

DRAFT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE XVIIIth GOA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD (GSBB) MEETING HELD ON 20th Sept, 2013 AT 4.00 PM IN THE CONFERENCE HALL, DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT, SALIGAO, BARDEZ-GOA

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 R.R. Yaragatti (Representing in place of Shri Sandeep Nadkarni)	Member
4.	Dr. P. K. Tufani Director, Directorate of Agriculture	Member
5.	Shri Sanjeev Joglekar (Representing in place of Shri Levinson Martins)	Member
6.	Dr. Joe D'Souza	Member
7.	Shri Celso Dias	Member
8.	Dr. Bhiva Malik	Member
9.	Dr. Nitin Sawant	Member Secretary

Shri Levinson Martins, MS, (GSPCB) and Director / ex- Officio Jt. Secretary (STE) and **Shri Mahesh Kandolkar** could not attend the meeting and were granted leave of absence.

Owing to the expected delay Smt. Alina Saldanha, Hon'ble Minister for Forest and Environment, Chairperson, Goa State Biodiversity Board directed Member Secretary to start the meeting. Dr. Nitin Sawant, Member Secretary welcomed the members on the behalf of the Chairperson.

The following agenda items were addressed at the meeting:

1. Confirmation of the minutes of the XVIIth meeting held on 14th June 2013 at Dept. of Science, Technology & Environment, Saligao.

The proceedings of the XVIIth meeting of Goa State Biodiversity Board held on 14th June, 2013 were placed before the Board and the same were confirmed.

Taking into consideration the suggestions put forth by Dr. Joe D' Souza that, the non official members should be entitled to obtain TA benefit in addition to sitting fees for attending the Board meeting, the same was approved by the Board and it was decided to implement the same after prior consultation with Finance Department, Government of Goa.

Dr. Joe D' Souza requested for the list of plants which falls under the perview of Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Biological Diversity Rules, 2004 (Access Benefit Sharing) and it was suggested that the point needs to be clarified from National Biodiversity Authority (NBA).

2. Celebration to be held on 01st October 2013 in Chennai to commemorate the 10th Anniversary of establishment of National Biodiversity Authority

Member Secretary informed the Board regarding the invitation received from National Biodiversity Authority inviting the Chairperson and the Member Secretary of the Board for the celebration of 10th Anniversary of establishment of NBA to be held on 1st Oct, 2013.

Member Secretary further informed that, he would be attending the function and that the travel and accommodation charges would be borne by NBA.

- 3. Application for accessing Biological Resources (Form I) under section 3 of the Biological Diversity Act 2002 and rule 14 of the Biological Diversity Rules 2004. (M/s Evonic Industries AG and M/s Reliance India limited)

Member Secretary further informed the Board regarding the receipt of applications for accessing biological resources (Form I) under section 3 of Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and rule 14 of the Biological Diversity rule, 2004 by M/s Evonic Industries AG and M/s Reliance India limited from NBA asking for consent of the Board for the same.

Dr. Joe D' Souza suggested that the proponent should be called to present their project proposal and brief all the Board members on the proposed project as this is important since the matter is related to utilization of bioresources of the state.

Dr. D' Souza also suggested that, it would be advisable to consult Director, National Institute of Oceanography on the issues regarding the sample collection from the coastal waters of Goa.

- 4. Application for accessing Biological Resources (Form I) received from Goa college of Home science.

The application received from Goa College of Home Science seeking permission for research purpose for the project titled, "Documentation, study and utilization of local plants for natural dyeing", Sponsored by Dept. of Science, Technology and Environment was placed before the Board by the Member Secretary.

Dr. Joe D'Souza suggested that, the project proponent should be called to present their proposed work and brief the Board on the said project.

It was unanimously decided that henceforth all the proponents should be invited to present their respective proposal before the Board so as to enable the Board to hear all the stakeholders and ensure transparency in decision making.

- 5. Translation of Biological Diversity Act, 2002 & Biological Diversity Rules, 2004

Member Secretary informed the Board regarding the translation of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 and Biological Diversity Rules, 2004 in local language (Konkani). He further stated that, the work is being undertaken by The Directorate of Official Languages, Goa and is on the verge of completion.

He also requested the Board members to suggest/ give their view regarding the printing of the said job. The Board suggested that the printing job should be assigned to the Govt. Printing Press instead of hiring a private body.

Dr. Joe D'Souza suggested that the copies should also be printed in Roman Konkani. This suggestion was disallowed by the Board as Govt. rules do not permit for the same.

Member Secretary further informed the Board that the book will not be printed in Marathi language as Maharashtra State Biodiversity Board (MSBB) would be doing the same and if required it could be borrowed from MSBB.

