

**Intergovernmental Science-Policy
Platform on Biodiversity and
Ecosystem Services**Distr.: General
11 December 2017

Original: English

**Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy
Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
Sixth session**

Medellin, Colombia, 18–24 March 2018

Item 14 of the provisional agenda*

Adoption of the decisions and report of the session**Draft decisions for the sixth session of the Plenary of the
Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and
Ecosystem Services****Note by the Secretariat****Introduction**

1. The present note sets out draft decisions for consideration by the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) at its sixth session. It was prepared by the Executive Secretary to assist the Plenary in the development of decisions for adoption on the items on the agenda for the session. The draft decisions follow the structure of the decisions adopted by the Plenary at its previous sessions. The note indicates the item of the provisional agenda (IPBES/6/1) under which each draft decision is expected to be considered.

I. Draft decision: Implementation of the first work programme of the Platform

2. The Plenary may wish to consider the following chapeau text for the draft decision on the implementation of the first work programme of IPBES under item 5 of the provisional agenda, report of the Executive Secretary on the implementation of the first work programme for the period 2014–2018:

The Plenary,

Welcoming the report of the Executive Secretary on the implementation of the first work programme of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services,¹

Acknowledging the outstanding contributions made by all the experts involved to date in the implementation of the work programme and thanking them for their unwavering commitment thereto,

Encouraging Governments and organizations to participate actively in the implementation of the work programme, in particular through the review of draft deliverables.

* IPBES/6/1.

¹ IPBES/6/2.

3. The Plenary may wish to consider the following section of the draft decision on the implementation of the first work programme of IPBES under item 5 of the provisional agenda, report of the Executive Secretary on the implementation of the first work programme for the period 2014–2018:

I

Implementation of the first work programme of the Platform

1. *Decides* to proceed with the implementation of the first work programme of the Platform in accordance with the relevant decisions adopted at its previous sessions, the present decision and the approved budget set out in decision IPBES-6/[].
4. The Plenary may wish to consider the following paragraphs of the draft decision on the implementation of the first work programme of IPBES under item 5 of the provisional agenda, report of the Executive Secretary on the implementation of the first work programme for the period 2014–2018:

II

Capacity-building

1. *Welcomes* the progress made in implementing the Platform’s capacity-building rolling plan² and requests the task force on capacity-building to continue implementing the capacity-building rolling plan, and to report on progress to the Plenary at its seventh session;
2. *Also welcomes* the efforts of partner organizations in support of capacity-building initiatives under the rolling plan and invites other organizations to join those efforts by offering technical and financial contributions that further match identified capacity-building needs;
3. *Requests* the task force on capacity-building to hold a third meeting of the capacity-building forum in late 2018, back to back with the meeting of the task force on capacity-building, to further enhance collaboration with other organizations in the implementation of the rolling plan.
5. The Plenary may wish to consider the following paragraphs of the draft decision on the implementation of the first work programme of IPBES under item 5 of the provisional agenda, report of the Executive Secretary on the implementation of the first work programme for the period 2014–2018:

III

Knowledge foundations

Recalling its decision IPBES-5/1, section III, paragraphs 1–7,

1. *Welcomes* the progress made by the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, supported by the task force on indigenous and local knowledge, in implementing the approach to recognizing and working with indigenous and local knowledge contained in annex II to decision IPBES-5/1,³ including the establishment of the participatory mechanism;
2. *Also welcomes* the efforts of indigenous peoples and local communities and partner organizations in support of the approach to recognizing and working with indigenous and local knowledge and invites other indigenous peoples and local communities and partner organizations to join those efforts;
3. *Requests* the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, supported by the task force on indigenous and local knowledge, to continue implementing the approach, and to report on further progress in the implementation of the approach to the Plenary at its seventh session;
4. *Welcomes* the progress made by the task force on knowledge and data in implementing the work plan for 2017 and 2018.⁴

² IPBES/6/INF/12.

