

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

Paris, 29 April–4 May 2019

Item 12 of the provisional agenda*

Adoption of the decisions and report of the session**Draft decisions for the seventh 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 seventh 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/7/1) under which each draft decision is expected to be considered.

**I. Draft decision: Review of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy
Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services at the conclusion
of its first work programme**

2. The Plenary may wish to consider the following draft decision on the review of IPBES at the conclusion of its first work programme under item 8 of the provisional agenda:

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 with appreciation the outstanding contributions made by all experts involved in the implementation of the first work programme of the Platform, and thanking them and their institutions for their unwavering commitment thereto,

Recalling its decision IPBES-5/2, in which it approved the terms of reference for the review of the Platform at the conclusion of its first work programme,

* IPBES/7/1.

¹ IPBES/7/2.

Also recalling its decision IPBES-6/1, section VIII, in which it took note of the report prepared by the internal review team,²

1. *Takes note of* the activities undertaken to implement the recommendations from the report prepared by the internal review team;³
2. *Welcomes* the report on the review of the Platform at the conclusion of its first work programme by the review panel,⁴
3. *Also welcomes* the response by the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau⁵ and the response by the Executive Secretary⁶ to the report referred to in paragraph 2 above;
4. *Requests* the Bureau, the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Executive Secretary, as appropriate, to take the recommendations made by the review panel⁷ into account in the implementation of the work programme of the Platform up to 2030 and to inform the Plenary at its eighth session on the progress made.

II. Draft decision: Work programme of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services up to 2030

3. The Plenary may wish to consider the following draft decision on the work programme of the Platform up to 2030 under item 9 of the provisional agenda:

The Plenary,

Recalling its decisions IPBES-5/3 and IPBES-6/2,

Acknowledging with appreciation the efforts of the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the contributions by members and stakeholders of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in the development of the work programme of the Platform up to 2030,

Welcoming the requests, inputs and suggestions on short-term priorities and longer-term strategic needs, including those submitted by the relevant bodies of multilateral environmental agreements related to biodiversity and ecosystem services,

Taking note of the report by the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau⁸ containing a prioritized list of requests, inputs and suggestions prepared in line with decision IPBES-6/2 and the procedure for receiving and prioritizing requests put to the Platform set out in decision IPBES-1/3,

1. *Adopts* the work programme of the Platform for the period up to 2030 set out in annex [] to the present decision;⁹
2. *Decides* to launch two calls for further requests, inputs and suggestions regarding the work programme, one in time for their consideration by the Plenary at its tenth session and the other in time for their consideration by the Plenary during the mid-term phase of the work programme;

I

Implementation of the work programme of the Platform up to 2030

1. *Decides* to proceed with the implementation of the work programme in accordance with the approved budget set out in decision IPBES-7/[];

² IPBES/6/INF/32.

³ IPBES/7/INF/17.

⁴ IPBES/7/INF/18.

⁵ IPBES/7/INF/19.

⁶ IPBES/7/INF/20.

⁷ See IPBES/7/5.

⁸ IPBES/7/6/Add.1.

⁹ The draft text of the work programme is set out in the annex to IPBES/7/6.

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to provide a report on progress in the implementation of the work programme in line with the present decision to the Plenary at its eighth session.

II

Assessing knowledge

1. *Approves* the summary for policymakers of the global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services¹⁰ and accepts the chapters of the assessment, including their executive summaries;¹¹

2. *Also approves* a scoping process for a thematic assessment of the interlinkages among biodiversity, water, food and health, for consideration by the Plenary at its eighth session, in accordance with the procedures for the preparation of the Platform deliverables¹² and based on the initial scoping report for the assessment,¹³ and decides to consider conducting the assessment over a period of four years, which would include, on an exceptional basis, an additional review of a draft of the summary for policymakers by Governments and experts preceding a final review by Governments of the summary for policymakers;

3. *Further approves* a scoping process for a methodological assessment of the impact and dependence of business on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people, for consideration by the Plenary at its eighth session, in accordance with the procedures for the preparation of the Platform deliverables¹⁴ and based on the initial scoping report for the assessment,¹⁵ and decides to consider conducting the assessment over a period of two years following a fast-track approach;¹⁶

4. *Agrees* to the preparation of a joint technical paper with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on biodiversity and climate change, based on the regional assessments and the global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services and the assessment of land degradation and restoration, as well as relevant completed assessments of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, including the special report on the impact of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, its fifth assessment report, including the reports by the three working groups of the Panel, and the special report on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems, in accordance with the clearance processes for technical papers as set out in the procedures for the preparation of Platform deliverables,¹⁷ and based on the concept note for the technical paper;¹⁸

5. *Invites* the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change to consider endorsing the preparation of the technical paper as a joint technical paper of the Panel and the Platform;

6. *Requests* the Chair of the Platform and the Executive Secretary to liaise with the Chair and Secretary of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change with a view to developing the appropriate modalities for the joint preparation of the technical paper in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Panel and the Platform;¹⁹

7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to regularly update the guide on the production of assessments,²⁰ taking into account the work of the task forces and expert groups of the Platform.

