

Minutes of the Project Board Meeting

Project name: UNDP-GEF Global ABS Project (Nagoya Protocol)
Project ID: SVK10/00095244
Output IDs: SVK10/00099240
Place: Istanbul Regional Hub and remotely via Skype
Date: 7 November 2018
Subject: 2nd meeting of the Steering Committee

1. General opening and introduction

Mr. Gerd Trogemann, in his capacity as Chair of the steering committee of the UNDP-GEF project “Strengthening human resources, legal frameworks, and institutional capacities to implement the Nagoya Protocol” (Global ABS project), welcomed all the participants to the second meeting of the steering committee and opened the meeting. He thanked the colleagues from the United Nations Volunteers Program (UNV) for their support in the South-South cooperation under component 4, as well as to the Senior Beneficiaries representatives, in particular to the 8 country representatives from the 24 countries of the project, for their constant support and participation in this meeting considering their different time zones. A special appreciation message was given to the colleague in Samoa for participating in non working hours and suggested they would be the first ones to participate in the Senior Beneficiary round.

The general concept of the Project and objectives were stated.

2. Presentation & Discussion on 2018 Progress and 2019 Workplan (documents 2, 3, 4 and 5)

Mr. Lago, Project Manager of the UNDP-GEF Global ABS Project, indicated that all of the documents were sent to all the participants on 3 November with the exception of the Project Progress report that is still being reviewed by the colleagues of Quality Assurance as well as by the project team and it will be distributed as soon as it is finalized. Mr. Lago explained that the final Budget Revisions for 2018 and 2019 from UNV and the country offices are still being reviewed.

Mr. Lago presented the progress made by the project in 2018 and the plans for 2019 as well as a general overview of the project with the 24 countries, UNV and the financing structure. The following achievements and challenges were highlighted:

Component 1 (Strengthening the legal, policy, and institutional capacity to develop national ABS frameworks):

- 1 Ratification of the Nagoya Protocol (23 out of 24 countries are Parties to the Nagoya Protocol)
- 1 provisional ABS system has been approved in Uruguay (November 2017)
- 1 full ABS legal framework has been approved in Dominican Republic (January 2018)
- Submission of 21 draft ABS national legal systems and manuals on access procedures at the end of 2018 (Seychelles only ABS policy; Myanmar and South Africa expected in 2019)
- 18 national policy measures developed for protecting TK (most have been included as part of the ABS legal frameworks)
- 1632 stakeholders have already been involved and training will start in another 9 countries in 2019 (original target included in the ProDoc was 1380 key stakeholders trained regarding ABS rules and procedures)

The main challenge under component 1 is to obtain the necessary political buy to complete the legal procedures for the approval of the laws (national parliaments) and regulations (national governments) and effective implementation of the legal frameworks. The project will organize specific activities to support/obtain the necessary political buy.

Component 2 (Building trust between users and providers of genetic resources to facilitate the identification of bio-discovery efforts):

- 1 ABS commercial agreement has been signed in Dominican Republic (target from ProDoc is the negotiation of at least 25 ABS commercial agreements).
- Research projects to be supported by the Global ABS Project as national examples of biodiscovery have been selected and are being or will be conducted in 2019
- Development of 20 Ethical codes of conduct or guidelines for research on TK and genetic resources (17 countries) is in progress
- Global, regional, and national mapping of biotech companies that utilize genetic resources and traditional knowledge has taken place in 2018
- Knowledge, attitudes, and practices (KAP) assessment surveys are carried out in 17 countries (2 have already finalized) targeting specific groups (e.g., researchers, local communities, and relevant industry) that may use or benefit from ABS transactions to assess enhanced awareness about national ABS frameworks, the CBD and Nagoya Protocol
- Socioeconomic valuation of key ABS value chains

Under this component the main challenge that has been identified is the negotiation of commercial agreements, taking into account that private sector is not involved at the moment on ABS and it will be difficult to properly approach and involve them until all the ABS legal frameworks are in place.

