

**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**
Fourth session
Kuala Lumpur, 22–28 February 2016**Annotations to the provisional agenda****Item 1****Opening of the session**

1. The fourth session of the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services will be held in Kuala Lumpur from 22 to 28 February 2016. The session will be opened at 10 a.m. on Monday, 22 February 2016, by the Chair of the Plenary, who will welcome participants. Thereafter, welcoming remarks will be made by the Executive Secretary of the Platform, the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) or his representative, speaking on behalf of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNEP and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and a representative of the Government of Malaysia.

Item 2**Organizational matters**

2. The rules of procedure for the Plenary of the Platform, as adopted by the Plenary at its first session, held in Bonn from 21 to 26 January 2013 (see decision IPBES/1/1), and further amended by the Plenary at its second session, held in Antalya, Turkey, from 9 to 14 December 2013 (see decision IPBES-2/1), will govern the fourth session.

(a) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

3. The Plenary may wish to adopt the agenda, amended as appropriate, on the basis of the provisional agenda and the annotations thereto (IPBES/4/1 and IPBES/4/1/Add.1).

4. It is suggested that deliberations take place in the form of plenary meetings. When deemed necessary, however, the Plenary may wish to establish groups to discuss specific matters. It is also suggested that, in line with practice at previous sessions of the Plenary, the Plenary establish three contact groups. The first would consider items 5 (a), 5 (d), 5 (f) and 5 (g) on the work programme, item 7 (b) on procedures for the preparation of the Platform's deliverables, and item 8 on communications, stakeholder engagement and strategic partnerships. The second, working in parallel, would consider items 5 (b), 5 (c), 5 (e), 5 (h), 5 (i) on the work programme and item 7 (c) on the procedure for the review of the Platform. The third would consider item 6 on financial and budgetary arrangements for the Platform: budget and expenditure for 2014–2018, including report on the funding of experts and meeting participants. It is further suggested that plenary 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 may also be necessary to hold evening plenary meetings to ensure that the agenda is fully addressed during the week.

5. 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 working documents has been provided (annex II). The proposal includes the allocation of time and tasks to contact groups that the

Plenary may wish to establish. Simultaneous interpretation into the six official languages of the United Nations will be provided for all the plenary meetings, and for the meetings of the contact groups considering the summaries for policymakers (items 5 (a) and 5 (b)).

(b) Status of the membership of the Platform

6. The Secretariat will present information on the status of the membership of the Platform. Any State Member of the United Nations that is not currently a member of the Platform but intends to become one is requested to express its intent to the secretariat in an official letter from the appropriate governmental authority.

(c) Admission of observers to the fourth session of the Plenary of the Platform

7. The Chair of the Platform will propose, on behalf of the Bureau, the list of observers admitted to the fourth session (see IPBES/4/INF/23) in accordance with the decision made by the Plenary at its second session (IPBES/2/17, para. 54) and the procedures agreed upon by the Plenary at its first session (IPBES/1/12, para. 22).

Item 3

Credentials of representatives

8. 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 the Platform 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.

9. Pursuant to rule 12 of the rules of procedure, the representatives of States members of the Platform attending the session should submit to the secretariat their credentials, issued by or on behalf of their Heads of State or Government or their ministers for foreign affairs, consistent with their countries' policies and laws, no 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.

10. In accordance with rule 13 of the rules of procedure, the credentials of the representatives of members of the Platform 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 the morning of Friday, 26 February 2016, before the adoption of any draft resolutions, decisions or recommendations.

Item 4

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

11. Pursuant to decision IPBES-3/1, on the work programme for the period 2014–2018, 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 work programme for 2014–2018 (IPBES/4/2). The report outlines all ongoing activities under the work programme deliverables, as well as lessons learned and challenges experienced in 2015 in the implementation of the work programme.

12. The Plenary may wish to take note of the information contained in the report.

Item 5

Work programme of the Platform

(a) Thematic assessment on pollinators, pollination and food production

13. In decision IPBES-2/5, the Plenary approved the undertaking of a thematic assessment on pollination and pollinators associated with food production (deliverable 3 (a)), as outlined in the initial scoping document for that assessment set out in annex V to that decision, for consideration by the Plenary at its fourth session. The Plenary will be invited to consider the technical report for acceptance (IPBES/4/INF/1) and its summary for policymakers (IPBES/4/3) for approval.

