



# From establishment to operationalisation

Thomas Koetz // DG Environment / Biodiversity

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# Results of Panama meeting 16-21 April

- *Outcomes*
- *Next steps*



# Outcomes of the Panama meeting

- *Agreement on the “bare minimum” to establish the platform*
- *Building on the Busan Outcome, agreements on*
  - **functions,**
  - **operating principles and**
  - **the higher level institutional arrangements of the platform.**
- *Agreement on intersessional work*



# Legal Status of the Platform

- *Through adoption of a non-legally binding resolution, IPBES was established as an independent intergovernmental body by 94 Governments in Panama City, on April 21st 2012.*
- *It will be administered by one or more UN agencies (UNEP, UNESCO, FAO, UNDP).*
- *Additional links with the UN System to be decided at the first Plenary meeting of the Platform.*



# Location of the IPBES Secretariat

- *Based on the offers received from five countries, Bonn, Germany was selected as the location for the platform's secretariat through a blind voting process during the meeting*



# Structure of IPBES

- **Plenary** - decision making body of the platform. Open to UN States Members as Members, and to Observers.
- **Bureau** – overseeing administrative functions. Comprised of Chair, 4 vice-chairs and 5 additional members
- **Multidisciplinary Expert Panel (MEP)** – overseeing scientific and technical functions. Interim comp. of 5 members from each UN region, plus Chairs of MEA scientific subsidiary bodies and IPCC as observers.



# Other institutional/operating issues

- **Secretariat** - *UNEP requested to facilitate the Platform until the secretariat is established, with a view to its being administered by one or more of UNEP, UNESCO, FAO, UNDP*
- **Funding** – *agreed that a core trust fund be established to receive voluntary contributions*
- **Working groups** – *no discussion on delivery mechanism for the work programme during the plenary meeting*



# Rules of Procedure

- *Rules of procedure for the Plenary of the Platform were determined at the second session.*
- *Some gaps, and some interim rules remain (eg for observers UNEP's GC rules will apply in the interim, term of Bureau Members, Secretariat, MEP, Working Groups, etc.)*



# Work programme of the Platform

- *The plenary meeting further discussed the scope of the work programme, and agreed on the next steps required to implement an initial work programme, which will integrate the four agreed functions of IPBES:*
  - **Knowledge generation**
  - **Regular and timely assessments**
  - **Support policy formulation and implementation**
  - **Capacity building**



# Next steps towards the first plenary

- *A series of **intersessional work** elements were agreed in Panama to facilitate discussions at the first plenary meeting of the Platform, relating to procedures, secretariat arrangements, officers of the platform, and the initial work programme*



# Procedures of platform operations

- ***Rules of procedure for the plenary:***  
*Secretariat to compile suggestions on the interim and remaining/bracket rules of procedure and make them available to the first plenary meeting along with draft updated rules of procedure.*
- ***Other procedures:*** *Secretariat to provide drafts of various procedures (based on previous submissions) for online review process.*



# Secretariat of the platform

- *Interim arrangements: Request to UNEP, working in collaboration with interested Governments, UNESCO, FAO, UNDP and the Government of Germany to continue to provide interim secretariat arrangements and organise first plenary meeting of the platform.*
- *Joint proposal from UN agencies: Request to four UN agencies to update proposal and present for consideration at the first plenary meeting.*



# Officers/structure of subsidiary bodies

- *Nomination of officers for the Bureau and MEP: Nominations to the Bureau and MEP to be invited from Members of the Platform, to be received no less than 4 months in advance of the plenary meeting.*
- *MEP structure and composition: Further deliberation on the structure and composition of the MEP, taking into account biogeographical considerations.*



# Preparations - initial work programme

- *To facilitate discussions on the initial work programme of IPBES, a series of intersessional elements were agreed in Panama:*
  - **Overview of assessments**
  - **Conceptual framework**
  - **Capacity building needs, activities and partnerships**
  - **Process for considering requests from Governments**
  - **Scoping process to take forwards requests**



# Overview of assessments

- ***Catalogue of assessments:*** including relevant thematic and comprehensive assessments at the national, regional, subregional and global levels, building on existing initiatives.
- ***Review of the assessments:*** critical review of key elements of assessments, eg: capacity building activities, scope, integration of knowledge systems, policy impact, use of scenarios



# Conceptual framework

- *Conceptual framework: document informed by the review of assessments and drawing on existing conceptual frameworks. Conceptual framework to guide assessment and other activities of the platform.*

*Draft conceptual framework document available mid-September, for review and further consideration by MEP once established*



# Capacity-building

- *Governments and other stakeholders invited to make submissions on capacity building needs and suggestions for activities and partnerships that might address those needs – eg in relation to:*
  - **Improving supporting mechanisms**
  - **Promoting sub-global assessment activities**
  - **The contribution of national/regional centres of excellence**
  - **Processes for matching needs and resources**
  - **Ensuring balanced participation**



# Processes for requests and scoping

- ***Receiving and prioritising requests:*** Governments, MEAs and other entities to submit views on the process for receiving and prioritising requests by the plenary.
- ***Scoping process:*** Governments and other stakeholders to submit their views on the process and outputs for scoping potential assessments and other Platform activities once they had been prioritized by the plenary.



# First plenary meeting

- *Likely January 2013*
- *Location to be determined*



**// thank you for your attention**

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