



**Intergovernmental Science-Policy  
Platform on Biodiversity and  
Ecosystem Services**

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

Bonn, Germany, 12–17 January 2015

Item 4 of the provisional agenda\*

**Report of the Executive Secretary on the implementation  
of the work programme 2014–2018**

**Progress report on the development of a procedure for the  
review of the effectiveness of the administrative and scientific  
functions of the Platform (deliverable 4 (e))**

**Note by the secretariat**

In its decision IPBES-2/5, the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services requested the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, in consultation with the Bureau, to develop a procedure for the review of the effectiveness of the administrative and scientific functions of the Platform (deliverable 4 (e)). The annex to the present note sets out a progress report by the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau on the development of such a procedure. It is presented without formal editing.

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\* IPBES/3/1.

## Annex

### **Reviews of the effectiveness of guidance, procedures, methods and approaches to inform the future development of the Platform**

1. The work programme 2014-2018 proposes, through deliverable 4(e), reviews of the effectiveness of guidance, procedures, methods and approaches to inform future development of the Platform. Members of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, in consultation with the Bureau, have discussed this issue at their third and fourth meetings in 2014.
  2. The Panel is currently envisaging that two such reviews could take place - one at midterm and one at the end of the work programme. The midterm review would alert the Plenary to any issues it should address in completing the first work programme, and the final review would inform the development of the second work programme.
  3. The Panel, in consultation with the Bureau, has started to develop procedures for these two reviews. Work on these procedures is still in progress and has, so far, entailed discussions on:
    - a. several options for institutional arrangements to conduct the reviews, noting that the procedure should also safeguard the Platform's independence from any third parties, including UN agencies, intergovernmental organizations, or governments;
    - b. initial draft terms of reference for the reviews, noting that some prioritization of particular functions will need to be proposed;
    - c. options for procedures and timelines to best implement the deliverable as agreed in decision IPBES-2/5.
  4. The Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, in consultation with the Bureau, will further develop this work during 2015, with a view to submitting a procedure to the fourth session of the Plenary so that the Plenary can initiate the review process at this fourth session. The Panel will:
    - a. consult evaluation experts to fully take into account advances and innovative approaches to institutional evaluation;
    - b. discuss how best to assess scientific quality of the work of IPBES, the effectiveness of the policy support of the Platform as a science-policy interface, and the administrative functions of IPBES;
    - c. recommend procedural approaches and timelines to best implement the review.
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