

**Intergovernmental Science-Policy  
Platform on Biodiversity and  
Ecosystem Services**Distr.: General  
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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 2 (a) of the provisional agenda\*

**Organizational matters: adoption of the agenda  
and organization of work****Annotations to the provisional agenda****Item 1****Opening of the session**

1. The seventh session of the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) will be held in Paris from 29 April to 4 May 2019. The session will commence at 10 a.m. on Monday, 29 April 2019.
2. Welcoming remarks are expected to be delivered by the Chair of IPBES; the Executive Secretary of IPBES; the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), speaking also on behalf of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); and a representative of the Government of France, among other dignitaries. Regional consultations and a stakeholders' day will be held on 28 April 2019.

**Item 2****Organizational matters**

3. The rules of procedure for the Plenary of the Platform, as adopted by the Plenary in its decision IPBES-1/1 and amended by the Plenary in its decision IPBES-2/1, will govern the seventh session of the Plenary.
- (a) **Adoption of the agenda and organization of work**
4. The Plenary may wish to adopt the agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda (IPBES/7/1).
  5. It is suggested that deliberations take place in the form of plenary meetings. When deemed necessary, however, the Plenary may wish to establish working groups and contact groups to discuss specific matters. The Plenary may wish to establish, at this seventh session, two working groups and a contact group, as detailed below.
  6. The Plenary may wish to establish a working group to consider item 6 on the global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services, and a working group to consider item 8 on the review of the Platform at the conclusion of its first work programme and item 9 on the next work programme of the Platform. Due to time constraints it will be necessary to hold a limited number of meetings of these two working groups in parallel. The second working group is expected to report to the Plenary on item 8 on Wednesday, 1 May 2019, and on item 9 on Saturday, 4 May 2019. In line with practice at previous sessions of the Plenary, the Plenary may also wish to establish a contact group on item 7 on financial and budgetary arrangements for the Platform.

\* IPBES/7/1.

7. It is further suggested that meetings be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. each day. The Bureau suggests that it will be necessary to hold evening meetings from 7.30 p.m. to 10.30 p.m. to ensure that the agenda is fully addressed during the week.

8. A proposal on how the Plenary may wish to organize its work has been developed, based on the practice at previous sessions of the Plenary (see annex I), and a list of documents is also provided (annex II). The proposal includes the allocation of time and tasks to working and contact groups that the Plenary may wish to establish.

9. Simultaneous interpretation into the six official languages of the United Nations will be provided for all the plenary meetings and meetings of working groups set out in annex I. Meetings of the contact group will be held in English only.

**(b) Status of the membership of the Platform**

10. The secretariat will present information on the status of the membership of IPBES. Any State Member of the United Nations that intends to become a member of IPBES is requested to express its intent to the secretariat in an official letter from the appropriate governmental authority.

**(c) Election of members of the Bureau**

11. In accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure, the term of office of each member of the Bureau, which commenced at the end of the fourth session of the Plenary, will end at the close of the seventh session, when the new Bureau is to be elected. The Plenary will therefore be invited to elect a new Bureau, consisting of a chair, four vice-chairs and five other officers. The chair and the four vice-chairs will be selected with due consideration to their scientific and technical expertise. Each of the five United Nations regions is represented by two officers in the Bureau.

12. In line with rule 22 of the rules of procedure, the secretariat, through a notification (EM/2018/19 of 12 September 2018), invited members of IPBES to submit to the secretariat written nominations and the accompanying curricula vitae of nominees to the Bureau by 4 January 2019. The names of the persons nominated and their curricula vitae will be made available to members of IPBES, together with the identity of the region making the nomination, in document IPBES/7/INF/3 and on the IPBES website. According to rule 15 of the rules of procedure, members of the Bureau can be re-elected for one consecutive term.

13. On Saturday, 4 May 2019, the Chair will invite each of the five United Nations regional groups to present their two nominees (one vice-chair or chair and one other officer) as candidates for membership of the Bureau. The Chair will invite the Plenary to elect the Bureau, consisting of a chair, four vice-chairs and five other officers.