Component 3 (Strengthening the capacity of indigenous and local communities to contribute to the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol):

- Support the development, design, and implementation of awareness-raising campaigns targeted to ILCs based on the past and existing initiatives in 22 countries (foreseen in 2019)
- 25 Bio community/ Biocultural Protocols and/or TK registries adopted by indigenous and local communities (22 countries) (initiated in some countries, including a regional workshop of exchange of experiences in LAC, but mainly foreseen in 2019)

Component 4 (Implementing a Community of Practice and South-South Cooperation Framework on ABS):

- Community of Practice on ABS implemented and operating at regional and global level (website released in October 2018- www.abs-sustainabledevelopment.net) Global ABS Community to be launched in November 2018
- 50 experts on ABS mapped and incorporated into a regional and global database
- 15 technical assistance requirements on ABS fulfilled at regional and global level (11 already fulfilled)
- 20 knowledge products on specific ABS topics developed at the regional and global levels, including a publication on ABS cases and the SDGs for COP-14 of the CBD (November 2018)

The project manager made also reference to other additional activities supported or conducted by the Global ABS Project which have an important impact at regional or global levels:

- Regional exchanges of experiences in Latin America, Africa, and Eastern Europe (and recently in Asia)
- Support to UNDP-GEF ABS National Project in Argentina with trainings and country mission (Dec. 2017) and Cook Islands (February 2018)
- Facilitation of an exchange mission from Morocco (UNDP-GEF ABS national project) to South Africa (Global ABS)
- Co-organization of a training for 9 countries with Bioversity and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Rome, Nov 2017)
- Support to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity:
 - 6 Regional IDLO legal trainings on the Nagoya Protocol
 - 3 Regional trainings on traditional knowledge
 - 2 Regional trainings on the mutual supportiveness with the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources with Bioversity

Mr. Lago also mentioned some incoming activities of relevance at the international level organized by the project:

- Presentation of the publication “ABS is Genetic Resources for Sustainable Development” (Egypt, COP-14 CBD, Nov. 2018)
- Launching of the website of the project (October 2018) and Global ABS Community (UNV) (December 2018)
- Support to UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub to the organization of the regional Community of Practice workshop in Asia, funded by the Ministry of Environment of Korea (October 2018)
- Regional workshop on Traditional Knowledge for Latin America and the Caribbean (Ecuador, first week of September 2018)
- Regional workshop for Africa in preparation for COP-14 (Kigali, end of August 2018)
- Global Webinar on Gender and ABS (4th July 2018)

Finally, the project manager highlighted the following lessons learned:

1. A Global project with 24 countries has a multiplier effect:

- In particular at regional and global levels- easy to escalate activities of common interest at regional level from the country level with the constant support of a Global Team at a reduced cost (3 regional activities in LAC: experiences on ABS legal frameworks; monitoring of genetic resources; TK and IP/ 1 Pan-African workshop: The road to COP-14/ 1 Community of Practice Workshop in Asia (organized by UNDP BRH and funded by MoE of Korea)
- Grouped International Consultancies at regional level have produced more standardized products, in particular draft ABS legal systems (example of Africa)
- UNDP GEF Global ABS Portal and Global ABS Community (covering 38 countries: 24 Global ABS + 16 national projects and expanding open global community) Place of reference for knowledge based and materials on ABS [www.abs-sustainabledevelopment.net]
- Development of innovative tools: Example tool on gender: Mind your Step!
- Publication “ABS is Genetic Resources for Sustainable Development” (27 biodiscovery cases (18 Global ABS project and 9 national projects).

2. Challenges for a Global Project Management mentioned:

- UNDP CO and national counterparts are used to manage GEF national projects- A global project cannot be managed as 24 separate national projects: Special rules of engagement need to be developed for Global projects (avoid delays in implementation and keep a common pace);
- Financial management of the project is complex, and the financial capacities of UNDP CO vary enormously: Need to strengthen the financial capacities of the CO and/or to approach the financial implementation of global projects in a more global fashion;
- The project needs to improve its delivery in particular at the national level.