³ IPBES/6/INF/13.

⁴ IPBES/6/INF/14.

6. The Plenary may wish to consider the following paragraph of the draft decision on the implementation of the first work programme of IPBES under item 5 of the provisional agenda, report of the Executive Secretary on the implementation of the first work programme for the period 2014–2018:

IV

Global, regional and subregional assessments

Welcomes the progress made in undertaking the global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services.⁵

7. The Plenary may wish to consider the following paragraphs of the draft decision on the implementation of the first work programme of IPBES under item 6 of the provisional agenda, regional and subregional assessments of biodiversity and ecosystem services:

1. *Approves* the summary for policymakers of the report on the regional assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services for Africa set out in annex [] to the present decision and accepts the individual chapters of the assessment report and their executive summaries;⁶

2. *Also approves* the summary for policymakers of the report on the regional assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services for the Americas set out in annex [] to the present decision and accepts the individual chapters of the assessment report and their executive summaries;⁷

3. *Further approves* the summary for policymakers of the report of the regional assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services for Asia and the Pacific set out in annex [] to the present decision and accepts the individual chapters of the assessment report and their executive summaries;⁸

4. *Approves* the summary for policymakers of the report of the regional assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services for Europe and Central Asia set out in annex [] to the present decision and accepts the individual chapters of the assessment report and their executive summaries.⁹

V

Thematic assessments

8. The Plenary may wish to consider the following paragraph of the draft decision on the implementation of the first work programme of IPBES under item 7 of the provisional agenda, thematic assessment of land degradation and restoration:

Approves the summary for policymakers of the report on the thematic assessment of land degradation and restoration set out in annex [] to the present decision and accepts the individual chapters of the assessment report and their executive summaries.¹⁰

9. The Plenary may wish to consider the following paragraph of the draft decision on the implementation of the first work programme of IPBES under item 8 of the provisional agenda, pending assessments:

1. [*Approves* the undertaking of a thematic assessment of the sustainable use of wild species in accordance with the procedures for the preparation of the Platform's deliverables and as outlined in the scoping report set out in annex IV to decision IPBES-5/1, following the [sixth] [seventh] session of the Plenary, for consideration by the Plenary at its [ninth] [tenth] session];

⁵ IPBES/6/INF/11.

⁶ IPBES/6/INF/3/Rev.1, which will include the individual chapters and their executive summaries, reflecting the summary for policymakers as approved.

⁷ IPBES/7/INF/4/Rev.1, which will include the individual chapters and their executive summaries, reflecting the summary for policymakers as approved.

⁸ IPBES/6/INF/5/Rev.1, which will include the individual chapters and their executive summaries, reflecting the summary for policymakers as approved.

⁹ IPBES/9/INF/6/Rev.1, which will include the individual chapters and their executive summaries, reflecting the summary for policymakers as approved.

¹⁰ IPBES/6/INF/1/Rev.1, which will include the individual chapters and their executive summaries, reflecting the summary for policymakers as approved.

2. [Also approves the undertaking of a thematic assessment of invasive alien species in accordance with the procedures for the preparation of the Platform's deliverables and as outlined in the scoping report set out in annex III to decision IPBES-4/1, following the [sixth] [seventh] session of the Plenary, for consideration by the Plenary at its [ninth] [tenth] session.]

VI

Methodological assessments

10. The Plenary may wish to consider the following paragraph of the draft decision on the implementation of the first work programme of IPBES under item 5 of the provisional agenda, report of the Executive Secretary on the implementation of the first work programme for the period 2014–2018:

Recalling its decision IPBES-5/1, section VI, paragraphs 3 and 5,

1. *Welcomes* the progress made and next steps planned by the expert group on scenarios and models;¹¹

2. *Also welcomes* the progress made and next steps planned by the expert group on values.¹²

11. The Plenary may wish to consider the following paragraphs of the draft decision on the implementation of the first work programme of IPBES under item 8 of the provisional agenda, pending assessments:

3. [Approves the undertaking of a methodological assessment regarding the diverse conceptualization of multiple values of nature and its benefits, including biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, in accordance with the procedures for the preparation of the Platform's deliverables and as outlined in the scoping report set out in annex VI to decision IPBES-4/1, following the [sixth] [seventh] session of the Plenary, for consideration by the Plenary at its [ninth] [tenth] session].