14. With regard to the election of the chair, paragraph 3 of rule 15 states that the chair will be rotated among the five United Nations regions every 3 years without the possibility of re-election as chair. At the sixth session of the Plenary, the Chair held informal consultations on the matter of rotation. In his report back to the Plenary on the outcome of those consultations, he said that all the regional groups had reaffirmed the applicability of rule 15 of the rules of procedure for the sessions of the Plenary, which included the provision that the chair of the Bureau would be rotated among the five United Nations regions every three years without the possibility of re-election as chair. While all the regions had acknowledged that applying that rule on rotation would mean that the next chair of IPBES would come from the African region, the Eastern European region or the Latin American and the Caribbean region, there had been no consensus on whether the Plenary should decide on the sequence in which the regions would assume the chair. Therefore, the Plenary agreed to continue to apply rule 15 and to reflect that agreement in the report of the session (IPBES/6/15, para. 18).

15. In line with paragraph 4 of rule 15, each region may also designate alternates, to be approved by the Plenary, to represent the region at a meeting of the Bureau if the Bureau member(s) is/are unable to attend.

16. Information related to the election of members of the Bureau is set out in document IPBES/7/8. Information related to the candidates nominated for election is set out in document IPBES/7/INF/3.

### **Item 3**

#### **Admission of observers to the seventh session of the Plenary of the Platform**

17. The Chair of the Platform will propose, on behalf of the Bureau, the list of observers admitted to the seventh session (IPBES/7/INF/4) in accordance with the decision of the Plenary at its sixth session (IPBES/6/15, para. 21) that the interim procedure for the admission of observers to sessions of

the Plenary, as described in paragraph 22 of the report of the first session of the Plenary (IPBES/1/12) and applied at its second to sixth sessions, would also be applied at its seventh session.

18. The Plenary also decided that at its seventh session it would further consider the draft policy and procedures for the admission of observers, which are set out in the annex to the note by the secretariat on the matter (IPBES/7/9).

## **Item 4**

### **Credentials of representatives**

19. All States members of the Platform are invited to participate fully in the session. In accordance with rule 11 of the rules of procedure, each member of IPBES is to be represented by a delegation consisting of a head of delegation and such other accredited representatives, alternate representatives and advisers as it may require.

20. Pursuant to rule 12 of the rules of procedure, the credentials of representatives of States members of IPBES attending the session, issued by or on behalf of their Heads of State or Government or their ministers for foreign affairs consistent with each country's policies and laws, should be submitted to the secretariat, if possible not later than 24 hours after the opening of the session. Such credentials are required for representatives to participate in the adoption of decisions at the session.

21. In accordance with rule 13 of the rules of procedure, the credentials of the representatives of members of IPBES will be examined by the Bureau, which will submit a report thereon to the Plenary. The Bureau will report on the outcome of its examination on Wednesday, 1 May 2019, before the adoption of any decisions.

## **Item 5**

### **Report of the Executive Secretary on the implementation of the first work programme for the period 2014–2018**

22. Pursuant to decision IPBES-6/1, on implementation of the first work programme of the Platform, the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau, has developed for consideration by the Plenary a report on the implementation of the first work programme (IPBES/7/2). The Executive Secretary will deliver a comprehensive report on all aspects of the implementation of the first work programme of IPBES. With regard to the work of the IPBES task forces and expert groups, the Plenary may wish to provide guidance on their future under item 9 in the context of the decision to be adopted on the next work programme of IPBES.