(b) Scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem services: methodological assessment and proposal on the further development of tools and methodologies

14. In decision IPBES-2/5, the Plenary approved the undertaking of a methodological assessment on scenario analysis and modelling of biodiversity and ecosystem services (deliverable 3 (c)), as

outlined in the initial scoping document for that assessment set out in annex VI to that decision, for consideration by the Plenary at its fourth session. The Plenary will be invited to consider the technical report (IPBES/4/INF/3) for acceptance and its summary for policy makers (IPBES/4/4) for approval.

(c) Work on capacity-building

15. In decision IPBES-3/1, the Plenary took note of the draft programme on fellowship, exchange and training and requested that the task force on capacity-building complete the pilot implementation of the draft programme, report on progress with the pilot implementation and make recommendations for the further development and implementation of the programme to the Plenary at its fourth session. The Plenary will be invited to consider a set of recommendations for the further development and implementation of the programme made by the task force on capacity-building contained in the note by the secretariat on capacity-building (deliverables 1 (a) and 1 (b)) (IPBES/4/6). Additional information on work on capacity-building is provided in a note by the secretariat (IPBES/4/INF/5).

(d) Work on indigenous and local knowledge systems

16. In decision IPBES-2/5, the Plenary requested the Panel and the Bureau to develop for consideration by the Plenary at its fourth session draft procedures for and approaches to working with indigenous and local knowledge systems based on the initial elements of such procedures and approaches developed by the Panel. In response to that decision, the task force prepared a report, which is presented in the note by the secretariat on work on indigenous and local knowledge systems (IPBES/4/7). The report sets out, in its annex, a draft set of approaches and procedures for working with indigenous and local knowledge systems, as informed by the pilot global dialogue on indigenous and local knowledge for the pollination assessment. It also proposes criteria and operational guidelines for the establishment and use of the roster of experts on indigenous and local knowledge, and a step wise approach for the participatory mechanism for working with indigenous, local and various knowledge systems. Additional information on how the task force proposes to further pilot these approaches is described in the note by the secretariat (IPBES/4/INF/6).

(e) Scoping report for a global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services

17. In decision IPBES-3/1, the Plenary approved a scoping process for a global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services, for consideration by the Plenary at its fourth session. An expert group was established for this purpose and developed a scoping report which underwent external review by Governments and stakeholders. The Plenary will be invited to consider the scoping report for a global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services (deliverable 2 (c)) contained in the note by the secretariat on the matter (IPBES/4/8), with additional information on the scoping process on the global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services provided in a note by the secretariat (IPBES/4/INF/8). In the same decision, the Plenary agreed to consider at its fourth session the option of undertaking a regional assessment for the open ocean region. Open oceans are included in the scope of this global assessment.

(f) Revised scoping report for a methodological assessment on diverse conceptualization of multiple values of nature and its benefits

18. In decision IPBES-3/1, the Plenary requested the expert group to revise the preliminary guide and the scoping report on the conceptualization of values of biodiversity and nature's benefits to people, based on comments received following an open review by Governments and stakeholders, for consideration by the Plenary at its fourth session. The Plenary will be invited to consider the revised scoping report, contained in the note by the secretariat on the matter (IPBES/4/9). The revised preliminary guide and additional information are presented in a note by the secretariat (IPBES/4/INF/13).

(g) Scoping report for a thematic assessment on invasive alien species

19. In decision IPBES-3/1, the Plenary approved the initiation of scoping, primarily using virtual approaches, for a thematic assessment of invasive alien species, for consideration by the Plenary at its fourth session. The Plenary will be invited to consider a scoping report for a thematic assessment of invasive alien species and their control (deliverable 3 (b) (ii)) contained in the note by the secretariat on the matter (IPBES/4/10), developed by the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, based on the outcome of an electronic conference. Additional information on the approach taken is presented in a note by the secretariat (IPBES/4/INF/12).