6. Financial assistance approved by NBA towards appointment of Accountant and other staff for Goa State Biodiversity Board.

Member Secretary informed the Board members that, the Board is in requirement of additional staff Viz. Retired Government Accountant (1 no), Scientific Officer (1 no), Technical Officer (1 no) and Driver (1 no). The same were agreed by the Board members.

Member Secretary also informed the Board that the financial assistance of Rs. 9.5 Lakhs would be provided by NBA for the above requirement.

7. Names of the Panchayats to be selected and sent to NBA for the formation of BMC's and PBR's.

Member Secretary informed the Board that the Corporation of the City of Panaji has approached the Board and has shown interest to form BMC under its jurisdiction.

The list of Panchayats Viz; V. P. Raia, V.P. Cansaulim- Arossim- Cuelim, V.P. Chandel-Hassapur, V.P. Socorro, V.P. Carambolim, V.P. Chodan- Madel, V.P. Mencurem-Dhumacem, V.P. Nagargao, V.P. Verem- Vaghurme, V.P. Barsem- Quedem, V.P. Rivona, V.P. Poinguinim, V.P. Sancordem selected for BMC's and PBR's was placed before the Board and it was decided that Chodan- Madel Village Panchayat should be excluded from the list and the same be replaced by the Corporation of the City of Panaji.

Member Secretary further informed that National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) has strongly recommended that the BMC's should be formed through Panchayat level only. He further stated that since we have included one corporation in the list, the permission for the formation of BMC has to be sought from NBA.

8. Application of Marina India for seeking NOC for mooring of Dump Pontoon PIT STOP 'ISOLA' in the River Chapora at Morjim, Pernem.

The application received from Marina India Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd. seeking No Objection Certificate (NOC) for mooring of Dump Pontoon PIT STOP 'ISOLA' in the River Chapora at Morjim, Pernem, near existing river wall in Morjim at Temba Waddo, Ward No. 7 in the village Panchayat of Morjim was placed before the Board by the Member Secretary.

Board members suggested to invite the project proponent to present its proposal before the Board. Mr. Joglekar suggested that the proponent has to be heard before taking any decision.

9. Invitation for Second National Biodiversity Congress to be held in Kolkata from 16th to 18th December 2013 organized by West Bengal Biodiversity Board.

The Board was informed about the Second National Biodiversity Congress to be held in Kolkata from 16th to 18th December 2013 organized by West Bengal Biodiversity Board by Member Secretary.

10. Construction of shed for butterfly conservatory (rearing chamber)

Member Secretary updated the members on the status of the construction of shed for Butterfly Conservatory.

Members resolved that the PWD Department should be requested to examine the work already carried out and confirm that the same is meeting the specified requirements.

Mr. Joglekar offered to help in this matter for drafting the letter to the concerned authority.

11. Proposal of PPVFRA on identification of SBB's as notified centers under Section 41 (1) of the PPB and FR Act, 2001-reg.

Member Secretary informed the Board regarding the proposal of PPVFRA on identification of SBB's as notified center.

The Members resolved to accept the proposal forwarded by NBA for being the notified centre under the provision of Section 41 (1) of the PPB and FR Act, 2001.

The Members further decided that, once the SBB is declared as a notified centre according to Section 41 (1) of the PPB and FR Act, 2001, the SBB will engage required personnel for carrying out the responsibility entrusted.

Mr. Joglekar agreed to draft a proposal in regards to the said matter.

12. Any other point with the prior permission of the Chair

1) Status of Marina project at Sancoale.

Chairperson suggested that Sancoale project has to be given priority and consultants should be appointed and research has to be started immediately. Dr. Joe D'Souza requested to obtain a copy of EIA report prepared by NIO for the proponent. The Chairperson requested Dr. D'Souza to procure a copy from NIO library or from her office. Dr. D'Souza further queried about the letter to be sent to the colleges regarding the project proposal to carry out biodiversity study at Sancoale. Member Secretary informed him that due to academic holidays/exams there was a delay in the process, but the letter pertaining to the said subject is ready.

2) Presentation by Mr. Ashvet Hegde from Greendiamz Biotech Ltd. (Ahmedabad)

The Board Members were briefed on the ecofriendly bags made from starch based compostable material (an alternative to plastic) by Mr. Ashvet Hegde from Greendiamz Biotech Ltd. (Ahmedabad). Mr. Hegde informed the Board that, these bags decompose within 126 days in soil. He also requested the Board to attend the inaugural function of the plastic free drive on 2nd October 2013 at Hotel Fidalgo and requested the Board to support the good cause.

The meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the chair.

Member Secretary
Goa State Bio-diversity Board