¹⁰ IPBES/7/10/Add.1. The draft text of the summary for policymakers is set out in the annex to document IPBES/7/3.

¹¹ See IPBES/7/INF/1/Rev.1, which will include the individual chapters and their executive summaries, reflecting the summary for policymakers as approved.

¹² See decision IPBES-3/3, annex I, section 3.4.

¹³ IPBES/7/6, appendix II, section I.

¹⁴ See decision IPBES-3/3, annex I, section 3.4.

¹⁵ IPBES/7/6, appendix II, section IV.

¹⁶ See decision IPBES-3/3, annex I, section 3.2.

¹⁷ Decision IPBES-3/3, annex I, section 4.

¹⁸ IPBES/7/6, appendix II, section II.

¹⁹ Decision IPBES-3/3, annex I, section 4.

²⁰ Available at <https://www.ipbes.net/guide-production-assessments>.

III

Building capacity

1. *Recalls* the establishment of the task force on capacity-building in section I, paragraph 1 of decision IPBES-2/5, and extends the mandate of the task force for the implementation of deliverables 2 (a), 2 (b) and 2 (c) of the work programme of the Platform up to 2030 in accordance with the revised terms of reference set out in annex [] to the present decision,²¹ and requests the Bureau and the Panel, through the Platform's secretariat, to constitute the task force in accordance with the terms of reference;
2. *Decides* to review the mandate and terms of reference of the task force at its tenth session;
3. *Notes* the next steps for the task force on building capacity for 2019 and 2020.²²

IV

Strengthening the knowledge foundations

1. *Recalls* the establishment of the task force on knowledge and data in section II, paragraph 2 of decision IPBES-2/5, and extends the mandate of the task force for the implementation of deliverable 3 (a) of the work programme of the Platform up to 2030 in accordance with the revised terms of reference set out in annex [] to the present decision,²³ and requests the Bureau and the Panel, through the Platform's secretariat, to constitute the task force in accordance with the terms of reference;
2. *Recalls* the establishment of the task force on indigenous and local knowledge systems in section II, paragraph 1 of decision IPBES-2/5, and extends the mandate of the task force for the implementation of deliverable 3 (b) of the work programme of the Platform up to 2030 in accordance with the revised terms of reference set out in annex [] to the present decision,²⁴ and requests the Bureau and the Panel, through the Platform's secretariat, to constitute the task force in accordance with the terms of reference;
3. *Decides* to review the mandates and terms of reference of the task force on knowledge and data and of the task force on indigenous and local knowledge at its tenth session;
4. *Notes* the next steps for the task force on knowledge and data²⁵ and the task force on indigenous and local knowledge²⁶ for 2019 and 2020.

V

Supporting policy

1. *Establishes* a task force on policy tools and methodologies for the implementation of deliverable 4 (a) of the work programme of the Platform up to 2030 in accordance with the terms of reference set out in annex [] to the present decision,²⁷ and requests the Bureau and the Panel, through the Platform's secretariat, to constitute the task force in accordance with the terms of reference;
2. *Establishes* a task force on scenarios and models for the implementation of deliverable 4 (b) of the work programme of the Platform up to 2030 in accordance with the terms of reference set out in annex [] to the present decision,²⁸ and requests the Bureau and the Panel, through the Platform's secretariat, to constitute the task force in accordance with the terms of reference;

²¹ The draft text of the terms of reference is set out in document IPBES/7/6, appendix I, section II.

²² IPBES/7/INF/7, section [].

²³ The draft text of the terms of reference is set out in document IPBES/7/6, appendix I, section III.

²⁴ The draft text of the terms of reference is set out in document IPBES/7/6, appendix I, section IV.

²⁵ IPBES/7/INF/9, section [].

²⁶ IPBES/7/INF/8, section [].