(h) Scoping report for a thematic assessment on sustainable use of biodiversity

20. In decision IPBES-3/1, the Plenary approved the initiation of scoping, primarily using virtual approaches, for a thematic assessment of sustainable use of biodiversity, for consideration by the Plenary at its fourth session. The Plenary will be invited to consider a scoping report for a thematic assessment on sustainable use of biodiversity, developed by the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, based on the outcome of an electronic conference (IPBES/4/11). Additional information on the approach taken is presented in a note by the secretariat (IPBES/4/INF/12).

(i) Work on policy support tools and methodologies

21. As requested in decision IPBES-3/1, the Plenary will be invited to consider a revised catalogue on policy support tools and methodologies in the context of the Platform, based on an open review by Governments and stakeholders, together with its online pilot version (IPBES/4/INF/14); and revised guidance on how policy support tools and methodologies could be promoted and catalysed in the context of the Platform, based on a review by Governments and stakeholders contained in the note by the secretariat on work on policy support tools and methodologies (deliverable 4 (c), IPBES/4/12). Both documents were developed by the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau, with support from an expert group.

Item 6**Financial and budgetary arrangements for the Platform: budget and expenditure for 2014–2018, including report on the funding of experts and meeting participants**

22. In response to decision IPBES-3/2 on financial and budgetary arrangements, the Plenary will be invited to consider a note by the secretariat on budget and expenditure for 2014–2018 (IPBES/4/13) which provides information on expenditures for the biennium 2014–2015, and proposes a revised budget for the 2016–2017 biennium in the light of the further implementation of the work programme, for adoption, and a revised indicative budget for 2018 and 2019. In response to the same decision, the Plenary will be invited to consider a note by the secretariat on a comparative study on established practices on the funding of experts and meeting participants (IPBES/4/13/Add.1), which contains information provided by the secretariats of several multilateral environmental agreements, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and other relevant forums, to facilitate the adoption by the Plenary of an informed decision on the eligibility criteria to be used for such funding.

Item 7**Rules and procedures for the operation of the Platform****(a) Nomination and selection of members of the Bureau**

23. In accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure for the Plenary of the Platform (decision IPBES-1/1), the term of office of each member of the Bureau, which began at the end of the first session of the Plenary, will end at the close of the fourth 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, with one acting as a rapporteur, and five other officers, with due consideration to their scientific and technical expertise.

24. The secretariat has prepared a note on proposals received for members of the Bureau (IPBES/4/14), including a list of nominees received from members of the Platform in response to a call by the Chair, for consideration by the Plenary at its fourth session, and a compilation of the curricula vitae of proposed officers for the Bureau (IPBES/4/INF/17).

25. On Sunday, 28 February 2016, the Chair will invite each of the five United Nations regional groupings to present their two nominees (one vice-chair and one officer) as candidates for membership of the Bureau. A third candidate may be designated as their alternate. The Chair will invite the Plenary to elect these members, and to further elect a chair from among the five vice-chairs. In this context, the report of the first session of the Plenary (IPBES/1/12) states that “it was the understanding of the meeting that the Vice-Chair of the Western Europe and Other Group would become the Chair of the Bureau for the next term.”

(b) Procedures for the preparation of the Platform’s deliverables

26. By decision IPBES-3/3, the Platform approved the procedures for the preparation of Platform deliverables. At the time of the adoption of those procedures, appendix III to annex I (procedure for the recognition and incorporation of indigenous and local knowledge) was left blank, awaiting the

consideration of the relevant draft procedures by the Plenary at its fourth session. It is proposed to consider the draft procedures under item 5 (d) (IPBES/4/7, annex), with a view to then including them in appendix III of the procedures for the preparation of Platform deliverables, as set out in annex I to decision IPBES-3/3.

27. In addition, the Bureau, as recommended by the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, would like to invite the Plenary to consider an additional procedure to fill gaps among groups of experts selected to implement the work programme, once nomination and selection have been performed, in order to ensure geographic, disciplinary and gender balance among experts within the groups. The additional procedure is set out in the annex to the note by the secretariat on procedures for the preparation of Platform deliverables (IPBES/4/15).

