth meeting, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to include the review of this programme of work in the multi-year programme of work for the period 2011–2020 (decision IX/9, paragraph 6). At its tenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties decided, in paragraph (a) (viii) of its decision X/9, to consider the in-depth review of the implementation of the programme of work on island biodiversity at its eleventh meeting.

18. The Subsidiary Body has before it a note by the Executive Secretary on the in-depth review of the implementation of the programme of work on island biodiversity (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/4) providing a synthesis of information collected from the fourth national reports, the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, secondary research and data collected from Parties and partner institutions on: (i) the extent of implementation; (ii) status and trends of island biodiversity and drivers of change; (iii) constraints to implementation; (iv) activities and views of relevant organizations; and (v) key responses and suggestions to maximize the contribution of the programme of work to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its goals and targets. The synthesis will be complemented by an information document. The integration of climate change impacts and response activities within the programme of work is reviewed in an additional information document. A wide consultation was organized in support of the in-depth review through the Global Islands Partnership – a collaborative platform of Parties, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders.

19. The Subsidiary Body may wish to consider the recommendations for the review of implementation of the programme of work contained in the note by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/4). More specifically, the Subsidiary Body may wish to identify the opportunities and obstacles to implementation, and submit to the Conference of the Parties its conclusions on ways and means to further implement the programme of work and enhance its contribution to the overall implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

ITEM 6. MARINE AND COASTAL BIODIVERSITY

Item 6.1 Ecologically or biologically significant marine areas

20. In decision X/29, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to organize a series of regional workshops to facilitate the description of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas (EBSAs) through application of scientific criteria in annex I of decision IX/20 (paragraph 36 of decision X/29) and requested the Subsidiary Body to prepare reports based on scientific and technical evaluation of information from the workshops, setting out details of areas that meet the criteria in annex I to decision IX/20 for consideration and endorsement in a transparent manner by the Conference of the Parties (paragraph 42), with a view to including the endorsed reports in the repository (paragraph 39) and to submit the reports to the United Nations General Assembly and particularly its Ad Hoc Open-ended Informal Working Group, as well as relevant international organizations, Parties and other Governments.

21. Pursuant to this request, workshops to facilitate the description of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas have been held for: the OSPAR/NEAFC² region (Hyères, France, 8-9 September 2011) and the Western South Pacific region (Nadi, Fiji, 22-25 November 2011) and the Wider Caribbean and Western Mid-Atlantic region (Recife, Brazil, from 28 February to 2 March 2012). A synthesis report on the work carried out regarding EBSAs identification in the Mediterranean is submitted by the Mediterranean Action Plan/UNEP for consideration by the sixteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body,

² The Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic and the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission.

together with other workshop reports. Additional workshops are planned for the period leading up to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

22. In decision X/29, the Conference of the Parties also requested the Executive Secretary, in cooperation with relevant organizations and partners, to:

(a) Establish a repository for scientific and technical information and experience related to the application of the scientific criteria on the identification of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas, and to develop an information-sharing mechanism with similar initiatives (paragraph 39);

(b) Prepare a training manual and modules for identifying EBSAs (paragraph 40);

(c) Undertake a study to identify specific elements for integrating the traditional, scientific, technical and technological knowledge of indigenous and local communities, consistent with Article 8(j) of the Convention, and social and cultural criteria and other aspects for the application of scientific criteria for the identification of EBSAs as well as the establishment and management of marine protected areas (paragraph 47).

23. Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/5 provides a report on the work of the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with partner organizations in carrying out the above-mentioned tasks. It includes an overview of the workshops to facilitate description of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas. This is supplemented by document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/5/Add.1 which contains a draft summary report on the description of EBSAs for finalization by the Subsidiary Body and transmission to the Conference of the Parties for endorsement, in line with paragraph 42 of decision X/29. The full reports of the workshops will be provided as information documents. Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/5 further contains a progress report on the establishment of EBSAs repository and information-sharing mechanism, the development of training manual and modules for identifying EBSAs and the preparation of a study of elements for integrating the traditional, scientific, technical and technological knowledge of indigenous and local communities, consistent with Article 8(j) of the Convention, and social and cultural criteria and other aspects for the application of scientific criteria for the identification of EBSAs as well as the establishment and management of marine protected areas. These are supplemented by information documents.