Mr. Lago reported that a risk was identified during the elaboration of the PIR (reported and introduced into the system) related to the delays of the project start and implementation in one country (Egypt) without any response and available information from the national counterparts. The rest of the risks are still considered as moderate.

Mr. Lago thanked all for their support, commended all with a special mention of Former Operations Manager, Andrey Pogrebnyak, whose critical help and support were fundamental to the project.

The Chair thanked Mr. Lago for a very comprehensive presentation, indicating he has seen the contrast between the countries who have advanced positively with the projects and the others whose project has been slow. The Chair then gave the floor to Ms. Piera Zuccherin to address component 4 under UNV.

3. UNV Request to Transfer Project Funds Administration to UNDP

Ms. Zuccherin explained the new changes in UNV Strategic Framework starting in 2018, which now focus on promoting Volunteering and mobilizing UN Volunteers to support the UN Agencies in different areas. Under the new Strategic Framework UNV has conducted an analysis of all the programmes they had and decided to close some of them which were not relevant for the new Framework, but Component 4 of the ABS project was kept because of the importance to UNV. This is the reason UNV is proposing to UNDP to handover the activities of the project from an administrative financial point of view which they consider could be done better by UNDP but will like to remain active with the promotion of UN Volunteering as well as the Technical support provided by UNV staff to the project. This will be considered an internal review towards assuring the successful implementation of the Component 4 activities. The increase in the implementation for this year, previously mentioned is double from last year and thanked the UNV team in Panama, Mr. Alejandro Iberico and Mr. Fernando Lopez, for their continuous support, also recognizing the leadership of Alejandro Lago.

4. Presentation of a request for a non-cost extension

The Chair thanked Ms. Piera for her presentation and UNV and congratulated them for their efforts and asked Mr. Lago his views about a non-cost extension and to explain it to the board. Mr. Lago stated that as reflected in the Project Implementation Report (PIR) submitted to the GEF in the past month of September, the project has an average delay in implementation of one year. Since the project end date is 23rd August 2019, it is important to know how long the project can be extended at no cost. However, one of the biggest difficulties is how to handle the uneven start of the project in the 24 countries involved and the features of a global project with a global team. The project team has begun to gather all the necessary information to submit the non-cost extension which now it is estimated that can go from 4 to 10 months. The project is expected to submit the request by December of 2018 and all the necessary documentation will be shared with the board so that the planning for 2019 can be updated to reflect this new end date.

The chair thanked Mr. Lago for this information and will be looking forward to receiving all the documentation for this request, mentioning in addition that the challenge for completing this budget proposal will be based in the fact that the delay of implementation lies at the country level. The chair expressed confidence on the Project to be able to achieve the tasks the way others have done it in the past.

5. *Discussions and Inputs from Senior Beneficiaries Representatives*

The Chair thanked all the participant countries and, as previously stated, gave the floor first to Samoa thanking them for the participation despite the hour.

Samoa

Samoa began thanking UNDP-GEF for this opportunity to participate at the Global ABS Project Steering Committee Meeting for 2018. Samoa recognized the able guidance that the UNDP-GEF Global ABS Project Team has been providing to the countries in Asia-Pacific, specifically the Regional Project Advisor on the technical aspects, and the Project Coordinating Unit on financial matters.

The Asia-Pacific region has progressed in the implementation of the Global ABS Project by putting in place national draft legislations ready for key stakeholder consultations. Two project participating countries are ready to have the draft ABS national legislations approved in 2018. A country has already legislation and guidelines on ABS in place while another country is in the process of procuring for eligible entities to develop its legal ABS framework. On the TK database/registry and ABS Clearing House two countries have started designing these instruments. Except for one country, all Asia-Pacific project participating countries will establish both TK database and national ABS Clearing House in 2019.

As soon as the ABS legal frameworks are approved countries will develop guidelines, manuals, codes of conducts, and rules and procedures, as well as materials for the training of 350 intended users and informed about 35% of government officials, researchers, local communities and relevant industries about Nagoya Protocol and the ABS legal framework, resulting to positive knowledge, attitude, and practice, by 2019. With trust building between users and providers of genetic resources, it is expected that at least 4 commercial

agreements will be signed in 2019. Except for one country, all project participating countries in the Asia-Pacific will produce 6 biocultural community protocols (BCPs) and increase the capacities of owners of TK and genetic resources to negotiate ABS agreements by 2019.