(c) Procedure for the review of the Platform

28. In decision IPBES-2/5, the Plenary requested the 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. At its third session, the Plenary provided guidance on the draft procedure (IPBES/3/INF/11) and agreed that it would be useful for countries to provide comments on the progress report to facilitate consideration of the issue at the fourth session of the Plenary. The secretariat has prepared a note on the matter for consideration by the Plenary at its fourth session (IPBES/4/16), sent to countries for comments prior to the session in order to facilitate consideration of the issue. During the consideration of the item at the fourth session, the secretariat will provide an oral report on the comments received.

(d) Policy and procedures for the admission of observers

29. At its third session, the Plenary considered further the draft policy and procedures for the admission of observers (IPBES/3/13, annex). There being no consensus, it was decided 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 for its second and third sessions, would be applied at its fourth session.

30. The Plenary also decided to consider at its fourth session 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/4/17).

Item 8

Communications, stakeholder engagement and strategic partnerships.

31. In decision IPBES-3/4 on communications, stakeholder engagement and strategic partnership, the Plenary took note of the communications and outreach strategy, set out in annex I to the decision, and requested the secretariat, subject to the availability of funds, to undertake the activities described in the initial implementation plan, as appropriate. A report on activities undertaken in this context is presented in a note by the secretariat (IPBES/4/INF/15).

32. Also in decision IPBES-3/4, the Plenary welcomed the revised draft stakeholder engagement strategy, set out in annex II to the decision, and requested the secretariat, under the supervision of the Bureau and the Plenary and in collaboration with the open-ended network of stakeholders, to undertake the activities, as appropriate, set out in the initial implementation plan, subject to the availability of resources. A report on activities undertaken in this context is presented in a note by the secretariat (IPBES/4/INF/15). It is complemented by a note by the secretariat on progress made to self-organize and structure an inclusive open-ended network of stakeholders (IPBES/4/INF/16).

33. Pursuant to decision IPBES-3/4, the secretariats of the multilateral environmental agreements related to biodiversity and ecosystem services have worked with the Bureau to develop a draft memorandum of cooperation between the multilateral environmental agreements, modelled on the existing strategic partnership arrangement between the Platform and the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, setting out areas for collaboration and cooperation, to be approved by the Plenary at its fourth session. Progress on steps taken regarding the establishment of strategic partnerships and other collaborative arrangements is presented in a note by the secretariat (IPBES/4/18), which sets out in its annex the draft memorandum of cooperation, for consideration by the Plenary at its fourth session.

Item 9

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 to establish an institutional link between the Plenary and UNEP, UNESCO, FAO and UNDP, a progress report on the arrangement is provided for the information of the Plenary in a note by the secretariat (IPBES/4/INF/19).

Item 10

Provisional agenda, date and venue of future sessions of the Plenary

35. The Plenary may wish to consider the provisional agenda, date and venue of its fifth session. Governments wishing to host the fifth session are encouraged to inform the secretariat in advance of, or during, the fourth session.

Item 11

Adoption of decisions and the report of the session

36. 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 resolutions, decisions or recommendations 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.

