

DRAFT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF GOA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD (GSBB) HELD ON 29<sup>th</sup> May 2015 AT 04.00 PM IN THE CHAMBER OF HON. MINISTER FOR FOREST AND ENVIRONMENT AT THE SECRETARIAT, PORVORIM, BARDEZ- GOA UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF SMT. ALINA SALDANHA, HON. MINISTER FOR FOREST AND ENVIRONMENT, CHAIRPERSON, GOA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD.

The following members attended the meeting:

Sr. No.	Name	Designation
1.	<b>Smt. Alina Saldanha</b> Hon. Minister for Forest and Environment	Chairperson
2.	<b>Shri. N. D. Naik, DCF</b> Representative for Principal Chief Conservator of Forest	Member
3.	Representative from Water Resources Department	Member
4.	<b>Shri. Sanjeev Joglekar,</b> Representative from Goa State Pollution control Board	Member
5.	<b>Shri. Ulhas Pai Kakode, Dy. Dir.</b> Representative from Directorate of Agriculture	Member
6.	<b>Shri. Celso Dias</b>	Member
7.	<b>Shri. Mahesh Kandolkar</b>	Member
8.	<b>Dr. Nitin Sawant</b>	Member Secretary

**Shri. Srinet Kothwale**, Director, Department of Science, Technology and Environment; **Dr. Bhiva Malik**, **Dr. Joe D'Souza** 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.

**Agenda 1: Peer to Peer learning & exchange visit program.**

With regards to the peer to peer exchange visit programme it was informed that the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) has requested to resubmit the proposal for the same owing to the component "mode of travel" of the GSBB Board Members proposed by Air. The NBA has further indicated that as per its letter dated 4<sup>th</sup> July 2014, the travel is allowed only by 2AC/3AC train, Volvo bus, Ac taxi (for group of 3). After discussion an due deliberation it was decided to request NBA that since the ex-officio Board Members are eligible for air travel, the ex-officio members may be allowed to travel through Air and the for the travel of the non-official Members, GSBB may request grants from Department of Environment or may incur the expenses from the existing State grants.

**Agenda 2: Request to acknowledge eco-projects from Shri. Amol Navelkar.**

The Member Secretary informed the Board that the Board is in receipt of a request from Shri. Amol Navelkar suggesting the Board to acknowledge the projects which have preserved and conserved the biodiversity, the copy of the same was circulated along with the agenda of the meeting. After discussion and due deliberation it was decided to issue certificate of appreciation to projects which have conserved biodiversity and set an example and motivate organizations/firms. It was further decided to identify such project, inspect and issue appreciation certificate. It was suggested that an immediate site visit of the members may be scheduled. The site visit was scheduled on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2015 and the members were requested to submit their report on the day of site visit. It was also resolved to felicitate the firms on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2015 during the occasion of celebration of International Day of Biological Diversity 2015.

**Agenda 3: Celebration of International Day for Biological Diversity 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2015 on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2015.**

The Member Secretary informed the Board that the celebration of International Day of biological Diversity is organized on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2015 at the International Centre Goa. A seminar on the theme 'Biodiversity for Sustainable Development' has been organized for the BMC members and line departments. Four speakers namely Dr. Nandakumar Kamat, Shri. Santosh Gaonkar, Shri. Paresh Porob, and Shri. Minguel Braganca are invited to deliver lecture on various topics. Besides GSBB had also organized drawing competition on the theme 'Biodiversity of Goa' for 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> standard students and Essay competitions on the theme 'Biodiversity for Sustainable Development' for Higher Secondary and College students.

**Agenda 4: Issues**

- a) **Application for setting up a floating pontoon jetty at Survey No. 109/2 at Mobor, Cavellossim from Champions Yatch Club, Bambolim, Goa.**

With respect to the application of Champion Yatch Club it was resolved to conduct a joint site inspection with the concerned departments and forward a compiled reports of all the departments to the concerned Authorities.

- b) **i) Proposed development of Marina Project at Sancoale Bay in Zuari River by M/s. Yatch Haven (Goa) Pvt. Ltd., Vasco - da - Gama.**

The Board was informed that the Goa State Pollution Control Board (GSPCB) has forwarded the comments received from M/s. Yatch Haven (Goa) Pvt. Ltd for perusal and comments of GSBB. After discussion and due deliberation it was decided to circulate the initial report of GSBB and the comments of the M/s.

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Yatch Haven (Goa) Pvt. Ltd amongst the Board members. The Board members were requested to submit their observations/remarks if any to the Member Secretary within a stipulated time and if needed a site inspection may be conducted. The report/comments of the same will be deliberated in the next Board meeting. It was also resolved to seek 30 day's time from GSPCB to examine the comments received from M/s. Yatch Haven (Goa) Pvt. Ltd and decide the further course of action.

**ii) Objection for proposed Marina Project at Sancoale Bay in Zuari River from Chicalim Biodiversity Management Committee.**

With regards to the objection of the Chicalim BMC to the proposed Marina it was resolved to conduct a site inspection.

