

National Biodiversity Authority

राष्ट्रीय जैव विविधता प्राधिकरण

(A Statutory body of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India)



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26/10/2020

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Constitution of a Working Group for "Reviewing guidelines for Preparation of Coastal and Marine e-PBR (People's Biodiversity Register) – reg

Section 41(1) of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 states that, "Every local body shall constitute a Biodiversity Management Committee within its area for the purpose of promoting conservation, sustainable use and documentation of biological diversity including preservation of habitats, conservation of land races, folk varieties and cultivars, domesticated stocks and breeds of animals and microorganisms and chronicling of knowledge relating to biological diversity."

2. As per Rule 22(6) of the Biological Diversity Rules, 2004, the main function of the Biodiversity Management Committee is to prepare People's Biodiversity Register in consultation with local people. The Register shall contain comprehensive information on availability and knowledge of local biological resources, their medicinal or any other use or any other traditional knowledge associated with them. The People's Biodiversity Registers shall be maintained and validated by the Biodiversity Management Committee.

3. People's Biodiversity Registers (PBRs)) are statutory technical documents that capture all the details of biological resources and associated knowledge available in the jurisdiction of the local body. Any person or entity accessing these biological resources or associated knowledge for research / bio-survey / bio-utilization / commercial utilization, are under obligation to share a portion of their benefit to the local communities to help in the conservation and sustainable availability of these resources.

4. Preparation of PBRs requires technical expertise at various stages. Compiling and collating the biological resources requires a comprehensive understanding of the subject matter. Therefore, a general awareness is required amongst local bodies for decision making in the use of biological resources available in their jurisdiction.

5. The existing PBR guidelines (2013) are exhaustive and have multiple formats to capture all information related to biological resources and their associated knowledge.

However, certain geographic locations need more emphasis and special attention while capturing data on local resources. The coastal, intertidal and marine areas (within the territorial jurisdiction of India) harbour plethora of biodiversity, which come under the purview of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002. India has a long coastline, bordering 9 coastal states and 2 Union Territories. The documentation of biological resources for such areas has so far been limited and the existing PBR guidelines have further scope of improvement to include better and relevant information. In order to ensure the quality, consistency and accuracy of any PBR for the coastal and marine areas, an effort is required to revise the existing guidelines to better accommodate all the biodiversity related information from these areas. There is also a need to convert the PBRs into e-PBRs

In context of the above mentioned subject, the competent authority has decided to constitute the following Working Group:

Chairman	
1	Dr. S. K. Khanduri, Former PCCF, Govt. of Kerala
Members	
2	Dr. Oommen V Oommen, Former Chairman, Kerala SBB
3	Dr. Yogendra Yadava, Bay of Bengal Programme
4	Director, National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, Chennai or his
	representative
5	Director, Centre for Advanced Studies in Marine Biology, Annamalai University
6	Chief Naval Hydrographer, Dehradun or his representative
7	Director, ZSI or his nominee
8	Director, BSI or his nominee
9	Director, NIC-Kerala
10	Director, NIC-Tamil Nadu
11	Shri. J.Justin Mohan, IFS, Secretary, NBA (Member Convener)
Special invitees	
12	Dr. K. Sivakumar, Scientist, Wildlife Institute of India
13	Dr. Vishwas Chavan, CEO, School of Inspirational Living, Pune

6. The Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Working Group will be as follows:

- a) To review the existing PBR guidelines and identify the gaps concerning documentation of coastal, inter-tidal and marine biological resources.
- b) Suggest modifications in the guidelines, as appropriate to enhance the quality of the e-PBR document and effective use of the biological information.
- c) Examine the territorial jurisdictions of coastal and marine PBRs in the light of relevant legislations/guidelines.

. 7. Tenure of Working Group:

The tenure of the Working Group will be six months from the date of its constitution. The Working Group will submit periodic reports.

8. Logistical Support for the Working Group:

This will be provided by NBA and sitting fee as per NBA norms will also be provided to the eligible members for participation in the meetings.

The OM is issued with the approval of Competent Authority.

J. Justin Mohan) Secretary, NBA

То

- 1. All members of the Working Group
- 2. The Chairman of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Andaman & Nicobar UT, Lakshadweep UT Biodiversity Councils
- 3. The Member Secretaries of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Andaman & Nicobar UT, Lakshadweep UT Biodiversity Councils
- 4. P.S to Chairman, NBA
- 5. Administrative Officer, NBA
- 6. Accounts Officer, NBA
- 7. Guard File

