

REPORT OF THE CST BUREAU MEETING (WEB TELECONFERENCE) 30 APRIL 2014

Date: Wednesday, 30 April 2014

Venue: Web/Teleconference

Working language: English

Working hours (local time): Peru: 08:00 – 12:00
Germany/Denmark: 15:00 – 19:00
Israel/Uganda: 16:00 – 20:00
Turkmenistan: 18:00 – 22:00

- REPORT -

I. Welcoming

1. The meeting of the CST Bureau was held for the first time as a web teleconference hosted by the secretariat in Bonn, with each Bureau member attending the meeting from his/her respective location at the above mentioned time. All Bureau members were able to remotely follow the process from their computer screens and view the relevant documents discussed live, as these were shared with them via the web teleconference system. After the set-up of the web teleconference, the Chair welcomed the CST Bureau members.

II. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

2. The agenda was adopted as outlined in Annex I. The Chair gave the floor to the secretariat which made a short presentation recalling the whole process, the agreed modalities of selection of independent scientists for membership of the UNCCD Science-Policy Interface (SPI), the available documentation for the web teleconference and the organization of work.

III. Selection of Scientists for membership of the Science-Policy interface (SPI) of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification

3. The secretariat reminded members that, following the CST Bureau meeting of 4-6 February 2014 (http://www.unccd.int/Lists/SiteDocumentLibrary/CST/Final%20Report%20CST11%20BM_4-6Feb2014.pdf), a call for scientists to become members of the SPI was open from the beginning of March 2014 up to April 2014. 91 applications were received from 43 countries, thus jointly covering all different regions. As agreed in the above mentioned modalities of selection, the secretariat prepared a list of applications received in response to the call, as well as a list of applicants meeting the requirements and criteria of selection ranked according to the score reached. Both lists were sent by the secretariat to the CST Bureau for their consideration and all CVs and application forms were made available online for consultations by the CST Bureau. Each CST Bureau member had two weeks to pre-select ten scientists out of the shortlist and inform the UNCCD secretariat on his/her selection. The secretariat prepared a compiled list of pre-selected scientists and sent it to the CST Bureau before the web teleconference.
4. As agreed in the above mentioned modalities of selection, during the web teleconference the CST Bureau members had to collectively select 10 scientists out of those pre-selected to become members of the SPI and 10 scientists to serve as alternates. Based on the documentation provided by the secretariat, the CST Bureau members started the discussion on the selection under the leadership of the CST Chair. The CST Bureau agreed on two additional bonuses to discuss the compiled list of pre-selected scientists.
5. The selection of the 10 scientists, based on the compiled list of pre-selected candidates with bonuses, had to take into account the overall balance of the scientists in the SPI in terms of interdisciplinarity and gender, in particular bearing in mind the 5 nominated scientists from the regions. To this end, during the meeting the secretariat also distributed the list of the five scientists nominated by the regions, highlighting details with regard to their gender and fields of expertise.
6. After a lengthy discussion, the CST Bureau members finally agreed on the 10 selected scientists and alternates as indicated in Annex II. In line with the modalities mentioned above, the secretariat was requested to contact the selected scientists to ask them to confirm their availability and sign the documents on the code of conduct and the conflict of interest policy. If one of the selected scientist is not available, the secretariat would contact an alternate, taking into account the disciplinary balance.
7. The secretariat was also requested to finalize the process of the SPI composition (selected scientists, nominated scientists and observers) and post the final list of members (in alphabetical order) and observers on the UNCCD website, as soon as the process is completed.

IV. Other matters

8. Due to time constraints, no other matter was raised during the meeting.

List of Annexes:

Annex I – Agenda

Annex II – Selected Scientists to become members of the Science-Policy Interface

Annex III – List of Participants

ANNEX I – Agenda

Meeting of the CST Bureau

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- AGENDA -

- I. Selection of Scientists for membership of the Science-Policy interface (SPI) of the UNCCD.
- II. Other matters.

ANNEX II – Selected Scientists to become members of the Science-Policy Interface

First Name	Last Name	Field of expertise
Elena Maria	Abraham	Monitoring and indicators, participatory approach
Mariam	Akhtar-Schuster	Science Policy
Annette	Cowie	Climate change
Joris	de Vente	Soil erosion, sedimentation
Allan	Grainger	Science Policy, woodlands
German	Kust	Soil science
Graciela	Metternicht	Salinization
Barron Joseph	Orr	Social science, communication
Rajendra Prasad	Pandey	Water management, drought
Tao	Wang	Sandification

Selected alternates

First Name	Last Name	Field of expertise
Pamela	Chasek	Environmental diplomacy and policy
Jose A.	Gomez	Soil erosion
Geertrui	Louwagie	Agricultural economics, environmental policy analysis
Tibor	Toth	Salinity
Ramon	Vallejo	Land restoration
Noam	Weisbrod	Water management

ANNEX III – List of Participants to the CST Bureau Meeting (web teleconference)

30 April 2014

	Region	Address
CST Bureau		
Prof. Uriel Safriel (CST Chair)	Western Europe and Other Groups	Centre for Environmental Conventions Ben-Gurion University of the Negev The Jacob Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research 84990 Midreshet Ben-Gurion Israel Tel: +972 54 725 3646 Fax: +972 80 604 6986 E-mail: uriel36@gmail.com
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UNCCD		
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