She mentioned the technical support provided by the Global ABS Project in cooperation with SCBD-IDLO for Asia through the legal trainings held in Vietnam, and for Pacific held in Fiji. A regional community of practice workshop for Asia was successfully implemented as organized by UNDP-Bangkok Regional Hub and funded by the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea, with the technical expertise mainly provided by the Global ABS Project Manager and Regional Project Advisor. Furthermore, 3 of the Global Project participating countries in the Asia-Pacific block have contributed to the ABS Publication to be launched at COP14 CBD.

Ms. Tafua confirmed support to the work and financial plans for 2019 and strongly encouraged all project participating countries to provide political, legal and technical buy in to complete the legal procedures and regulations, including complementary guidelines, protocols, registry, clearing house, and manuals, for an effective implementation of ABS in their own countries, achieving at least 95% of delivery rate every quarter, and accomplishing all quality expected outputs by project completion date. Positive outcomes expected from this project are the increased ability to negotiate ABS agreements by local communities, increasing number of commercial agreements between users and providers of genetic resources, and increasing ABS experiences and good practices that are openly shared between and among the Global ABS Community, thus contributing to the conservation of biodiversity and its sustainable use, including to the Sustainable Development Goals. Finally, a call was made on to the Global ABS Project Team to continue providing required technical, financial, and administrative support to all the project participating countries, wished the best to the participants at the next COP and gave the floor back to the Chair. The Chair thanked the Asia Pacific Region representative for a clear report and for remaining with the Board despite being so early in their region.

Albania (CO) –

The Chair gave the floor to Albania. After introducing the members who were joining the presentation, she mentioned that throughout the past year a national analysis, including legislative and institutional gap assessment, was developed and a policy document was obtained out of this exercise that included also the organization of a workshop in June 2018. The policy document incorporates all the key elements needed for the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and ABS requirements in the country. It is now been discussed with the stakeholders, as this includes 2 ministries, academic institutions plus a gene bank. Upcoming activities included: Preparation of a guidance document of shaping and outline key lessons in December to include global, regional, and national ABS elements instruments and support national ABS legislature in accordance to article 4.4 of the Nagoya Protocol. In line with this, a series of trainings and a workshop will be conducted. The CO thanked the support provided by the regional technical advisor, Mr. Claudio Chiarolla.

Colombia (Instituto Sinchi)

Mr. Lago made the presentation on behalf of the colleagues from Instituto Sinchi as they were experiencing some problems with the audio. The Implementing Partner from Colombia, Instituto Sinchi, reported the research on pigment producing organisms, selected by screening in different cultural media of organisms, previously deposited in the microbial collection of the Instituto de Investigaciones Amazonicas Sinchi. A total of 89 strains were evaluated, mainly actinomycetes isolated from soil samples from Vaupes and San Jose del Guaviare departments. 9 strains that produce extracellular or intracellular pigments such as brown, orange, yellow, pink, or purple colors were selected. Isolation of pigment producing bacterial has been done from 4 water samples and 4 soil samples collected from different aquatic and terrestrial habitats located in Leticia, Amazons. These organisms produce extracellular and/or intracellular pigments such as yellow, blue, green, red, pink red, violet, and brown. Selected strains have been evaluated in different cultural media to favor the expressions of pigments. This evaluation reveals that this characteristic is highly influenced by the composition of the medium and should be considered for the subsequent production conditions evaluation. The taxonomic identification of the selected organisms is still ongoing.