- Dr. S. K. Khanduri, Former PCCF, Govt. of Kerala 409, Nilaya Hills, Haridwar Byepass, Dehradun, Uttarakhand 248001 Email: <u>skhanduri57@gmail.com</u>
- Dr. Oommen V Oommen, Former Chairman, Kerala SBB GRA E-77, Gandhipuram, Srikaryam, Trivandrum, Kerala 695017. Email: <u>oommenvo@gmail.com</u>
- Dr. Yugraj Singh Yadava, Director, Bay of Bengal Programme Post Box No 1054, 91, Saint Mary's Road Abhiramapuram,Chennai - 600 018 Tamil Nadu Email: yugraj.yadava@bobpigo.org
- Director, National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, Chennai Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) Anna University Campus, Chennai – 600025, Tamil Nadu. Email: <u>director@ncscm.res.in; rramesh@ncscm.res.in</u>
- 5. Director, Centre for Advanced Studies in Marine Biology, Faculty of Marine Sciences Annamalai University,Parangipettai-608 502 Tamil Nadu, India
- Chief Naval Hydrographer National Hydrographic Office 107-A, Rajpur Road, Post Box – 75, Dehradun – 248001, Uttarakhand, India Email: inho@navy.gov.in
- Director, ZSI Prani Vigyan Bhawan, M- Block, New Alipore, Kolkata 700053 dir@zsi.gov.in
- 8 Director, BSI Botanical Survey of India CGO Complex, 3rd MSO Building, Block F (5th and 6th Floor), DF Block, Sector I, Salt Lake City, Kolkata - 700 064. Email dir@bsi.gov.in
- 9 Director,
 NIC Kerala State Centre,
 CDAC Building, Vellayamabalam,
 Thiruvananthapuram 695033

10 Director,

National Informatics Centre Tamil Nadu State Centre, E Wing, First Floor, Rajaji Bhavan, Besant Nagar, Chennai - 600 090.

- 11 Dr. K. Sivakumar, Scientist, Wildlife Institute of India Post Box #18, Chandrabani
 Dehradun - 248001
 Uttarakhand. Email: ksivakumar@wii.gov.in
- Dr. Vishwas Chavan, Founder, School of Inspirational Living A 403, Palladium Grand Dhanori, Pune 411015. Email: chavan.vishwas@gmail.com

GUIDELINES

The following guidelines are issued for proper conduct of the meeting to achieve the expected outcome.

- The expert committees are being constituted mainly to advise NBA on technical, techno-legal, administrative, scientific, statutory and miscellaneous matters as NBA does not have the required in-house expertise and experience in various disciplines. The role of expert committee is more or less similar to that of 'Amicus Curiae' in the court of Law.
- 2. The Chairman and members are requested to kindly make it convenient to attend the meeting at the fixed venue and time. The NBA will arrange transport from Airport / Railway station / bus stand to and from the venue of the meeting.
- 3. The travel cost by Air (Air India economy class) / train / road mileage etc., incurred by the Chairman and the members / invitees will be reimbursed on production of the tickets / boarding pass along with bills in the prescribed format provided by NBA. The lodging and boarding will be provided by the NBA.
- 4. As per the directions issued by the Ministry of Finance vide O.M. no. No.19024/ 2212017-E. IV, dated 19th July, 2017, the Members are required to purchase the ticket from three authorized travel agents viz. M/s Balmer Lawrie & Company limited (BLCL), M/s Ashok Travels & Tours (ATT) and Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd. (IRCTC), or tickets may be booked directly from the Airlines.
- 5. The Chairman and Co-chair of the committee are entitled for an amount of Rs.6000/as sitting fee per day. Members and other invitees are entitled for an amount of Rs.4000/- as sitting fee per day.
- 6. As per OM. No. 19047/10/2016-E-IV dt 12/4/2017 issued by Ministry of Finance, non-official members alone are entitled to draw sitting fees for attending the meetings of the Expert Committee. The definition of Non-official members as per OM are as follows: "For the purpose of grant of sitting fee only such persons are to be considered as Non-Officials who are not employed in any institution / organisation / body funded by the Central Government".
- 7. The Chairman and members may preferably arrive at the city of venue one day in advance before the scheduled date of meeting.

- 8. The committee is requested to submit the proceedings / minutes to the NBA duly authenticated by all the members. In order to finalize and submit proceedings / minutes of the meeting on the same day, outstation members are requested to plan their return journey on the next day of the meeting. Under exceptional circumstances the Chairman may get the proceedings / minutes finalized at later dates and send the document to NBA duly authenticated by all members who were present in the meeting. In such case, a lump sum of Rs.2000/- will be paid to the Chairman to meet the postal expenses, mobile, internet charges and cost of secretarial assistance at his place of stay on request at the time of submission of the report to NBA. For payment of lump sum, a self-declared certificate to the effect that the expenditure has been incurred for the above purpose has to be furnished by the Chairman.
 - 9. In the absence of Chairman, the Co-Chair, nominated by the Chairman will conduct the proceeding of the meeting.
 - 10. The committee is requested to kindly go through the subject area and refer BD Act 2002 and Rules made thereunder, the Guidelines on access to biological resources and / or associated knowledge regulations, 2014, relevant laws, scientific articles, and books, browse internet to facilitate lively and useful discussion on the subject.
 - 11. The Chairman and members may kindly exchange notes and views through internet on the subject area to be discussed during the meeting.
 - 12. Given the sensitivity and nature of deliberations of the Committee, members are requested not to engage in any bilateral discussion with the non-members regarding to subject matter. However, they may discuss only scientific / legal / technical aspects with others without disclosing name of the applicant or details of application.
 - 13. The Secretary, NBA is authorized to invite any experts to the meetings of the expert committee as special invitees.