

REPORT OF THE CST BUREAU MEETING 23 – 24 JUNE 2014 IN BONN, GERMANY

Date: Monday, 23 June 2014
Tuesday, 24 June 2014

Venue: UN Campus - Langer Eugen
Meeting Room: LEU 2705
Platz der Vereinten Nationen 1
53113 Bonn, Germany

Working language: English

Working hours: Monday: 14:30 – 17:00;
Tuesday: 09:30 – 12:00

– REPORT –

I. Welcoming

1. The Chair of the CST opened the meeting and welcomed the participants, including those participating for the first time in a physical meeting of the CST Bureau. On the second day of the meeting, the Executive Secretary of the UNCCD Secretariat, Ms. Monique Barbut welcomed and addressed the participants recalling the significance of the work of the CST Bureau in the framework of the Science-Policy Interface. The Executive Secretary also stressed that the year 2015 is offering opportunities for the UNCCD to play an important role with regard to the Sustainable Development Goals process as well as in the framework of the negotiations on climate change. In this respect, she drew the attention of CST Bureau members to the process of promoting the development of common indicators with the other two Rio Conventions. Finally, referring to the subject of land degradation neutrality and to the IPBES process of scoping a thematic assessment on land degradation and restoration, she thanked the CST Bureau for its input in providing nominations of experts and informed the CST Bureau members that the UNCCD received a positive feedback with regard to hosting the technical unit of the IPBES thematic assessment.

II. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

2. After presentation of the provisional agenda by the Chair, the agenda was adopted as outlined in Annex II.

III. Adoption of the report of the web teleconference

3. The Chair of the CST Bureau presented the draft report of the CST Bureau meeting held as web teleconference on 30 April 2014 and proposed it for adoption. No comments were provided and the report was adopted by the CST Bureau. The CST Bureau also reviewed the list of scientists nominated by regions for the SPI (Annex III).

IV. Preparation for the 1st meeting of the SPI

4. The secretariat presented the draft agenda proposed for the 1st meeting of the SPI, pointing out that while the draft agenda in question was proposed by the CST Bureau, future agendas for meetings of the SPI will be prepared by the SPI itself.

5. Recalling that there will be no differentiation of SPI members with regard to their status (CST Bureau members, scientists nominated by regions, scientists selected through the open call), the secretariat provided clarifications on some issues pertaining to the draft agenda, including the procedure for the election of the co-Chair of the SPI. The CST Bureau also provided its input on the draft provided by the secretariat on organizational issues related to the SPI meeting.

6. Thereafter the CST Bureau carried out a review of the draft agenda of the 1st meeting of the SPI, including a thorough examination of the documentation annexed to the draft agenda. Following lengthy discussions, the debate continued with regard to Annex V to the draft agenda of the SPI meeting. Annex V contained draft elements for the work programme of the SPI for the period June 2014- June/October 2015 and presented four main objectives.

7. With a view to identify issues for consideration by the SPI, the CST Bureau members exchanged views on the four objectives and on their related deliverables, as proposed in the draft elements for the work programme of the SPI for the period June 2014- June/October 2015 (contained in Annex V to the draft agenda of the SPI meeting). During the discussion, the CST Bureau members noted three objectives derived directly from decisions of the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh session and one objective which was considered of strategic importance for the UNCCD. The CST Bureau concluded that all objectives need to be addressed by the SPI. The secretariat was then requested to send the draft agenda of the SPI meeting with its annexes, including the revised draft elements for the work programme, to the SPI.

V. CST Bureau input to the IPBES scoping on the assessment of land degradation and restoration

8. The Chair presented to the CST Bureau members a proposal containing a CST Bureau input to the IPBES full scoping on the assessment of land degradation and restoration. Following a short discussion, the CST Bureau members agreed on the content of the proposal to be presented to the SPI for comments. After taking into account the feedback from the SPI the CST Bureau will then provide recommendations to the IPBES full scoping.

VI. Common indicators with other Rio conventions

9. The CST Bureau was briefed on activities conducted by the secretariat on the topic of common indicators with the other two Rio Conventions. Information was provided with regard to perspectives of a common approach to reporting to UNCCD and CBD, as well as on on-going work on common indicators on land based adaptation, including collaboration with GEF/STAP for a workshop on agro-ecosystem resilience.