Ethiopia (CO) –

Ms. Wubua from the country office presented the following achievements per outputs. The first output of the project supported the identification of gaps on the existing ABS instruments to address institutional overlaps. Valuable outputs were gathered from the two workshops conducted. The first document is expected to be

finalized and presented to the parliament in early December of this year. For the second output, valuable equipment and IT equipment was procured. A series of awareness raising activities have been conducted involving government officials, indigenous and local communities, key industries, and users of genetic resources. As a result of these, trust between providers and users has been built. The case of Docomo Oil was presented. The project has also strengthened and supported emergent and existing biodiscovery initiatives. An ethical code of conduct for research of traditional knowledge in genetic resources had been drafted and will be presented for official endorsement and approval at the end of this month. Massive campaigns on CBD and Nagoya Protocol have been conducted within key stakeholders. The Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices (KAP) assessment is expected to start in February 2019. The survey area for Biocultural Community Protocol is already identified and will start January 2019. Critical challenge for the project this year was the hiring of a competent national consultant and accommodated all feedback received from stakeholders in a timely manner plus delays coming from the parliament.

Jordan (CO)

The Chair then gave the floor to the representative of Jordan, Mr. Abumughli who started his presentation by mentioning the important achievement of having signed an agreement with the International Union for Conservation of Nature, IUCN. On the legal framework, the final stage of preparation of the by-law that will be sent to the Cabinet for approval was highlighted. This was achieved after 3 Consultation Workshops were conducted with several stakeholders and Ministers throughout Jordan. 2 concept notes were formulated for pilot projects with the National Agricultural Research Center and the Royal Botanic Garden. A gap analysis for understanding ABS concept specially for local communities in Jordan was conducted. 3 awareness sessions targeting research institutes were also conducted and for next year awareness sessions and campaigns targeting local communities are planned. Codes of conduct and guidelines to construct BCP (Biocultural Community Protocols) have been drafted and this work will continue next year. An environmental conference with side events, mainly to promote ABS and Nagoya Protocol, was also held.

Kenya (CO) –

Mr. Geoffrey Omedo after thanking the Istanbul colleagues for all the support, highlighted that with the support of the project Kenya was able to submit their first report to the ABS clearing house. The workshop on how to prepare and submit the report also strengthened Kenya's negotiation abilities on ABS. Kenya prepared and provided a biodiscovery case to be included in the COP14 publication, documenting part of the work they are doing in the country with the *Mondia whitei* biodiscovery partnership to develop a cosmetic and scaling up to cultivate the plant, reducing the impact of wild harvest and how this is used for perfumes and others, which has grown interest internationally. The bulk of work has been the development of the legal framework. Mr. Geoffrey finalized expressing hopes to continue to receive the support from the project on all the activities.

Rwanda (CO) –

The country is now developing the guidelines on traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources. A tool kit for guidelines has been drafted and should be ready by first week of December. A report with the methodology for the ratification of high value genetic resources and traditional knowledge and the selection of priority ABS value chains has been completed. A social economic analysis of ABS in selected value chains should be completed by 10 December 2018. The strategy for initiating research in biodiscovery partnerships engaging private sector in ABS and value chains should be completed by 15 January 2019. A report of strategic advisor services should be provided to ABS focal points and national competent authorities and it should be available and completed by April next year. Rwanda is also contributing to the publication to be presented at the COP14, ABS is Genetic Resources for Sustainable Development. As a challenge the country is requesting the Global Team to speed up the recruitment process of the International Consultant, so his activities can start January of 2019.

Uruguay (CO) –

Ms. Alicia Aguerre mentioned some achievements of the project. First, the modification of the General Environment Law, article 22, dealing with biological diversity to include the necessary provisions to provide the legal basis to regulate access to genetic resources and traditional knowledge in the country. Uruguay had

regulated access to their genetic resources through a Ministerial Resolution adopted in November 2017, but it was considered not a strong document, at least from the legal perspective. Two differentiated procedures were established, one for commercial and the other one for non-commercial research. All this information will be posted in the Ministry website. She highlighted that a communicator was hired to work with the department of communications of the ministry to visualize this subject, highlighting the importance as the country is digitalizing all the procedures of the state. On biodiscovery efforts and traditional knowledge, several agreements have been made, one of them with the Faculty of Agronomy to make an inventory of customary uses and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources available in the country. This registry will be complemented with an ethnobotanical study to be carried out in 3 regions of the country. This study will corroborate the customary uses already registered by a contemporary rural population as well as to record if the management practices for the conservation of biological resources and the preservation of traditional knowledge are carried out collectively. An agreement was established with the University of the Republic, to support the research project for the potential use of *Eugenia Uniflora* for chemo-prevention and treatment of cancer and prospection of valorization of native flora in such species with antioxidant and anti-collagenases properties. Negotiations to develop a study on valorization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge and ABS value chains are being conducted. Finally, Uruguay is planning to host the several workshops in the communities looking for the leaders to be formed from their identification in the rural development tables.

This concluded the country participation. The chair opened the floor for questions or comments. The representative of Rwanda mentioned that based on the delays in implementations, as shown by several countries and the intentions of having an extension from 4 to 10 months, asked what were the main causes of delays in implementation can be shared and what are the steps taken to ensure a 100% implementation at the end of this extension.

6. Concluding remarks

Mr. Santiago Carrizosa, UNDP Senior Global Advisor on ABS congratulated all the countries for their efforts towards the implementation of ABS and the Nagoya Protocol. He also congratulated the Project Team and the Istanbul Regional Hub for their dedication and efforts in the correct implementation of the project. He expressed his satisfaction on the publication "ABS is Genetic Resources for Sustainable Development", which clearly illustrates in his view the Nagoya Protocol on ABS and national ABS laws on the achievements of the SDGs. The publication covers not only the 24 countries of the project but other countries who have been working on ABS since 2010-2011. This publication underscores that Genetic Resources are accelerators of the 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development, with direct examples of SDGs 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 15 and 17. He finally mentioned the direct support of the CBD, GEF, UNDP and in particular the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea with their involvement in the funding of this publication, which shows a commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The Chair thanked Mr. Carrizosa and passed the floor to Mr. Lago to address the comments made by the countries during their presentation as well as the question asked by the representative of Rwanda in regard to the non-cost extension, in particular to the steps that the project will put in place to ensure the 100% implementation of the project at the end of the extension. Mr. Lago, in regard the non-cost extension, highlighted that the main problem was that 24 countries started the implementation of the project at different moments and on top there is a global component and a global structure supporting the implementation of the project at the national level. To combine the two parts in a balanced manner to request one single extension that accommodates everything is a challenge. Mr. Lago expressed that the project will try to handle most of the needs of the countries into the non-cost extension, but that it will require the development of a national strategy based on the national circumstances of the project. In order to do that the project will be in contact with all the countries through their regional specialist to define the strategy to implement the project in the remaining months for that extension. It will be a challenge and it will require commitment from all the parts to be successful.

Mr. Lago concluded by stating that the Project Progress Report, as well as, the minutes of the Steering Committee will be distributed in the following days for comments.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Lago for replying to the questions, but also recommended to try to provide an online response on lessons learned format taking advantage that is a global project and that the other countries will be able to use these examples on their own cases. On the project extension, the Chair mentioned they will try to gather all the information from GEF in order to know what the spectrum on extensions but if the case is 4 to 10 months and that only one extension can be granted then it will have to be maximized given the size of the project which is also a challenge. He suggested that a strategy based on the specific needs of each country, the potential requirements and time and likelihood to deliver within the timeframe given and in a balance manner with the resource requirements at the global level should be developed. Once this case is presented and the extension is confirmed, the recommendation will be to have an ad-hoc steering committee meeting (February or March) to present the details of the extension to the members. This ad-hoc steering committee will assure transparency to all, and secure to all the members how far we can stretch with the project in order not to leave any country behind. The ad-hoc steering committee meeting will have the same participants from the current steering committee meeting and it will review the progress report and the minutes of this meeting and have a final decision on the 2019 results frameworks and workplans.

The Chairman thanked the participants in Istanbul, Panama and around the world, for their commitment in this ABS project and reflected that jointly we can take this to new heights and that perhaps this will not be the only project we can work together and as we strategize on the way forward we can take a look at what the world looks beyond the extension of this project.