24. Under this agenda item, the Subsidiary Body is expected to:

(a) Prepare its report on the description of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas on the basis of document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/5/Add.1 for subsequent endorsement by the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting, and agree, as appropriate, on arrangements for the incorporation of additional information from regions for which workshops are held after the sixteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body;

(b) Take note of the report of the Executive Secretary related to the repository for reports on the description of EBSAs, the training materials on the identification of EBSAs, and the study on traditional, scientific, technical and technological knowledge of indigenous and local communities (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/5), and provide further guidance as appropriate.

Item 6.2. Addressing adverse impacts of human activities on marine and coastal biodiversity, including coral bleaching, ocean acidification, fisheries, and underwater noise

25. In decision X/29, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to:

- (a) Prepare a report on the progress made in the implementation of the workplan on coral bleaching, including identification of barriers to implementations and ways to overcome them (paragraph 74);
- (b) Prepare a scientific synthesis on impacts of underwater noise on marine and coastal biodiversity (paragraph 12);
- (c) Organize a series of joint expert review processes to monitor and assess the impacts of ocean acidification on marine and coastal biodiversity (paragraph 66);
- (d) Organize a joint expert meeting to review the extent to which biodiversity concerns, including the impacts on marine and coastal biodiversity of pelagic fisheries of lower trophic levels, are addressed in existing assessments and propose options to address biodiversity concerns (paragraph 53);
- (e) Report on collaboration with competent organizations which conduct marine assessments, and other relevant organizations and scientific groups, to ensure their assessments adequately address biodiversity concerns in marine and coastal commercial activities and management; and, as necessary where gaps are found, work with these agencies to improve the consideration of biodiversity in assessments (paragraph 69);
- (f) Organize an expert workshop on the role of marine biodiversity in climate-change adaptation and mitigation (paragraph 77).

26. Accordingly, the Executive Secretary has undertaken or commissioned the necessary studies and organized an expert meeting in Montreal from 19 to 20 October 2011, in collaboration with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO-IOC), with the support of the Government of Spain, to initiate a joint expert review process to monitor and assess the impacts of ocean acidification, and organized a joint expert meeting in Bergen, Norway, from 7 to 9 December 2011, in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Fisheries Expert Group of the Commission on Ecosystem Management under the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN-CEM-FEG), with the support of the Government of Norway, on addressing biodiversity concerns in sustainable fisheries. An expert meeting on the role of marine biodiversity in climate-change adaptation and mitigation will be organized in 2012, subject to the availability of necessary financial resources.

27. In considering this item, the Subsidiary Body will have before it a note by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/6) providing a summary of the studies referred to in paragraph 25 and the meetings referred to in paragraph 26 above. The summary will be supplemented by information documents.

28. The Subsidiary Body may wish to consider the note by the Executive Secretary, take note of the reports and prepare its advice to the Conference of the Parties.

Item 6.3. Marine spatial planning, marine protected areas and voluntary guidelines for the consideration of biodiversity in environmental assessments in marine and coastal areas

29. In its decision X/29, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to carry out the following tasks and prepare reports for the consideration of the Subsidiary Body:

- (a) Compile and synthesize available information on experiences and use of marine spatial planning and area-based management tools (paragraph 75);

(b) Facilitate the development and peer-review of voluntary guidelines for the consideration of biodiversity in environmental impact assessments (EIAs) and strategic environmental assessments (SEAs) in marine and coastal areas, particularly for activities that are currently unregulated with no process of assessing impacts (paragraph 50);

(c) Organize an expert workshop on marine protected areas (paragraph 76).

30. In considering this item, the Subsidiary Body will have before it a note by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/7) summarizing the results of these activities, supplemented by the draft voluntary guidelines for the consideration of biodiversity in environmental impact assessments and strategic environmental assessments in marine and coastal areas (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/7/Add.1) as well as information documents. An expert workshop on marine protected areas will be organized in 2012, subject to the availability of necessary financial resources.

31. The Subsidiary Body may wish to consider the note by the Executive Secretary, take note of the reports and prepare its advice to the Conference of the Parties.

ITEM 7. BIODIVERSITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Item 7.1. Advice on the application of relevant REDD+³ safeguards for biodiversity and on possible indicators and potential mechanisms to monitor or assess impacts REDD+ measures on biodiversity

32. In decision X/33, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with partners and Parties, to provide advice on biodiversity aspects of reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries (REDD+), for approval by the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting, including on the application of relevant safeguards for biodiversity.

33. In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties also requested the Executive Secretary, in consultation with Parties and in collaboration with the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, to identify possible indicators to assess the contribution of reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries (REDD+) to achieving the objectives of the Convention, and to assess potential mechanisms to monitor impacts on biodiversity from these and other ecosystem-based approaches for climate-change mitigation measures, and to report on progress to the Subsidiary Body prior to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

34. The Executive Secretary organized four expert workshops held in Nairobi (20 to 23 September 2010); Singapore (15 to 18 March 2011); Quito (5 to 8 July 2011); and Cape Town (20 to 23 September 2011), and compiled views submitted by Parties. The results are contained in various information documents.

35. On the basis of workshop results, views submitted by Parties and relevant organizations and a consultancy study, provided as information documents, the Executive Secretary has prepared document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/8 on the application of relevant safeguards for biodiversity with regard to

³ With reference to relevant decisions and documents of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the term REDD+ refers to “reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries”.

REDD+, and on possible indicators and potential mechanisms to monitor or assess impacts on biodiversity of REDD+ measures.

36. Under this agenda item, the Subsidiary Body may wish to:

(a) Consider the draft advice on the application of relevant safeguards for biodiversity with regard to reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries, on the basis of the note prepared by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/8), and provide inputs for its further development by the Executive Secretary and/or any recommendations on the matter for the Conference of the Parties;

(b) Provide advice on possible indicators and potential mechanisms to monitor or assess impacts on biodiversity of measures to reduce emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, on the basis of the note prepared by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/8).

Item 7.2. Integration of biodiversity considerations into climate change-related activities, including addressing gaps in knowledge and information

37. In decisions X/20 (paragraph 6) and X/33 (paragraph 13), the Conference of the Parties called for increased cooperation between the three Rio conventions and listed a series of actions to this end. In decision X/33, the Conference of the Parties, *inter alia*, requested the Executive Secretary to develop proposals on actions to address the obstacles listed in section IV of the compilation of views submitted by Parties on ways to integrate biodiversity considerations into climate change-related activities for the consideration of the Subsidiary Body. In the same decision, the Executive Secretary was requested to develop proposals on options for addressing gaps in knowledge and information on the impact of climate change on biodiversity outlined in the report of the Second Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Biodiversity and Climate Change.⁴

38. Finally, decision X/33 calls for the review and revision of the resource kit for national capacity self-assessments (NCSAs) with a view to ensuring that implementation of activities identified in such assessments better reflects decisions of the Conference of the Parties on biodiversity and climate change and to report progress of this action to the Subsidiary Body (paragraph 9 (a)).

39. Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/9 contains proposals on: (i) actions to address the obstacles to the integration of biodiversity considerations into climate change-related activities and (ii) options for addressing gaps in knowledge and information on the impact of climate change on biodiversity. The document will also provide an update with regards to the revision of the resource kit for NCSAs, synergies between biodiversity and climate change.

40. Additional information is provided in information documents, including notes on Examples of Bioclimatic Models and a report on the Rio Conventions Pavilion.

41. Under this agenda item, the Subsidiary Body may wish to review the proposals prepared by the Executive Secretary and provide advice to the Conference of the Parties as appropriate.

⁴ CBD Technical Series No. 41.

Item 7.3. Geoengineering: impacts on biodiversity and gaps in existing regulatory mechanisms

42. At its tenth meeting, in paragraph 8 (w) of its decision X/33, the Conference of the Parties adopted a decision on geoengineering and, in paragraphs 9 (l) and (m) of the same decision, requested the Executive Secretary to prepare the following two reports for the consideration of the Subsidiary Body at its sixteenth meeting:

(a) A compilation and synthesis of available scientific information, and views and experiences of indigenous and local communities and other stakeholders, on the possible impacts of geoengineering techniques on biodiversity and associated social, economic and cultural considerations, and options on definitions and understandings of climate-related geoengineering relevant to the Convention on Biological Diversity, and

(b) A study on gaps in existing regulatory mechanisms for climate-related geoengineering relevant to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

43. Document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/10 provides a summary of these studies as well as additional views and experiences of indigenous and local communities and stakeholders. The full studies are available as information documents.