10. The CST Bureau welcomed the information provided by the secretariat and agreed that the SPI could benefit from the existing activities in this field to support the implementation of its work programme.

VI. Other matters

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

VI. Next meeting

12. The next meeting of the CST 11 Bureau will tentatively be held back-to-back with the second meeting of the SPI. The secretariat will confirm the date and venue in due course.

List of Annexes:

Annex I – List of participants

Annex II – Agenda

Annex III – Regional nomination of scientists for the Science-Policy Interface (SPI)

ANNEX I - List of Participants to the CST Bureau Meeting, 23 – 24 June 2014, Bonn, Germany

	REGION	CONTACT DETAILS
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 Sede Boqer Campus 84990 Midreshet Ben-Gurion Israel Home: +972 77 3006905 Mob : +972 54 725 3646 Fax: +972 80 604 6986 E-mail: uriel36@gmail.com
Dr. Matthias Magunda (CST-Vice Chair)	Africa Group	National Agricultural Research Institution P.O.Box 7065 Kampala Uganda Tel: +256 414-567696/+256 772 518314 Fax: +256 414-567226/567649 Email: landuse@infocom.co.ug; matmagunda@yahoo.com
Dr. Oleg Guchgeldiyev (CST-Vice Chair)	Asia Group	National Institute of Deserts, Flora and Fauna 15, Bitarap Turkmenistan str. Ashkhabad 744000 Turkmenistan Tel: +993 65 815930 Email: Oguich@yahoo.com; o.guchgeldiev@gmail.com
Dr. Nicole Edel Laure Bernex (CST-Vice Chair)	Group of Latin America and the Caribbean	Centro de Investigación en Geografía Aplicada Instituto de Investigación en Ciencias de la Naturaleza, el Territorio y Energías Renovables (INTE) Av. Universitaria 1801, San Miguel Lima Peru Tel: +511 6262408 Telefax: +511 626-2804 Email: nbernex@pucp.edu.pe
Dr. Hamid Čustović (CST-Vice Chair)	Central and Eastern Europe Group	Department Faculty of Agriculture and Food Science Institute of Soil Science University of Sarajevo Zmaja Od Bosne 8 71000 Sarajevo Bosnia and Herzegovina Tel: +387 33225727/61775211 Mob: +387 61775211 Fax: +387 667429 Email: custovic.hamid@gmail.com
UNCCD		
Elysabeth David (Secretary to the CST)	UNCCD Secretariat	Knowledge Management, Science and Technology Unit (KMST) UNCCD Platz der Vereinten Nationen 1, 53113 Bonn, Germany Tel. +49 228 815 2834 Fax: +49 228 815 2898/99 E-mail: edavid@unccd.int

ANNEX II – Agenda

Bureau meeting of the Committee on Science and Technology (CST)

Date: Monday afternoon, 23 June 2014; Tuesday morning, 24 June 2014

Venue: UN Campus - Langer Eugen
Meeting Room: LEU 2705
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- AGENDA -

- I. Welcoming
- II. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
- III. Adoption of the report of the web teleconference
- IV. Preparation of the 1st meeting of the SPI
- V. CST Bureau input to the IPBES scoping on the assessment of land degradation and restoration
- VI. Common indicators with other Rio conventions
- VII. Other matters
- VIII. Next meeting

Note: An informal exchange took place on Monday, 23 June at 17:30 – 18:30 between the CRIC and CST Bureaus to discuss joint elements for collaboration

ANNEX III – REGIONAL NOMINATION OF SCIENTISTS FOR THE SCIENCE-POLICY INTERFACE (SPI)

First Name	Last Name	Regional group
Klaus	Kellner	Africa Group
Karma Dema	Dorji	Asia Group
Vanna	Pietragalla	Group of Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC)
Mihail	Daradur	Majority of countries from Eastern European Group (EEG)
Martial	Bernoux	Western Europe and other Group (WEOG)

Nominated alternates

First Name	Last Name	Regional group
Moussa	Hassane	Africa Group
Tsheten	Dorji	Asia Group
Gonzalo	Chapela y Mendoza	Group of Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC)