

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 25TH BOARD MEETING OF GOA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD (GSBB).

TYPE OF MEETING: SPECIAL MEETING

DATE: 06th JANUARY, 2016 **TIME:** 11.00 AM

VENUE: CHAMBER OF HON'BLE MINISTER FOR PANCHAYATS, FOREST AND ENVIRONMENT, GOA STATE, SECRETARIAT, PORVORIM, BARDEZ-GOA

THE MEETING WAS CHAIRED BY SHRI. RAJENDRA V. ARLEKAR, HON'BLE MINISTER FOR PANCHAYATS, FOREST AND ENVIRONMENT; CHAIRPERSON, GOA STATE BIODIVERSITY BOARD (GSBB).

The following members attended the meeting:

Sr. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Shri. Rajendra V. Arlekar Hon'ble Minister for Panchayats, Forest and Environment.	Chairperson
2.	Shri. Ajai Saxena, IFS Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF).	Ex Officio Member
3.	Shri. Sandeep Nadkarni Chief Engineer, Department of Water Resources (WRD).	Ex Officio Member
4.	Shri. Ulhas Pai Kakode Director, Directorate of Agriculture.	Ex Officio Member
5.	Dr. Shamila Monteiro Director, Directorate of Fisheries.	Ex Officio Member
6.	Dr. Santosh V. Desai Director, Directorate of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services.	Ex Officio Member
7.	Dr. Antonio Mascarenhas	Expert Member
8.	Shri. Parag Rangnekar	Expert Member
9.	Shri. Nirmal Kulkarni	Expert Member

Shri. Rajendra V. Arlekar



10.	Shri. Pradip Sarmokadam	Member Secretary
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Dr. Bhiva Malik, Expert Member, GSBB could not attend the meeting and was granted leave of absence.

Agenda 1: Welcome to newly constituted Board Members of Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB) by the Chairperson.

At the onset, Shri. Rajendra V. Arlekar, Hon'ble Minister for Panchayats, Forest and Environment; Chairperson, Goa State Biodiversity Board extended a warm floral welcome to the members of the newly constituted Board. In his welcome address he stressed on the need for conservation of biodiversity, protection of species on the verge of extinction and environment in its entirety at all cost, at the same time allowing sustainable developmental activities. He expressed his vision for Goa wherein he stated that sustainable development as well as protection of environment in its entirety have wider context in present time. He assured the Board of all support in its endeavors towards conservation of biodiversity of the State and smooth functioning of the Board.

Agenda 2: Introduction of newly constituted Board Members.

All the board members present for the meeting introduced themselves and elaborated on their professional qualifications and achievements in the field related to biodiversity and environment and also elaborated on how they could individually as well as in official capacity contribute to the functioning of the board.

Agenda 3: Confirmation of the Minutes of 09th Special Meeting of Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB) held on 29th May 2015 at 04:00 pm.

The minutes of the 09th special meeting of Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB) were confirmed by the board members present for the meeting.

The above confirmation was proposed by Shri. Sandeep Nadkarni, Ex-Officio Member, GSBB and seconded by Dr. Antonio Mascarenhas, Expert Member, GSBB.

Agenda 4: Action taken report of 09th Special Meeting of Goa State Biodiversity Board (GSBB) held on 29th May 2015 at 04:00 pm.

The printed copy of the action taken report was circulated to the members and further review was done by MS, GSBB which was well participated by Board Members and following decision were arrived at:

Agenda 1 of 09th Special Meeting: Peer to Peer learning and exchange visit programme:

The Board resolved to visit only one State preferably Kerala instead of two (Kerala & Gujarat) as decided in the past.

Pradip Sarmokadam



Further to this the ex-officio members have agreed to travel at the cost of respective departments whereas the travel of the other members is to be included in the budget for the programme to be proposed to National Biodiversity Authority (NBA).

It was also decided to take confirmation from NBA about a revised proposal for the above exchange visit programme, to be forwarded again to NBA by GSBB.

There was a suggestion from Shri. Ulhas Pai Kakode, Ex-Officio Member, GSBB to schedule the date of visit by avoiding coincidence with end of financial closure or with assembly sessions.

Agenda 2 of 09th Special Meeting: Request to acknowledge Eco project from Shri. Amol Navelkar:

The Board approved the above agenda and accepted the compliance.

Agenda 3 of 09th Special Meeting: Celebration of International Day for Biological Diversity 2015.

The Board approved the above agenda and accepted the compliance.

Agenda 4 of 09th Special Meeting: Issues.

It was decided that the issues will be covered during the next routine Board Meeting and only significant issues (pertaining to Legal cases) which are mentioned in the 25th Board Meeting (Special Meeting) agenda shall be covered.

Agenda 5 of 09th Special Meeting: Proposal received from Chicalim BMC for declaration of Biodiversity Heritage Site under the Biological Diversity Act 2002.

It was decided to take up this agenda while taking up Agenda 6- (d) of the 25th Board Meeting (special meeting).

Agenda 6 of 09th Special Meeting: Any other points with the permission of the chairperson. – Invitation for Chairperson and Member Secretary, GSBB to attend Gram Sabha at Sancoale by Village Panchayat Sancoale:

The Board approved the above agenda and accepted the compliance

Agenda 5: Functioning of GSBB.

a) Inter departmental meeting for smooth functioning of GSBB:

MS explained the need for providing information/ feedback about the compliance to the directives/ recommendations of GSBB to the concerned departments/ authorities whenever such recommendations are made by GSBB. However the Board Members opined that the scope of GSBB is only confined to providing the recommendations/ directives and the concerned

Amol Navelkar



departments/ authorities may not convey the further action taken to GSBB. However there is need to further explore the provisions of the Biological Diversity Act 2002 & Rule 2004, in this regard.

- b) Participation of Board Members. (e.g attending site inspections, scrutinizing site inspection reports, scrutinizing consolidated reports, etc) as and when requested by board:

The Board Members assured their fullest cooperation for the same.

- c) System of conducting board meetings, system of numbering the meetings:
The Board Members unanimously resolved to adopt the system of continuous numbering with sub category of the type of meeting, whether special or regular and this system shall be implemented with effect from the present meeting.

Agenda 6: Legal cases of GSBB.

- a) Appointment of legal counsel for office of GSBB:
It was decided to consult the office of Attorney General, Govt. of Goa regarding appointment of legal counsel on retainership basis.
- b) EOI of Colva Lake: Scrutiny of applications received – decide on sealed envelopes:
Regarding the Expressions of Interest (EOI's) for study of Colva lake received, the Board Members actively discussed and arrived at the decision that the EOI's shall not be opened and instead an expert committee may be appointed to carry out time bound study after taking legal opinion.
- c) Hearing to be granted to village panchayats of Sernabatiin, Vanelim, Colva & Gandaulim:
It was decided to seek legal opinion and arrive at a decision for the above.
- d) Past pending point – decision regarding Biodiversity Heritage Sites (BHS's) – (Sancoale bay)- (Agenda 5 of 09th Special Meeting):
It was resolved to revisit the site preferably during low tide. Compile baseline data available with concerned departments such as ICAR, NIO, Directorate of Fisheries etc. as a part of literature survey. A committee was selected, comprising of representatives from PCCF & Directorate of Fisheries, Dr. A. Mascarenhas, Shri. Parag Rangnekar and Shri. Nirmal Kulkarni including Member Secretary to carry out the site inspection for the purpose of study. In this regards it was also decided to refer to NBA guidelines for BHS.

Agenda 7: Issues.

- a) Confirmation of compliance to GCZMA directives (follow up to NOC's granted by GCZMA):
Board Members decided to take up this point in the next routine Board Meeting.

Agenda 8: Appointment of Staff at GSBB.

Continued today



- a) Appointment of new staff:
MS, GSBB explained the urgency and need for appointment of staff in order to fulfill the objectives of GSBB, NBA and ongoing projects such as UNEP-GEF-MoEF-ABS Project. The Board accepted and agreed.
- b) Reallocation of work, modifying existing staff pattern:
Both above points were dealt with by the Board and approval was granted to go ahead with the recruitment and the work allocation to the staff and thereafter the Board shall be appraised about the same.

Agenda 9: Status of BMC Formation & PBR

MS apprised the Board Members that till date 88 BMC's have been constituted and 24 PBR's have been initiated.

Agenda 10: Status of UNEP-GEF-MoEF-ABS- Project.

- a) Project Launch & focus group meeting.
- b) One day State Level Economic Valuation Meet.
- c) 20 BMC's have been constituted under the project as per the project criteria out of which 18 Local Biodiversity Fund (LBF's) are disseminated.
- d) Resource/ publication material under the project have been translated & printed in 03 Regional languages.
- e) 01 PBR initiated under the project.
- f) Several orientation programmes were held to educate the BMC Members on roles & responsibilities of Biodiversity Management Committees and explained about the importance of UNEP-GEF-ABS project for the state of Goa.

MS informed the Board Members that the above points have been complied.

Agenda 11: The need to decide about review of draft rules of GSBB.

The Board expressed that there is need to study the present status of the matter and follow up the same with the Law Department.

Agenda 12: Initiatives to be taken.

- a) Mechanism for monitoring BMC's, developing of films, presentation on Biodiversity of Goa.
- b) Initiating studies/ projects on biodiversity of the state.
 - I. Herbal garden ongoing project at GSBB premises.
 - II. Butterfly Conservatory.
- c) New project if any:
Suggestions were received for new projects from the Board Members as follows:

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- 1) Support the already existing Butterfly Conservatories and Herbal Gardens across Goa: Shri. Ajai Saxena, IFS, PCCF, Ex-Officio Member, GSBB suggested that GSBB in collaboration with the BMCs could provide support to maintain & develop the already existing Butterfly Conservatories & Herbal Gardens across Goa, in particular Shri. Heblekar's Butterfly Park at Ponda. He further assured his willingness to support the further development of the Herbal Garden Project of GSBB.
- 2) Develop/Promote/Support efforts in the preservation of Germplasm/ Seed Banks
- 3) Developing Medicinal plant Gardens with focus on their biodiversity
- 4) Developing Garden of Wild Fruits of Goa
- 5) Conserve & Rebuild damaged Sand dunes: Suggested by Dr. Antonio Mascarenhas, Expert Member, GSBB.
- 6) Conservation of Coral Reefs: Suggested by Dr. Shamila Monteiro, Ex-Officio Member, GSBB.

The Board unanimously agreed that such routine administrative matters from Agenda No. 12 to 16, 18 & 19, to be decided by the Member Secretary in consultation with Chairperson.

Agenda 13: Planning of Activities to be organized by GSBB:

(Presentation on Bamboo by Shri. Kamesh Salam, President, World Bamboo Congress/ Association, Member of Manipur State Biodiversity Board on 15th January 2016.)

To be decided by the Member Secretary in consultation with Chairperson, as stated in Agenda No.12.

Agenda 14: Use of IT aided tools/ applications (GPS enabled) for various activities of GSBB such as site inspection, Biodiversity documentation.. so that it will stand the test of time.

To be decided by the Member Secretary in consultation with Chairperson, as stated in Agenda No.12.

Agenda 15: Web services to be made available to BMC members.

To be decided by the Member Secretary in consultation with Chairperson, as stated in Agenda No.12.

Agenda 16: Procurement of various assets essential for the GSBB office (A/C, drinking water facility, tea/ coffee vending machine, Member Secretary (MS) Chair, Office board, directional board to the GSBB office).

To be decided by the Member Secretary in consultation with Chairperson, as stated in Agenda No.12.





Agenda 17: Increased sitting fees to members

It was decided that the sitting fees should be on par with the Goa Coastal Zone Management Authority (GCZMA).

Agenda 18: Approval of renewal and issuance of ID Cards to the Staff & Board Members.

To be decided by the Member Secretary in consultation with Chairperson, as stated in Agenda No.12.

Agenda 19: Purchase of Sim cards for GSBB staff- Initially 04 Nos & new govt. email-Id's.

To be decided by the Member Secretary in consultation with Chairperson, as stated in Agenda No.12.

Agenda 20: NBA delegates to be invited / requested for orientation at GSBB office.

It was unanimously decided to invite the NBA representative for the routine Board Meeting.

The Board meeting ended with the vote of thanks from the Member Secretary, GSBB.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Pradip Sarmokadam".

Shri. Pradip Sarmokadam
Member Secretary, GSBB