23. The Plenary may wish to take note of the information contained in the report and related information documents, including the report on the institutional arrangements established to operationalize technical support for the implementation of the work programme (IPBES/7/INF/5); information on progress in the undertaking of the assessment of the sustainable use of wild species, the assessment of invasive alien species, and the assessment regarding the diverse conceptualization of multiple values of nature and its benefits in line with paragraphs 2 and 3 of section V and paragraph 3 of section VI of decision IPBES-6/1 (see also IPBES/7/INF/6); information on the work related to capacity-building, in particular progress in the implementation of the capacity-building rolling plan, in response to section II of decision IPBES-6/1 (see also IPBES/7/INF/7); information on work related to indigenous and local knowledge, in particular the implementation of the approach to recognizing and working with indigenous and local knowledge, in response to paragraphs 1 to 3 of section III of decision IPBES-6/1 (see also IPBES/7/INF/8); information on work related to knowledge and data, in particular the implementation of the work plan for 2017 and 2018, in response to paragraph 6 of section III of decision IPBES-5/1 and paragraph 5 of section III of decision IPBES-6/1 (see also IPBES/7/INF/9); information related to the guide on the production and integration of assessments from and across all scales in line with paragraph 1 of section III of decision IPBES-4/1 (see IPBES/7/INF/10); information on work related to scenarios and models in response to paragraph 3 of section VI of decision IPBES-5/1 and paragraph 1 of section VI of decision IPBES-6/1 (see also IPBES/7/INF/11); information on work related to policy support tools and methodologies, in particular on the catalogue of policy support tools and methodologies in response to section VII of decision IPBES-6/1 (see also IPBES/7/INF/13); information on the implementation of the communications and outreach strategy and the stakeholder engagement strategy, in response to paragraphs 2 and 4 of decision IPBES-3/4 (see also IPBES/7/INF/14); information on partnerships in response to paragraph 2 of section III of decision IPBES-4/4 (see also IPBES/7/INF/15); and information on the implementation of the conflict of interest policy and procedures (decision IPBES-3/3, annex II; see also IPBES/7/INF/16).

## Item 6

### Global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services

24. In paragraph 3 of section III of decision IPBES-4/1, the Plenary approved the undertaking of a global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services as outlined in the scoping report for that assessment set out in annex I to that decision, for consideration by the Plenary at its seventh session. In section IV of decision IPBES-6/1, the Plenary provided further guidance and requested the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau to facilitate discussions on the lessons learned from the ways in which the concept of “nature’s contributions to people” had been introduced and used in the regional assessments of biodiversity and ecosystem services and in the assessment of land degradation and restoration. The Plenary further requested the co-chairs of the global assessment to work with the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau to ensure that the policy questions set out in the scoping report of the assessment were addressed in the draft summary for policymakers.

25. The Plenary will be invited to consider the chapters of the assessment report for acceptance (IPBES/7/INF/1) and its summary for policymakers (IPBES/7/3) for approval. An overview of the process followed for the production of the assessment is made available in document IPBES/7/INF/2.

## Item 7

### Financial and budgetary arrangements for the Platform

26. In response to decision IPBES-6/4 on financial and budgetary arrangements, the Plenary will be invited to consider a note by the secretariat on financial and budgetary arrangements for the Platform (IPBES/7/4), which provides information on the status of cash and in-kind contributions to the Platform and on expenditures for the biennium 2017–2018. The note also contains a further revised budget for 2019 and a budget proposal for 2020 and beyond, including costs associated with the next work programme, based on a number of assumptions set out in the document, for consideration by the Plenary.

27. The note by the secretariat also contains information on activities related to fundraising.

## Item 8

### Review of the Platform at the conclusion of its first work programme

28. In decision IPBES-5/2, the Plenary approved the terms of reference for the review of IPBES at the end of its first work programme, set out in the annex to that decision. In paragraph 1 of section VIII of decision IPBES-6/1 the Plenary took note of the report prepared by the internal review team in line with the terms of reference and, in paragraph 2, requested the Bureau, the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the secretariat to consider which of the issues identified in the internal review and lessons learned could be addressed in the first work programme, including with regard to the implementation of any pending assessments approved by the Plenary at its sixth session and the full implementation and better integration of the four functions of the Platform. In paragraph 2 of section I of decision IPBES-6/1, the Plenary requested the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau to consider how to improve the integration and coherence of the work programme across all the functions, expert groups and task forces of the Platform, taking into account the findings of the internal review, and to take steps to improve the transparency and accountability of those groups and task forces. In response to those requests, a number of activities have been identified and related information is set out in document IPBES/7/INF/17.

29. In paragraph 3 of section VIII of decision IPBES-6/1, the Plenary requested the Executive Secretary to initiate arrangements for the external review at the earliest opportunity after the sixth session of the Plenary. The report of the review panel, prepared in line with paragraph 15 of the terms of reference, is set out in document IPBES/7/INF/18. A response to the findings of the review as prepared by the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel is set out in document IPBES/7/INF/19; a management response to the findings prepared by the Executive Secretary is contained in document IPBES/7/INF/20. The Plenary will be invited to welcome the report and to consider the recommendations arising from the review report as set out in document IPBES/7/5 in the context of the development of the next work programme of the Platform.

**Item 9****Next work programme of the Platform**

30. In decision IPBES-6/2, the Plenary requested the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau, with support from the secretariat, to launch a formal call for requests, inputs and suggestions and to prepare a report containing a synthesized and prioritized list of these for consideration by the Plenary at its seventh session. The report is set out in document IPBES/7/6/Add.1. An overview of the requests, inputs and suggestions received is set out in document IPBES/7/INF/21.

31. In the same decision, the Plenary requested the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau, with support from the secretariat, to finalize, following the process set out in the decision, a draft strategic framework up to 2030 and elements of the work programme of the Platform for consideration and approval by the Plenary at its seventh session. The draft strategic framework and elements of the work programme, referred to as “draft work programme of the Platform up to 2030”, are set out in the annex to document IPBES/7/6. Modalities for implementing the deliverables of the next work programme of the Platform are set out in document IPBES/7/6/Add.2.

**Item 10****Organization of the Plenary and dates and venues of future sessions of the Plenary**

32. In decision IPBES-6/3, the Plenary invited members in a position to do so to consider hosting the eighth session of the Plenary, which is scheduled to take place in 2020. Governments wishing to host the eighth or ninth sessions of the Plenary are encouraged to inform the secretariat in advance of, or during, the seventh session.

33. Relevant information, including a draft provisional agenda and organization of work for the eighth session of the Plenary are set out in a note by the secretariat on the organization of work of the Plenary and dates and venues of future sessions of the Plenary (IPBES/7/7).

**Item 11****Institutional arrangements: United Nations collaborative partnership arrangements for the work of the Platform and its secretariat**

34. Following the approval by the Plenary, in decision IPBES-2/8, of the collaborative partnership arrangement to establish an institutional link between the Plenary and UNEP, UNESCO, FAO and UNDP, a progress report on the arrangement is set out in a note by the secretariat on the matter (IPBES/7/INF/12) for the information of the Plenary.

**Item 12****Adoption of the decisions and report of the session**

35. Having considered the above matters, and following the presentation of the report of the Bureau on credentials, the Plenary may wish to consider adopting draft decisions that reflect the outcomes of its deliberations during the session. It may also wish to adopt the draft report of the session, as prepared by the Rapporteur. A compilation of draft decisions for the seventh session of the Plenary is set out in a note by the secretariat on the matter (IPBES/7/1/Add.2).

**Item 13****Closure of the session**

36. It is expected that the session will be closed by the Chair of the Plenary by 6 p.m. on Saturday, 4 May 2019.

## Annex I

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

Time	Sunday, 28 April 2019	Monday, 29 April 2019	Tuesday, 30 April 2019	Wednesday, 1 May 2019	Thursday, 2 May 2019	Friday, 3 May 2019	Saturday, 4 May 2019						
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.		<b>Plenary</b> Items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10	<b>Working group I</b> Item 6 Global assessment	<b>Plenary</b> Item 8 and item 6		<b>Working group I</b> Item 6 Global assessment	<b>Working group II</b> Item 9 Next work programme	<b>Contact group</b> Item 7 Budget	<b>Plenary</b> Items 2 (c), 12				
10.30–11 a.m.				<b>Working group I</b> Item 6 Global assessment									
11–11.30 a.m.				<b>Contact group</b> Item 7 Budget									
11.30–noon				<b>Contact group</b> Item 7 Budget									
Noon–12.30 p.m.				<b>Contact group</b> Item 7 Budget									
12.30–1 p.m.				<b>Contact group</b> Item 7 Budget									
1–1.30 p.m.		<b>Plenary</b> Items 8, 9	<b>Working group I</b> Item 6 Global assessment	<b>Working group II</b> Item 8 Review of the Platform	<b>Working group I</b> Item 6 Global assessment	<b>Working group II</b> Item 9 Next work programme	<b>Working group I</b> Item 6 Global assessment	<b>Working group II</b> Item 9 Next work programme	<b>Working group II</b> Item 9 Next work programme	<b>Contact group</b> Item 7 Budget	<b>Plenary</b> Items 12, 13		
1.30–2 p.m.												<b>Working group I</b> Item 6 Global assessment	
2–2.30 p.m.												<b>Working group I</b> Item 6 Global assessment	
2.30–3 p.m.												<b>Working group I</b> Item 6 Global assessment	
3–3.30 p.m.												<b>Working group I</b> Item 6 Global assessment	
3.30–4 p.m.												<b>Working group I</b> Item 6 Global assessment	
4–4.30 p.m.		<b>Working group I</b> Item 6 Global assessment											
4.30–5 p.m.		<b>Working group I</b> Item 6 Global assessment											
5–5.30 p.m.		<b>Working group I</b> Item 6 Global assessment											
5.30–6 p.m.		<b>Working group I</b> Item 6 Global assessment											
6–6.30 p.m.		<b>Opening ceremony</b>											
6.30–7 p.m.													
7–7.30 p.m.													
7.30–8 p.m.													
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.													