12. The Plenary may wish to consider the following section of the draft decision on the implementation of the first work programme of IPBES under item 5 of the provisional agenda, report of the Executive Secretary on the implementation of the first work programme for the period 2014–2018:

VII

Catalogue of policy tools and methodologies

1. *Welcomes* the progress made and next steps planned regarding the development of the online catalogue of policy support tools and methodologies and the provision of guidance to ongoing Platform assessments¹³; and requests the expert group on policy support tools and methodologies to further develop the online catalogue and the guidance to Platform assessments, and to report on progress to the Plenary at its seventh session;

2. *Welcomes* the efforts of partner organizations, Governments and stakeholders in contributing information for inclusion in the online catalogue of policy support tools and methodologies and invites other organizations, Governments and stakeholders to join those efforts by submitting relevant information for inclusion in the online catalogue.

13. The Plenary may wish to consider the following section of the draft decision on the implementation of the first work programme of IPBES under item 10 of the provisional agenda, review of the Platform:

¹¹ IPBES/6/INF/15.

¹² IPBES/6/INF/18.

¹³ IPBES/6/INF/16.

VIII

Review of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

Recalling its decision IPBES-5/2,

Takes notes with appreciation of the report prepared by the internal review team¹⁴, the selection of a review panel to perform the review and the progress made in the selection of an external professional organization to coordinate the review.¹⁵

14. The Plenary may wish to consider the following section of the draft decision on the implementation of the first work programme of IPBES under item 9 of the provisional agenda, financial and budgetary arrangements for the Platform:

IX

Technical support for the work programme

Requests the secretariat, in consultation with the Bureau and in accordance with the approved budget set out in the annex to decision IPBES-6/[], to establish the institutional arrangements necessary to operationalize the technical support required for the work programme.

II. Draft decision: Development of a second work programme

15. The Plenary may wish to consider the following section of the draft decision on the review of IPBES and development of a second work programme under item 11 of the provisional agenda, development of a second work programme:

Requests the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau, supported by the secretariat:

- (a) To revise the initial draft elements of the framework for a second work programme,¹⁶ taking into account the views expressed by the Plenary at its sixth session;
- (b) To hold a series of regional consultations to seek additional input from Governments and stakeholders on the revised draft framework for a second work programme;
- (c) To launch a call for requests, input and suggestions, with a deadline of 30 September 2018, following the agreed procedure and guidance set out in decision IPBES-1/3 on the procedure for receiving and prioritizing requests put to the Platform and:
 - (i) To invite members to submit requests, including those conveyed by the multilateral environmental agreements related to biodiversity and ecosystem services as determined by their respective governing bodies;
 - (ii) To invite United Nations bodies related to biodiversity and ecosystem services and relevant stakeholders, such as other intergovernmental organizations, international and regional scientific organizations, environment-related trust funds, non-governmental organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities and the private sector to submit inputs and suggestions;
 - (iii) To invite experts on, and holders of, indigenous and local knowledge to provide their input and suggestions through the participatory mechanism of the Platform;
- (d) To compile the requests, inputs and suggestions submitted and prepare a report containing a prioritized list of requests, inputs and suggestions for consideration by the Plenary at its seventh session;
- (e) To further revise the draft framework for a second work programme, taking into account the comments received in the context of the regional consultations, as well as the report containing the prioritized list referred to in paragraph 1 (d) above;
- (f) To send the further revised draft framework for a second work programme to Governments and stakeholders for further comment;

¹⁴ IPBES/6/INF/32.

