



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

Medellin, Colombia, 18–24 March 2018

Item 12 of the provisional agenda*

Dates and venues of future sessions of the Plenary

Organization of work of the Plenary and dates and venues of future sessions of the Plenary

Note by the secretariat

Introduction

1. In decision IPBES-5/5, the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) invited members in a position to do so to consider hosting the seventh session of the Plenary, which is scheduled to take place from Monday to Saturday, 13–18 May 2019.
2. Section I of the present note sets out information on the organization of the seventh session of the Plenary and section II information on the eighth session of the Plenary. A draft decision on these matters is set out in section III and also in the note by the secretariat on draft decisions for the sixth session of the Plenary (IPBES/6/1/Add.2).

I. Organization of the seventh session of the Plenary

3. According to decision IPBES-5/5, the seventh session of the Plenary is scheduled to take place from Monday to Saturday, 13–18 May 2019. As at 1 December 2017, the secretariat had not received any offers to host the seventh session. 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, preferably before the opening of the sixth session of the Plenary.
4. At its seventh session, the Plenary will be invited to consider the global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services. The Plenary will also conduct regular elections for the membership of the Bureau. At the seventh session, the review panel that will conduct the external element of the review of the Platform is also expected to provide a final report on the review in accordance with the decision IPBES-5/2 on the review of the Platform. The report will include recommendations on the implementation of the second work programme of the Platform. Depending on the decisions adopted by the Plenary at its sixth session, it is also expected that the Plenary will, at its seventh session, consider the adoption of a second work programme for IPBES. A draft provisional agenda for the seventh session of the Plenary is set out in annex I to the present note.

* IPBES/6/1.

5. As noted in document IPBES/5/12, the Bureau had suggested that the consideration of the global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services take place in a plenary setting, rather than in a contact group. In the light of that suggestion, the seventh session has been scheduled over six days, from Monday to Saturday, 13–18 May 2019. A draft organization of work for the seventh session of the Plenary, based on the draft provisional agenda set out in annex I, is presented in annex II to the present note.

6. The Plenary is invited to provide guidance on the organization of its seventh session and to request the secretariat to take that guidance into account when finalizing the provisional agenda and organization of work for the session. The Plenary is also invited to decide on the venue of the seventh session.

II. Organization of the eighth session of the Plenary

7. The eighth session of the Plenary is expected to be held in 2020. 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.

8. The work of the Plenary at its eighth session will be determined by decisions taken by the Plenary at its seventh session. If the Plenary decides, at its sixth session, to start the undertaking of any of the pending assessments, it would not be expected to embark on the consideration of those assessments earlier than 2021.

III. Suggested actions

9. The Plenary may wish:

(a) To decide to accept with appreciation the offer by the Government of [x]¹ to host the seventh session of the Plenary in [y], subject to the successful conclusion of a host country agreement;

(b) To request 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 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;

(c) To invite members in a position to do so to consider hosting the eighth session of the Plenary, which is scheduled to take place in 2020;

(d) To request 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;

(e) Also to request the Executive Secretary to report to the Plenary at its seventh session on progress in the consultations referred to in paragraph (d) above, with a view to the Plenary adopting a decision at that session on the date and venue of its eighth session;

(f) To take note of the draft preliminary agenda for the seventh session of the Plenary and to request 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.

¹ 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.

Annex I

Draft provisional agenda for the seventh session of the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

1. Opening of the session.
2. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work;
 - (b) Status of the membership of the Platform;
 - (c) Election of members of the Bureau.
3. Admission of observers to the seventh session of the Plenary of the Platform.
4. Credentials of representatives.
5. Report of the Executive Secretary on the implementation of the work programme for the period 2014–2018.
6. Global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services.
7. Communication, stakeholder engagement and strategic partnerships.
8. Financial and budgetary arrangements for the Platform.
9. Review of the Platform.
10. Second work programme of the Platform.
11. Organization of the Plenary, dates and venues of future sessions of the Plenary.
12. Institutional arrangements: United Nations collaborative partnership arrangements for the work of the Platform and its secretariat.
13. Adoption of the decisions and report of the session.
14. Closure of the session.

Annex II

Draft organization of work for the seventh session of the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

<i>Time</i>	<i>Sunday, 12 May 2019</i>	<i>Monday, 13 May 2019</i>	<i>Tuesday, 14 May 2019</i>	<i>Wednesday, 15 May 2019</i>	<i>Thursday, 16 May 2019</i>	<i>Friday, 17 May 2019</i>	<i>Saturday, 18 May 2019</i>		
8–10 a.m.	Regional consultations and stakeholder consultations	Regional consultations	Regional consultations	Regional consultations	Regional consultations	Regional consultations	Regional consultations		
10–10.30 a.m.		Plenary items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Plenary item 6 (Global assessment)	Plenary item 6 (Global assessment)	Plenary item 6 (Global assessment)	Plenary item 6 (Global assessment)	Contact group item 10 (Second work programme)	Contact group item 7 (Communication and stakeholder engagement)	Plenary item 13
10.30–11 a.m.									
11–11.30 a.m.									
11.30–noon									
Noon–12.30 p.m.									
12.30–1 p.m.									
1–1.30 p.m.					Contact group item 8 (Budget)				
1.30–2 p.m.									
2–2.30 p.m.									
2.30–3 p.m.									
3–3.30 p.m.		Plenary items 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12	Plenary item 6 (Global assessment)	Contact group items 9, 10 (Review, second work programme)	Contact group item 8 (Budget)	Plenary item 6 (Global assessment)	Contact group item 10 (Second work programme)	Contact group item 8 (Budget)	Plenary items 2 (c), 13, 14
3.30–4 p.m.									
4–4.30 p.m.									
4.30–5 p.m.									
5–5.30 p.m.									
5.30–6 p.m.									
6–6.30 p.m.	Opening ceremony								
6.30–7 p.m.									
7–7.30 p.m.									
7.30–8 p.m.	Reception	Plenary item 6 (Global assessment)	Contact group items 9, 10 (Review, second work programme)	Contact group item 8 (Budget)	Plenary item 6 (Global assessment)	(pending items)	(pending items)		
8–8.30 p.m.									
8.30–9 p.m.									
9–9.30 p.m.									
9.30–10 p.m.									
10–10.30 p.m.									