7. Project Board decision


- A non-cost project extension will be submitted before the end of the year for its approval by UNDP-GEF in Headquarter
- The global Annual Work Plan for 2019 and Results Framework was interim approved
- The annual progress report will be circulated in the coming days after review is completed
- There will be an extraordinary Project Steering Committee Meeting in the first quarter of 2019 with the same members of the 2018 Steering Committee to inform the results of the non-cost extension and its reflection on the 2019 Workplans

Prepared by:



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Cleared by:



Alejandro Lago UNDP-GEF Global ABS Project Manager

Cleared by:

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Regional Hub for Europe and the CIS 07.01.19.

Approved by:

Gerd Trogermann, Manager, Istanbul Regional Hub for Europe and
the CIS, Chairperson of the Project Board

Agenda:

Time	Session
16:00-16:05	<p>General opening and introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair: Gerd Trogemann, Manager- UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub
16:05-16:20	<p>Presentation & Discussion on 2018 Progress and 2019 Workplan (documents 2, 3, 4 and 5)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Progress Review and Challenges ahead: Strengthening human resources, legal frameworks, and institutional capacities to implement the Nagoya Protocol <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alejandro Lago, Manager- UNDP-GEF Global ABS Project UNV Request to Transfer Project Funds Administration to UNDP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Piera Zuccherin – Programme Analyst, Volunteer Advisory Services (VASS) United Nations Volunteers (UNV) Regional Office Latin America and Caribbean
16:20-16:25	<p>Presentation of a request for a non-cost extension</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alejandro Lago, Manager- UNDP-GEF Global ABS Project
16:25-16:50	<p>Discussions and Inputs from Senior Beneficiaries Representatives – Estimated 2 to 3 minutes per country</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Albania- Ministry of Tourism and Environment and CO Colombia- Instituto Sinchi Ethiopia (CO) Jordan (CO) Kenya (CO) Rwanda (CO) Samoa (CO) Uruguay – Ministry of Housing, Territorial Planning and Environment of Uruguay and CO
16:50-17:00	<p>Recommendations and conclusions</p>

Participants

Institution/Country	Name and Title
Project Board	
UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub Representative	Gerd Trogemann Manager Istanbul Regional Hub – Chair
UNV Representative	Piera Zuccherin, Programme Analyst, Volunteer Advisory Services (VASS) United Nations Volunteers (UNV) UNV Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean
Representing the RBA region	
Ethiopia representative	Wubua Mekonnen ETH CO
Kenya representative	Geoffrey Omedo KEN CO
Rwanda representative	Reina Otsuka RWA CO
Representing the RBAP region	
Samoa Representative	Tessa Tafua
Representing the RBAS region	
Jordan representative	Mohammad Abumughli

Representing the RBEC region	
Albania representative	Elvita Kabashi, Pellumb Abeshi, Elvana Ramaj
Representing the RBLAC region	
Colombia representative	Gladys Cardona
Uruguay representative	Alicia Aguerre, Flavio Scasso, Pierina German, Victor Canton
From UNDP-GEF Global ABS Project	
Alejandro Lago	Project Manager
Fouad Bergigui	Regional Project Specialist for Africa
Claudio Chiarolla	Regional Project Specialist
Anthony Foronda	Regional Project Advisor for Asia Pacific
Alejandro Iberico-Hervias (UNV)	Knowledge Management and Project Specialist
Handan Bezci	Project Finance Associate
Jose Antonio Rayos	Project Associate
Zuhre Guven	Project Assistant
Fernando Lopez	Project Technical Assistant -UNV
Other	
Ekaterina Paniklova	Senior Programme Coordinator, UNDP IRH
Marina Ten	Head of Programme Support Unit / RBM Monitoring Specialist – UNDP IRH
Santiago Carrizosa	Global Adviser on ABS and Senior Technical Advisor – Ecosystems and Biodiversity, BBPS
Pelin Kihdir Ozturk	Programme Monitoring Associate, UNDP Istanbul Regional Hub