¹⁵ IPBES/6/10.

¹⁶ IPBES/6/11.

(g) To finalize a draft of the second work programme, taking into account comments received during the review referred to in paragraph 1 (f), for consideration by the Plenary at its seventh session together with the report containing the prioritized list referred to in paragraph 1 (d), with a view to approving a second work programme of the Platform at the session.

III. Draft decision: Financial and budgetary arrangements

16. The Plenary may wish to consider the following draft decision on financial and budgetary arrangements under item 9 of the provisional agenda, financial and budgetary arrangements for the Platform:

The Plenary,

Welcoming the cash and in-kind contributions received since the fifth session of the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services,

Taking note of the status of cash and in-kind contributions received to date,¹⁷ as listed in tables 1, 2 and 3 set out in the annex to the present decision,

Taking note also of the pledges made for the period beyond 2017,

Taking note further of the status of expenditures in the biennium 2016–2017,¹⁸ as listed in tables 5 and 6 set out in the annex to the present decision, as well as the level of savings achieved during the biennium,

1. *Invites* pledges and contributions to the trust fund of the Platform, as well as in-kind contributions, from Governments, United Nations bodies, the Global Environment Facility, other intergovernmental organizations, stakeholders and others in a position to do so, including regional economic integration organizations, the private sector and foundations, to support the work of the Platform;
2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, under the guidance of the Bureau, to report to the Plenary at its seventh session on expenditures for the biennium 2017–2018;
3. *Adopts* the revised budget for 2018,¹⁹ amounting to \$[], as set out in table 7 of the annex to the present decision;
4. *Also adopts* the further revised provisional budget for 2019,²⁰ amounting to \$[], as set out in table 8 of the annex to the present decision, noting that it will require further revision prior to its possible adoption at the seventh session of the Plenary in the context of the adoption of the second work programme.

IV. Draft decision: Provisional agenda, date and venue of the seventh session of the Plenary

17. The Plenary may wish to consider the following draft decision under item 12, dates and venues of future sessions of the Plenary:

The Plenary,

1. *Decides* to accept with appreciation the offer by the Government of [x]²¹ to host the seventh session of the Plenary in [y], subject to the successful conclusion of a host country agreement;
2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to hold consultations with the Government of [x], to negotiate a host country agreement, in conformity with General Assembly resolution 40/243 and in compliance with the provisions of United Nations administrative instruction ST/AI/342, with a view to concluding and signing the host country agreement as soon as

¹⁷ Draft tables are set out in tables 1, 2 and 3 of document IPBES/6/9.

¹⁸ Draft tables are set out in tables 5 and 6 of document IPBES/6/9.

¹⁹ The further revised draft budget for the biennium 2018–2019 is set out in tables 7 and 8 of document IPBES/6/9.

²⁰ The further revised draft budget for the biennium 2018–2019 is set out in tables 7 and 8 of document IPBES/6/9.

²¹ Members intending to offer to host the session are encouraged to inform the secretariat of that intention and to submit a formal offer as soon as possible.

possible, to organize the seventh session of the Plenary in close collaboration with the host country and to invite the members and observers of the Platform to participate in the session;

3. *Invites* members in a position to do so to consider hosting the eighth session of the Plenary, which is scheduled to take place in 2020;

4. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary, under the guidance of the Bureau, to consult members of the Platform that may, during the period leading up to the seventh session of the Plenary, offer to host the eighth session of the Plenary;

5. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Plenary at its seventh session on progress in the consultations referred to in paragraph 4 above, with a view to the adoption by the Plenary at that session of a decision on the date and venue of its eighth session;

6. *Takes note* of the draft preliminary agenda for the seventh session of the Plenary²² set out in the annex to the present decision and requests the Executive Secretary to finalize the proposed organization of work for the session in line with comments received at the sixth session of the Plenary.

²² The draft preliminary agenda is set out in annex I to document IPBES/6/12.