Item 12

Closure of the session

37. It is expected that the session will be closed by the Chair of the Plenary by 6 p.m. on Sunday, 28 February 2016.

Annex I

Proposed organization of work and list of documents

Proposed organization of work, subject to approval by the Plenary

<i>Time</i>	<i>Monday</i> 22 February 2016	<i>Tuesday</i> 23 February 2016	<i>Wednesday</i> 24 February 2016		<i>Thursday</i> 25 February 2016		<i>Friday</i> 26 February 2016		<i>Saturday</i> 27 February 2016		<i>Sunday</i> 28 February 2016	
8–8.30 a.m.	Regional consultations/ stakeholder consultations	Regional consultations/ stakeholder consultations	Regional consultations/ stakeholder consultations		Regional consultations/ stakeholder consultations		Regional consultations/ stakeholder consultations		Regional consultations/ stakeholder consultations		Regional consultations/ stakeholder consultations	
8.30–9 a.m.												
9–9.30 a.m.												
9.30–10 a.m.												
10–10.30 a.m.	Plenary Items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Plenary Items 6, 7, 8, 9 and to assign items to contact groups		Group 1 Item 5 (a) pollination assessment	Group 2 Item 5 (e) global assessment scoping	Group 1 Item 5 (d) indigenous and local knowledge	Group 2 Item 5 (b) scenarios and models assessment	Plenary to approve the summary for policymakers of the pollination assessment and take a decision on other items where possible		Group 1 Item 5 (g) invasive alien species assessment scoping	Group 2 Item 5 (h) sustainable use of biodiversity assessment scoping	Plenary to take decisions on remaining items and Item 7 (a) Bureau election
10.30–11 a.m.												
11–11.30 a.m.												
11.30 a.m.–12 p.m.												
12–12.30 p.m.												
12.30–1 p.m.												
1–1.30 p.m.					Item 6 Budget							
1.30–2 p.m.												
2–2.30 p.m.												
2.30–3 p.m.												
3–3.30 p.m.	Plenary Item 5	Group 1 Item 5 (a) pollination assessment	Group 2 Item 5 (e) global assessment scoping	Group 1 Item 5 (a) pollination assessment	Group 2 Item 5 (i) policy support tools	Group 1 Item 5 (d) indigenous and local knowledge	Group 2 Item 5 (b) scenarios and models assessment	Group 1 Item 7 (b) procedures; Item 8 stakeholder engagement and strategic partnerships	Group 2 Item 5 (b) scenarios and models assessment	Group 1 Any outstanding items or Plenary	Group 2 Item 5 (c) capacity building and any outstanding items or Plenary	Plenary Items 10, 11, 12
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.												

<i>Time</i>	<i>Monday</i> <i>22 February 2016</i>	<i>Tuesday</i> <i>23 February 2016</i>		<i>Wednesday</i> <i>24 February 2016</i>		<i>Thursday</i> <i>25 February 2016</i>	<i>Friday</i> <i>26 February 2016</i>		<i>Saturday</i> <i>27 February 2016</i>	<i>Sunday</i> <i>28 February 2016</i>
6–6.30 p.m.	Reception hosted by the Government of Malaysia									
6.30–7 p.m.										
7–7.30 p.m.										
7.30–8 p.m.		Group 1 Item 5 (a) pollination assessment	Item 6 budget	Group 1 Item 5 (a) pollination assessment	Group 2 Item 7 (c) review of platform		Group 1 Item 5 (f) values assessment scoping	Item 5 (b) scenarios and models assessment	Item 6 budget	
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/4/1	Provisional agenda	2 (a)
IPBES/4/1/Add.1	Annotations to the provisional agenda	2 (a)
IPBES/4/2	Implementation of the work programme for 2014–2018 (to date): report of the Executive Secretary	4
IPBES/4/3	Summary for policymakers of the thematic assessment on pollinators, pollination and food production (deliverable 3 (a))	5 (a)
IPBES/4/4	Summary for policymakers of the methodological assessment of scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem services (deliverable 3 (c))	5 (b)
IPBES/4/5	Proposal on the further development of tools and methodologies regarding scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem services (deliverable 3 (c))	5 (b)
IPBES/4/6	Work on capacity building (deliverables 1 (a) and 1 (b))	5 (c)
IPBES/4/7	Work on indigenous and local knowledge systems (deliverable 1 (c))	5 (d)
IPBES/4/8	Scoping report for a global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services (deliverable 2 (c))	5 (e)
IPBES/4/9	Scoping for the methodological assessment regarding diverse conceptualization of multiple values of nature and its benefits, including biodiversity and ecosystem services (deliverable 3 (d))	5 (f)
IPBES/4/10	Scoping for a thematic assessment of invasive alien species and their control (deliverable 3 (b) (ii))	5 (g)
IPBES/4/11	Scoping for a thematic assessment of sustainable use of biodiversity (deliverable 3 (b)(iii))	5 (h)
IPBES/4/12	Work on policy support tools and methodologies (deliverable 4 (c))	5 (i)
IPBES/4/13	Budget and expenditure for 2014–2018	6
IPBES/4/14	Proposals received for members of the Bureau	7 (a)
IPBES/4/15	Procedures for the preparation of Platform deliverables	7 (b)
IPBES/4/16	Procedure for the review of the effectiveness of the administrative and scientific functions of the Platform (deliverable 4 (e))	7 (c)
IPBES/4/17	Draft policy and procedures for the admission of observers	7 (d)
IPBES/4/18	Communication, stakeholder engagement and strategic partnerships (deliverable 4 (d))	8