**c) Removal of the vessel M.V. River Princess- letter from Department of Tourism.**

The Member Secretary appraised the Board on the letter received from Department of Tourism requesting GSBB to provide comments on the report of National Institute of Oceanography regarding the removal of the vessel M.V. "River Princess". He further informed that a site inspection was conducted along with Dr. Antonio Mascarenhas. He has submitted that it is advisable that no further interventions be conducted, and the Candolim-Sinquerim coast be allowed to heal and evolve unimpeded, on its own the natural way. After discussion & due deliberation the Board unanimously resolved to advice State Government to avoid further digging or excavation of sea bed to search for objects which are lying under the sea bed (3-6 mts). Digging the sea bed is simply not warranted as interfering with the present stable seabed can lead to widespread complications on a pre-wounded coast.

**d) M/s Balaji Concepts- Court matter in High Court at Bombay.**

With regards to M/s Balaji Concepts- Court matter it was informed that the same was disposed at the High Court of Bombay at Goa and that M/s Shree Balaji Concepts have further appealed in the High Court in Bombay.

**e) M/s Abhishek Engineers- High Court matter.**

The Board was informed that the Case regarding M/s Abhishek Engineers was disposed by the High Court of Bombay at Goa and the Member Secretary, GCZMA was directed to hear the parties and dispose the matter.

In this regards the Member secretary called for a hearing and the judgment copy of the same is awaited.

**f) Colva lake-NGT matter - Study of Colva Lake.**

The Member Secretary informed the Board that the GSPCB has suggested some organizations for inviting expression of interest to conduct biodiversity study at Colva lake. However, the same is held up due to lack of funds.

**g) Request from Captain of Ports to issue NOC for Dredging of Chapora River at Bardez Taluka.**

It was informed that with regards to the request of captain of Ports a site inspection was conducted along with Dr. Antonio Mascarenhas, former Scientist, NIO and Dr. Manoj Borkar, Associate Professor, Carmel College for Women at Nuvem. It was further stated that Dr. Mascarenhas has submitted the report and report from Dr. Manoj Borkar is awaited. After discussion and due deliberation it was resolved to circulate the report received from Dr. Mascarenhas to the Board members for comments.

**h) Sappu tolem complaint by Shri. Rony Dias**

The Board was apprised on the complaint received from Shri. Rony Dias and it was informed that the same has been forwarded to the Water Resource Department for information and necessary action.

**i) NOC for construction of protection wall and steps on Sal River bank at Rangalli V.P. Velim**

With respect to the protection wall and steps on Sal River bank at Rangalli V.P. Velim it was informed by the Water Resource Department Officials that the request is for repair and renovation of the existing wall and steps are to be constructed for the immersion of Ganapati Idol. After Discussion and due deliberation it was resolved to approve the same.

**j) Request to MOEF from Cansaulim-Arossim-Cuelim BMC to revoke the clearance dated 11.04.2013 given to M/s. Competant Automobiles.**

With respect to the request of Cansaulim-Arossim-Cuelim BMC to MoEF it was resolved to wait for the direction from MoEF/ National Biodiversity Authority.

**k) Report of site inspection regarding complaint from Colva Consumer & Civic Forum Regarding Construction of illegal road in CRZ area between approximately between 50 to 500 meters of the threatening rich biodiversity in the Colva Sernabatim Coastal belt.**

The Board was informed that the site inspection regarding complaint from Colva Consumer & Civic Forum Regarding Construction of illegal road in CRZ area in the Colva Sernabatim Coastal belt was conducted and report of the same is circulated along with the agenda of the meeting.

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l) **Destruction of Environment by hill cutting at Vagator by Ms. Diana Buildwell Pvt. Ltd. In Survey No.354/07-A.**

It was informed that a joint site inspection was conducted upon receipt of the complaint and the concerned Authorities have initiated action against the same.

m) i) **Proposed Mopa Airport - Complaint received from Shri. Oscar Martin, Goa forwarded by NBA.**  
ii) **Complaint from 'Federation of Rainbow Warriors'**

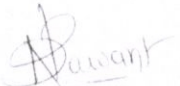
With respect to point i) and ii) above it was resolved to inform the NBA and the complainants that a recommendation from GSBB has been forwarded to the concerned Authority for necessary action.

n) **NGT Court matter of Shri. Garth D'Souza at Cavellossim.**

With respect to the NGT Court matter of Shri. Garth D'Souza at Cavellossim it was informed that the report received from Agriculture Department has been forwarded to the concerned Legal Counsel to be placed before NGT.

5) **Proposal received from Chicalim BMC for declaration of Biodiversity Heritage Site under Biological Diversity Act, 2002.**

With regards to the proposal received from Chicalim BMC for declaration the entire Sancoale, Chicalim bay as a Biodiversity Heritage Site under Biological Diversity Act, 2002 it was resolved to conduct a site inspection and if the area fulfills the criteria as stated in the guidelines published by the National Biodiversity Authority for declaration of Biodiversity Heritage site, further necessary procedure may be followed.



Dr. Nitin S. Sawant  
Member Secretary (GSBB)