## Annex II

### List of working documents

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
IPBES/7/1	Provisional agenda	2 (a)
IPBES/7/1/Add.1	Annotations to the provisional agenda	2 (a)
IPBES/7/1/Add.2	Draft decisions for the seventh session of the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services	12
IPBES/7/2	Implementation of the first work programme	5
IPBES/7/3	Summary for policymakers of the global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services	6
IPBES/7/4	Financial and budgetary arrangements for the Platform	7
IPBES/7/5	Review of the effectiveness of the administrative and scientific functions of the Platform	8
IPBES/7/6	Next work programme of the Platform	9
IPBES/7/6/Add.1	Report on the prioritization of requests, inputs and suggestions on short-term priorities and longer-term strategic needs for the next work programme of the Platform	9
IPBES/7/6/Add.2	Modalities for implementing the deliverables of the next work programme of the Platform	9
IPBES/7/7	Organization of work of the Plenary and dates and venues of future sessions of the Plenary	10
IPBES/7/8	Election of the Bureau	2 (c)
IPBES/7/9	Draft policy and procedures for the admission of observers	3

## List of information documents (preliminary)

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
IPBES/7/INF/1	Chapters of the global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services	6
IPBES/7/INF/2	Overview of the process followed for the production of the global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services	6
IPBES/7/INF/3	Nominees for election to the Bureau	2 (c)
IPBES/7/INF/4	List of observers admitted to previous sessions of the Plenary and admission of new observers to the seventh session	3
IPBES/7/INF/5	Information on the institutional arrangements established to operationalize technical support for the implementation of the work programme	5
IPBES/7/INF/6	Information on the assessment of the sustainable use of wild species, the assessment of invasive alien species and the assessment regarding the diverse conceptualization of multiple values of nature and its benefits	5
IPBES/7/INF/7	Information on work related to capacity-building	5
IPBES/7/INF/8	Information on work related to indigenous and local knowledge systems	5
IPBES/7/INF/9	Information on work related to knowledge and data	5
IPBES/7/INF/10	Information on work related to the guide on the production of assessments	5
IPBES/7/INF/11	Information on further work related to scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem services	5
IPBES/7/INF/12	Progress report on the United Nations collaborative partnership arrangement	11
IPBES/7/INF/13	Information on work related to policy support tools and methodologies	5
IPBES/7/INF/14	Implementation of the communications and outreach strategy and the stakeholder engagement strategy	5
IPBES/7/INF/15	Information on collaboration and partnerships	5
IPBES/7/INF/16	Implementation of the conflict-of-interest policy for the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services	5
IPBES/7/INF/17	Activities to implement recommendations arising from the internal review report	8
IPBES/7/INF/18	Report on the review of the Platform at the end of its first work programme	8
IPBES/7/INF/19	Response by the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau to the report on the review of the Platform at the end of its first work programme	8
IPBES/7/INF/20	Management response by the Executive Secretary to the report on the review of the Platform at the end of its first work programme	8
IPBES/7/INF/21	Overview of requests, inputs and suggestions on short-term priorities and longer-term strategic needs for the next work programme of the Platform	9