44. Under this agenda item, the Subsidiary Body may wish to review the studies and provide advice to the Conference of the Parties as appropriate.

ITEM 8. GLOBAL STRATEGY FOR PLANT CONSERVATION: PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING DECISION X/17

45. In decision X/17 the Conference of the Parties adopted the updated Global Strategy for Plant Conservation (GSPC) 2011-2020. In paragraph 10 of that decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation and other partners and relevant organizations, and subject to the availability of the necessary resources to, *inter alia*, further develop, with the flexible coordination mechanism, the technical rationales, milestones and indicators for the updated Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, consistent with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, for review by the Subsidiary Body at its fifteenth meeting.

46. The Subsidiary Body will have before it document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/11, prepared in collaboration with the flexible coordination mechanism for the Strategy, which provides an overview of progress made in implementing decision X/17, including the technical rationales and indicators for the updated Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011–2020, on tools for capacity-building and other mechanisms to support implementation of the Strategy. The Subsidiary Body is requested to review the technical rationales and indicators for the updated Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011–2020 as well as other elements contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/11 and to provide advice to the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.

ITEM 9. GLOBAL TAXONOMY INITIATIVE: REVISED DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE CAPACITY-BUILDING STRATEGY

47. In paragraph 16 of decision X/39, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Coordination Mechanism for the Global Taxonomy Initiative, national focal points for the Initiative and relevant institutions, bodies and organizations, to develop a comprehensive capacity-building strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative at global and regional levels that addresses the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. At its fifteenth meeting, the Subsidiary Body reviewed the draft comprehensive Capacity-Building Strategy for the Global Taxonomy

Initiative contained in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/15/5, and requested the Executive Secretary to revise the draft strategy, taking into account the comments from Parties at the fifteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body, additional submissions from Parties and observers, institutions, bodies and organizations and indigenous and local communities and make the revised Strategy available for consideration and finalization by the Subsidiary Body at its sixteenth meeting (recommendation XV/3).

48. Accordingly, the Executive Secretary, with the guidance of the Global Coordination Mechanism and drawing upon further comments from Parties, observers and others, has revised the draft capacity-building strategy and made it available in document UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/12.

49. The Subsidiary Body is invited to review and finalize the comprehensive capacity-building strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative.

ITEM 10. NEW AND EMERGING ISSUES

50. At its ninth meeting, the Conference of the Parties agreed on a procedure for the consideration of new and emerging issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and adopted decision IX/29. Through this decision, the Conference of the Parties invited Parties and relevant organizations to submit proposals for new and emerging issues, and requested the Executive Secretary to compile the submissions, notify Parties and relevant organizations of the opportunity to contribute relevant information and views related to the proposals, and compile the submissions for consideration by the Subsidiary Body. In decision X/13, the Conference of the Parties decided not to add to the agenda of the Subsidiary Body any of the new and emerging issues proposed for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting. However, the Conference of the Parties gave guidance on how to address certain elements proposed in response to the process on submitting proposals laid out in decision IX/29. Among these elements, the Conference of the Parties: (i) invited Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to submit information on synthetic biology and geoengineering, and (ii) requested the Executive Secretary to invite relevant organizations to submit technical information on the impact of ground-level ozone on biodiversity, all these in accordance with the procedures of decision IX/29.

51. In accordance with the procedure in decision IX/29, the Executive Secretary invited, through notifications SCBD/STTM/JM/RH/VA74761 (2011-013) and SCBD/STTM/JM/RH/VA/74761 (2011-204), a new round of submissions of proposals for new and emerging issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources. Submissions were made available as they had been received and are accessible at <http://www.cbd.int/emerging/>.

52. The note by the Executive Secretary prepared under this item (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/13) contains a summary compilation of the proposals and views on new and emerging issues received from Parties and relevant organizations.

53. The Subsidiary Body may wish to review and discuss the proposals and, as appropriate, identify new and emerging issue[s] relating to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and elaborate a scientific and technical analysis with options for action to be submitted to the Conference of the Parties for its consideration.