²⁷ The draft text of the terms of reference is set out in document IPBES/7/6, appendix I, section VI.

²⁸ The draft text of the terms of reference is set out in document IPBES/7/6, appendix I, section V.

3. *Decides* to review the mandates and terms of reference of the task force on policy tools and methodologies and the task force on scenarios and models at its tenth session;
4. *Notes* the next steps for the task force on policy tools and methodologies²⁹ and the task force on scenarios and models³⁰ for 2019 and 2020.

VI

Reviewing effectiveness

Recalling that one of the operating principles of the Platform states that the Platform's efficiency and effectiveness will be independently reviewed and evaluated on a periodic basis as decided by the Plenary, with adjustments to be made as necessary,³¹

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to seek the views of members and stakeholders of the Platform on the process of reviewing the Platform at the closure of its first work programme;
2. *Requests* the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel to review the process of reviewing the Platform at the closure of its first work programme, taking into account the views expressed by members and stakeholders of the Platform in response to the process referred to in paragraph 1 of the present section;
3. *Further requests* the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel to prepare draft terms of reference for a mid-term review of the Platform, for consideration by the Plenary at its ninth session.

VII

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-7/[], to establish the institutional arrangements necessary to operationalize the technical support required for the work programme.

III. Draft decision: Financial and budgetary arrangements

4. The Plenary may wish to consider the following draft decision on financial and budgetary arrangements under item 7 of the provisional agenda:

The Plenary,

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

Noting the status of cash and in-kind contributions received to date, as listed in tables [], [] and [] set out in the annex to the present decision,³²

Noting also the pledges made for the period beyond 2018,

Noting further the status of expenditures in the biennium 2017–2018, as listed in tables [] and [] set out in the annex to the present decision,³³ 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;

²⁹ IPBES/7/INF/13, section [].

³⁰ IPBES/7/INF/11, section [].

³¹ See UNEP/IPBES.MI/2/9, annex I, appendix I, section II.

³² Draft versions of tables 1, 2 and 3 are set out in document IPBES/7/4.

³³ Draft versions of tables 5 and 6 are set out in document IPBES/7/4.

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, under the guidance of the Bureau, to report to the Plenary at its eighth session on expenditures for the biennium 2018–2019 and on activities related to fundraising;
3. *Adopts* the revised budget for 2019,³⁴ amounting to \$[], as set out in table [] of the annex to the present decision;
4. *Also adopts* the provisional budget for 2020,³⁵ amounting to \$[], as set out in table [] of the annex to the present decision.

IV. **Draft decision: Organization of the Plenary and dates and venues of future sessions of the Plenary**

5. The Plenary may wish to consider the following draft decision on the organization of the Plenary and dates and venues of future sessions of the Plenary under item 10 of the provisional agenda:

The Plenary,

1. *Decides* that the eighth session of the Plenary will be held from [] to [] 2020;³⁶
2. *Also decides* to accept with appreciation the offer by the Government of [] to host the eighth session of the Plenary in [], subject to the successful conclusion of a host country agreement;
3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to hold consultations with the Government of [] 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 eighth session of the Plenary in close collaboration with the host country and to invite the members and observers of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services to participate in the session;
4. *Invites* members in a position to do so to consider hosting the ninth session of the Plenary, which is scheduled to take place in 2021;
5. *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 eighth session of the Plenary, offer to host the ninth session of the Plenary;
6. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Plenary at its eighth session on progress made in the consultations referred to in paragraph 5 above, with a view to the adoption by the Plenary at that session of a decision on the date and venue of its ninth session;
7. *Takes note* of the draft provisional agenda for the eighth session of the Plenary set out in the annex to the present decision;³⁷
8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to invite members and observers that are allowed enhanced participation in accordance with decision IPBES-5/4, to provide, by 1 July 2019, written comments on the proposed organization of work of the eighth session of the Plenary;
9. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to finalize the proposed organization of work for the eighth session of the Plenary in line with comments received at the seventh session of the Plenary and written comments received in response to the invitation referred to in paragraph 8 of the present decision.

³⁴ The draft revised budget for 2019 is set out in table 7 of document IPBES/7/4.

³⁵ The draft provisional budget for 2020 is set out in table 9 of document IPBES/7/4.

³⁶ The eighth session will be held in June or July 2020 if hosted by a member of IPBES, or in August or September 2020 if hosted by the secretariat in Bonn.

³⁷ The draft provisional agenda is also set out in annex I to document IPBES/7/7.