

DRAFT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF GOA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD (GSBB) HELD ON 01ST AUGUST, 2014 AT 10.00 AM IN THE CHAMBER OF HON. MINISTER FOR FOREST AND ENVIRONMENT AT SECRETARIAT, PORVORIM, BARDEZ-GOIA UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF HON. MINISTER FOR FOREST AND ENVIRONMENT, CHAIRPERSON, GOA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD

The following members attended the meeting:

Sr. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Smt. Alina Saldanha Hon. Minister for Forest and Environment	Chairperson
2.	Shri Richard D'Souza (Principal Chief Conservator of Forests)	Member
3.	Shri Sandeep Nadkarni (Department of Water Resources)	Member
4.	Shri Barreto (Representative from the Directorate of Agriculture)	Member
5.	Shri Srinet Kotwale (Department of Science, Technology and Environment)	Member
6.	Shri Levinson Martins (Goa State Pollution Control Board)	Member
7.	Dr. Joe D'Souza	Member
8.	Dr. Nitin Sawant	Member Secretary

Shri Mahesh Kandolkar, Celso Dias and Dr. Bhiva Malik could not attend the meeting and were granted leave of absence.

At the outset, Smt. Alina Saldanha, Hon'ble Minister for Forest and Environment; Chairperson, Goa State Biodiversity Board welcomed the members.

After deliberations on the agenda, the following decisions were taken.

1. UNEP-GEF-MoEF ABS Project-"Strengthening the implementation of the Biological Diversity Act and Rules with focus on its Access and Benefit Sharing Provision (ABS)" -
Regarding the UNEP-GEF-MoEF ABS project it was informed that the said project is for a period of 1 year and has to be completed by June 2015 for which 4 staff namely State Project Co-ordinator, Finance Assistant, Computer Assistant and Scientific/Technical Assistant are to be recruited. It was also informed that the staff members appointed under the project shall not be covered under the staff rules and regulations/privileges of State Government and the salary will be fixed as per NBA guidelines. The same was resolved by the board and it was decided to give a press note and conduct interviews for the same.

Further, it was brought to the notice of the board regarding the requirement of additional space and infrastructure for accommodating the said staff. The Director, Science and Technology and Director Environment agreed to provide the same.

2. Goa State Biodiversity Board rules file

It was decided that the Member Secretary should personally visit the Law Department along with the copy of other states Biological Diversity Rules and clarify that the Goa State Biodiversity Board rules are drafted based on the BD Rules 2004 and other States BD Rules.

3. Expression of interest by Goa Board of Secondary and Higher Secondary Schools to affiliate with Goa State Biodiversity Board

It was resolved to affiliate with Goa Board of Secondary and Higher Secondary School for conducting awareness programmes on BD Act, 2002 amongst school students.

4. Project proposal on NBA's Financial Assistance for Strengthening the SBB's

With regards to translation of BD Act, 2002; the BMC and BHS guidelines it was resolved to translate the same in Marathi, Romi Konkani and Konkani Devnagri in order to create awareness on BD Act amongst wider sectors of the society.

With regards to constitution of thematic expert committee it was resolved to constitute the following committees:

- 1) Expert Committee on Agro-biodiversity
- 2) Expert Committee on Animal and fish diversity
- 3) Expert Committee on traditional knowledge associated with medicinal plants conservation and bio-prospecting
- 4) Expert Committee on awareness and capacity building
- 5) Expert Committee on legal matters related to IPR and ABS Mechanism
- 6) Expert Committee on declaration of BHS
- 7) Expert Committee on wildlife conservation and protection
- 8) Technical support group (TGS)

It was decided that the above committees will be constituted under following terms:

- 1) The Expert Committee will be constituted for period of 1 year and reconstituted after every year
- 2) Each committee will consist of 5 members
- 3) Each committee will have atleast 1 GSBB member
- 4) Each member of Expert Committee will be entitled for sitting fees of Rs. 2000/- (as per NBA norms)
- 5) Each expert committee member will be eligible for TA as decided by the GSBB

With regards to peer to peer learning and exchange visits it was resolved to conduct a visit to other State Biodiversity Board who have successfully implemented Biodiversity Diversity Act for:

- a) Board members
- b) Staff
- c) BMC members
- d) Staff of other line departments

It was resolved that the first delegation should be lead by Hon. Chairperson with Board members.

With regards to developing website and maintenance under the grants provided by NBA, the same was resolved by the Board.

5. Butterfly conservatory shed file closure

After discussion and due deliberation it was resolved to make payment of the work that is already carried out and refund the balance amount to Department of Science, Technology and Environment. Further it was decided to submit a fresh proposal to DSTE in order to construct the shed for establishing a small interpretation centre on the existing plinth.

6. Upgrading infrastructure of GSBB – Procurement of Furniture-Chairs, tables & cupboards for GSBB

It was resolved to procure furniture for the GSBB office and it was suggested not to include such items in agenda henceforth as the grants for infrastructure are already sanctioned.

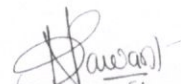
7. Any other points with the permission of the Chairperson

1. Appointment of legal counsel

It was decided to appoint a legal counsel for GSBB on retainership bases.

2. Appointing spoke person for GSBB

After discussion and due deliberation it was resolved that Member Secretary will serve as the spoke person of GSBB and only Member Secretary will respond to queries of the press with prior permission of Chairperson and that no other member will be authorized to give statements to the press.



Dr. Nitin S. Sawant
Member Secretary (GSBB)