ITEM 11. BIOFUELS AND BIODIVERSITY: PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING DECISION X/37

54. In paragraphs 11-14 of decision X/37, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to report to the Subsidiary Body regarding: (i) compilation of information on tools for voluntary

use, including on available standards and methodologies to assess direct and indirect effects and impacts on biodiversity of the production and use of biofuels, in their full life cycle as compared to that of other types of fuels, and impacts on biodiversity that affect related socio-economic conditions; (ii) compilation of information on gaps in available standards and methodologies; and (iii) contributions to, and assistance with, the ongoing work of relevant partner organizations and processes.

55. Under this item, the Subsidiary Body will have before it a note by Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/14) that provides a report on the work carried out by the Executive Secretary in response to this decision, with further background provided in an information document.

56. The Subsidiary Body is invited to review the note by the Executive Secretary and provide advice to the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.

ITEM 12. INCENTIVE MEASURES: PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING DECISION X/44

57. In paragraph 15 of decision X/44 on incentive measures, the Conference of the Parties invited Parties, other Governments, and relevant international organizations and initiatives to report to the Executive Secretary on progress made, difficulties encountered, and lessons learned, in implementing the work spelled out in the decision, pertaining to the removal or mitigation of perverse incentives, the promotion of positive incentive measures, and the assessment of the values of biodiversity and ecosystem services. In paragraph 16 of the same decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to, *inter alia*, synthesize and analyse the information submitted, and prepare a progress report for consideration by the Subsidiary Body prior to the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

58. Accordingly, the Subsidiary Body will have before it a note by the Executive Secretary containing a progress report on activities undertaken by Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations and initiatives, and the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/15).

59. The Subsidiary Body may wish to review the note by the Executive Secretary and provide advice to the Conference of the Parties, as appropriate.

ITEM 13. REPORTS ON COLLABORATIVE WORK IN THE AREAS OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTS AND HEALTH

60. In decision X/34, the Conference of the Parties noted with appreciation the cooperation between the Executive Secretary and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), including its Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and called for the development of a second phase of the joint work programme focusing on refinements required as a result of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and also considering a number of other issues specified in paragraph 5 of the decision. Specifically, in paragraph 20 of that decision, the Conference of Parties recognized the importance of agro-ecosystems, in particular rice-paddy and oasis systems, for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and invited FAO, in consultation with the Executive Secretary and relevant partners, including indigenous and local communities, to undertake further studies on the valuation of the biodiversity and ecosystem services provided by agricultural ecosystems, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, in order to further support policy-relevant guidance to Parties for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh meeting.

61. At its tenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties, in paragraph 5 of its decision X/36, requested the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the United Nations Forum on Forests, to identify and implement targeted joint activities between the secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Forum on Forests to support Parties, in particular developing countries, in the

implementation of the programme of work on forest biological diversity and the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests.

62. At its tenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties, recalling decision IX/27 (paragraph 9) requested the Executive Secretary: to further strengthen collaboration with the World Health Organization as well as other relevant organizations and initiatives with a view to promoting the consideration of biodiversity issues in health programmes and plans as appropriate; to investigate how implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, including on targets and issues relating to access and benefit-sharing, can best support efforts to address global health issues, and thereby facilitate consideration of biodiversity within national health strategies in line with the World Health Declaration,⁵ and in support of the Millennium Development Goals and report thereon to the World Health Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, in 2012; and to explore avenues for bridging the gaps between work being carried out to address the impacts of climate change on public health and work to address the impacts of climate change on biodiversity (decision X/20, paragraph 17).

63. Under this item, the Subsidiary Body will consider progress reports on other items submitted following the above-mentioned requests of the Conference of the Parties. The reports, on collaborative work in the areas of agriculture, forests and health, are contained in a note by the Executive Secretary (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/16) for the consideration of the Subsidiary Body.

ITEM 14. OTHER MATTERS

64. Under this item, participants will be invited to raise other matters of relevance to the meeting.

ITEM 15. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

65. Under this item, the Subsidiary Body will consider and adopt its report. In accordance with established practice, the Subsidiary Body is invited to authorize the Rapporteur to complete the final report after the meeting, with the guidance of the Chair and the assistance of the Secretariat.

ITEM 16. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

66. The sixteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice is scheduled to be closed at 1 p.m. on Saturday, 5 May 2012.

⁵ World Health Assembly resolution WHA51.7, annex.

Annex I

PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR THE SIXTEENTH MEETING OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE (Montreal, 30 April – 5 May 2012)

	Plenary	Working Group I	Working Group II
<i>Monday, 30 April</i> <i>10 a.m. – 1 p.m.</i>	<p><i>Agenda items:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Opening of the meeting; 2. Organizational matters: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1. Election of officers; 2.2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work; 3. Ways and means to improve the effectiveness of SBSTTA in light of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and issues, modalities and options for collaboration with IPBES. 		
<i>Monday, 30 April</i> <i>3 p.m. – 6 p.m.</i>		4. Global Biodiversity Outlook: preparation of the fourth edition.	5. Island biodiversity: In-depth review of the implementation of the programme of work.
<i>6 p.m.</i>	<i>Poster session begins</i>		
<i>Tuesday, 1 May</i> <i>10 a.m. – 1 p.m.</i>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Biodiversity and climate change: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7.1. Advice on the application of relevant REDD+ safeguards for biodiversity and on possible indicators and potential mechanisms to monitor or assess impacts REDD+ measures on biodiversity; 7.2. Integration of biodiversity considerations into climate change-related activities, including addressing gaps in knowledge and information; 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Marine and coastal biodiversity <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6.1. Ecologically or biologically significant marine areas; 6.2. Addressing adverse impacts of human activities on marine and coastal biodiversity, including coral bleaching, ocean acidification, fisheries, and underwater noise; and 6.3. Marine spatial planning and voluntary guidelines for the consideration of biodiversity in environmental assessments in marine and coastal areas).
<i>Tuesday, 1 May</i> <i>3 p.m. – 6 p.m.</i>		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Biodiversity and climate change: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7.3. Geo-engineering: impacts on biodiversity and gaps in regulatory mechanisms. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. <i>Continued.</i> 8. Global Strategy for Plant Conservation: progress in implementing decision X/17.

	Plenary	Working Group I	Working Group II
<i>Wednesday, 2 May 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.</i>		11. Biofuels and biodiversity: progress report in implementing decision X/37. 12. Incentive measures: progress report in implementing decision X/44.	9. Global Taxonomy Initiative: revised draft comprehensive capacity-building strategy. 10. New and emerging issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.
<i>Wednesday, 2 May 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.</i>		13. Reports on collaborative work in the areas of agriculture, forests and health. <i>Pending issues</i>	<i>Pending issues</i>
<i>Thursday, 3 May 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.</i>	Progress reports of the Working Groups <i>Pending issues (item 3)</i>		
<i>Thursday, 3 May 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.</i>		<i>Pending issues</i>	<i>Pending issues</i>
<i>Friday, 4 May 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.</i>		<i>Pending issues</i>	<i>Pending issues</i>
<i>Friday, 4 May 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.</i>		<i>Pending issues</i> 15. Adoption of the report of Working Group I.	<i>Pending issues</i> 15. Adoption of the report of Working Group II.
<i>Saturday, 5 May 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.</i>	14. Other matters. 15. Adoption of the report. 16. Closure of the meeting.		

*Annex II***WORKING DOCUMENTS**

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Working title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/1	Provisional agenda	2
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/1/Add.1	Annotations to the provisional agenda	2
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/2	Ways and means to improve the effectiveness of SBSTTA in light of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and issues, modalities and options for collaboration with IPBES	3
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/3	Global Biodiversity Outlook: preparation of the fourth edition	4
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/4	In-depth review of the implementation of the programme of work on island biodiversity	5
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/5	Marine and coastal biodiversity: ecologically or biologically significant marine areas	6.1
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/5/Add.1	Marine and coastal biodiversity: draft summary report on ecologically or biologically significant marine areas	6.1
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/6	Marine and coastal biodiversity: Addressing adverse impacts of human activities, including coral bleaching, ocean acidification, fisheries, and underwater noise	6.2
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/7	Marine and coastal biodiversity: Marine spatial planning and voluntary guidelines for the consideration of biodiversity in environmental impact assessments and strategic environmental assessments in marine and coastal areas	6.3
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/7/Add.1	Marine and coastal biodiversity: Draft voluntary guidelines for the consideration of biodiversity in environmental impact assessments and strategic environmental assessments in marine and coastal areas	6.3
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/8	Advice on the application of relevant safeguards for biodiversity with regard to REDD+, and on possible indicators and potential mechanisms to monitor or assess impacts on biodiversity of REDD+ measures	7.1
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/9	Proposals on the integration of biodiversity considerations into climate change-related activities, including addressing gaps in knowledge and information	7.2
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/10	Technical and regulatory matters on geo-engineering in relation to the Convention on Biological Diversity	7.3
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/11	Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011 – 2020: progress in implementing decision X/17	8
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/12	Revised draft comprehensive capacity-building strategy for the Global Taxonomy Initiative	9
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/13	New and emerging issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity	10
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/14	Biofuels and biodiversity; progress report in implementing decision X/37	11
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/15	Incentive measures: (Article 11): Progress report on activities undertaken by Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations and initiatives, and the Executive Secretary, Analysis of information received	12

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<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Working title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/16	Reports on collaborative work on biodiversity and agriculture, forests, and biodiversity and health.	13
INFORMATION DOCUMENTS		
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/1	Evaluation of the process for the preparation and production of the third edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook	4
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/2	Draft communication strategy for the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook	4
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/3	Island biodiversity: further information on the in-depth review of the programme of work	5
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/4	Integration of climate change impacts and response activities within the programme of work on island biodiversity	5
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/5	Report of the OSPAR/NEAFC EBSA regional workshop	6.1
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/6	Report of the Western South Pacific EBSA regional workshop	6.1
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/7	Report of the Wider Caribbean and Western Mid-Atlantic EBSA regional workshop	6.1
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/8	Synthesis report on the work carried out regarding identification of EBSAs in the Mediterranean.	
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/9	EBSA Training manual and modules, including the user manual for the use of the EBSA repository and information-sharing mechanism	6.1
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/10	Report on socio-cultural criteria for EBSAs	6.1
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/11	Report on the progress made in the implementation of the specific work plan on coral bleaching	6.2
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/12	Synthesis document on the impacts of underwater noise	6.2
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/13	Report of the joint expert meeting on addressing biodiversity concerns in sustainable fisheries	6.2
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/14	Report of the expert meeting on the development of a joint expert review process on the impacts of ocean acidification	6.2
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/15	Synthesis document on the impacts of marine debris on marine and coastal biodiversity	6.2
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/16	Background information on the consideration of biodiversity in environmental impact assessments and strategic environmental assessments in marine and coastal areas	
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/17	Proposals for the Sustainable Ocean Initiative	6.3
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/18	Synthesis document on the experience and use of marine spatial planning	6.3
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/19	Submissions from Parties on REDD+ safeguards and assessment of impacts on biodiversity	7.1

UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/20	Submission by the CBD Secretariat to the UNFCCC Secretariat on methodological guidance for activities relating to REDD+), specifically related to systems for providing information on how safeguards referred to in appendix I to UNFCCC decision 1/CP.16 are addressed and respected	7.1
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/21	Analysis of possible indicators to measure impacts of REDD+ on biodiversity and on indigenous and local communities	7.1
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/22	A framework for integrating biodiversity concerns into national REDD+ programmes	7.1
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/23	Assessing REDD+ performance of countries with low monitoring capacities: the matrix approach	7.1
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/24	A review of three REDD+ safeguard initiatives	7.1
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/25	A background report on improving forest biodiversity monitoring and reporting	7.1
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/26	Biodiversity and Climate Change: examples of bioclimatic models	7.2
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/27	Summary report on the Rio Conventions Pavilion	7.2
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/28	Impacts of climate related geoengineering on biodiversity	7.3
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/29	Regulatory framework for climate related geoengineering relevant to the Convention on Biological Diversity	7.3
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/30	Impacts of climate related geoengineering on biodiversity: views and experiences of indigenous and local communities and stakeholders	7.3
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/31	Global Taxonomy Initiative: progress report on capacity-building activities	9
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/32	Biofuels and biodiversity: further information on the work in response to decision X/37	11
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/33	Biodiversity and agriculture: further information on the work in response to decision X/34	13.1
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/34	Biodiversity and health: further information on the work in response to decision X/20, paragraph 17	13.3
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/35	New and emerging issues relating to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity	10
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/36	Incentive measures: synthesis of information on progress in implementing decision X/44	12
UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/16/INF/37	Global Taxonomy Initiative and the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising From Their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity	9
