



NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY AUTHORITY



PROCEEDINGS OF THE 35th AUTHORITY MEETING

13th October, 2015

Venue

Godavari Hall,
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change,
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Jor Bagh Road,
New Delhi – 110 003

Proceedings of the 35th Authority Meeting of the National Biodiversity Authority

The thirty fifth meeting of the National Biodiversity Authority (NBA) was held on 13th October, 2015 at 12.00 noon at the Godavari Hall, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), New Delhi under the chairmanship of Shri Hem Pande, IAS., Chairman, NBA to consider the agenda items circulated to the Members *vide* email dated 3rd October, 2015 and hard copy by messenger on 5th and 6th October, 2015. The list of participants is placed as **Annex-1- pg.no.13**.

2. At the outset, Shri Hem Pande, IAS, Chairman, NBA welcomed all the members and the special invitees to the meeting. Shri T. Rabikumar, IFS, Secretary, NBA, also extended his welcome to the members and special invitees.

3. The Secretary, NBA made a presentation on the activities carried out by the NBA since the last Authority meeting, including update on the status of the ABS applications, foundation day celebrations, advertisements on the provisions of the BD Act, 2002 in print media, 10th National Meeting of the State Biodiversity Boards, publication of the first Internationally Recognized Certificate of Compliance (IRCC) in the ABS Clearing House by CBD, visit of foreign delegates from the community-to-community exchange and capacity development workshop for traditional knowledge holder to NBA and updates on the activities of various expert committees and other meetings. The Members of the Authority appreciated these activities carried out by the NBA Secretariat.

Thereafter, the agenda items were considered and discussed as under:-

35.01: Confirmation of Proceedings of the 34th Authority meeting

The draft Proceedings of the 34th Authority meeting of the NBA held on 29th June, 2015 in New Delhi was circulated to the Members *vide* email dated 21st July, 2015 seeking their comments, but no comments were received from the Members. The approved Proceedings was placed before the Authority for confirmation. The Authority confirmed the same.

Decisions:

The Authority confirmed the Proceedings of the 34th meeting.

35.02: Action taken report of the 34th Authority meeting

The Secretary, NBA apprised the Members about the actions taken on the decisions of the 34th Authority meeting. The Authority took note of the actions taken.

35.03 & 35.19.01: To consider the Proceedings of the 33rd and 34th meetings of EC on ABS

The Secretary, NBA informed the Members that the 33rd and 34th meetings of the EC on ABS were held on 17th August, 2015 and 9th October, 2015 respectively at the NBA, Chennai. The EC examined a total of 130 applications and also considered the issues raised by the Department of Biotechnology, revision of ABS application formats etc. The observations and decisions of the Authority are detailed below:

a) In cases where IPR is sought for mechanical/ design improvements/ inventions, the Authority decided that the NBA Secretariat may directly provide the No Objection Certificate (NOC) and the same need not be placed before the EC on ABS.
b) The Authority approved the formation of two sub-committees viz., i) sub-committee consisting of Dr. Shivendu K. Srivastava, Dr. Pratibha Brahmi and Dr. G.S Prasad to examine the discussion note sent by DBT and ii) sub-committee consisting of Dr. A.K Gosh, Dr. Ramakrishna, Dr. M. Sanjappa, Dr. G.S Prasad and Dr. D.J Bagyaraj to examine the issue of deposition of Indian bioresources in foreign repositories by Indian researcher for non-commercial purposes.
c) The Authority discussed the issue of purchasing Red Sanders wood by foreign buyer from the Indian who purchased the Red Sanders wood auctioned by Government of Andhra Pradesh and other agencies. The recommendation of the EC that the foreign buyer who intend to buy Red Sanders wood shall apply to the NBA in Form-I and pay benefit sharing amount of 5% on the amount between the purchasing price payable by him (foreign buyer) and the original price already paid by the Indian buyer at the time of auction, excluding Govt. taxes.

d) The Authority deliberated the revised ABS application forms and decided to form a Core Expert Group (CEG) consisting of Dr. R.S Rana, Member, NBA,

Dr. Biswajit Dhar, Member, NBA and Dr.T.P. Rajendran, Co-chair, EC on ABS to examine the revised forms and provide their recommendation to the Authority.

e) The Authority discussed the provision u/s 19(3) of the BD Act, 2002 and decided that the provision of opportunity to be heard under this section need not be imposed, in cases where the applicant fails to respond for queries sought by the NBA within the stipulated time.

2. Dr. R.S Rana, Member, NBA noted that among the applications considered by the EC on ABS, a few have been submitted prior to 2010 which are kept pending due to technical and administrative reasons. He noted that in few of these cases the applicants themselves have sought for closure, in response to the communications sent by the NBA Secretariat seeking clarifications/information. He recommended that NBA secretariat may initiate action to dispose off the pending applications which were received during 2006-2013, if any.

3. Further, the Authority reiterated the stand taken under agenda item no. 34.03 wherein "*the Authority decided where the Members approved/endorsed the recommendation of the EC on ABS, further action on the concerned applications may be initiated without awaiting issuance of approved Proceedings of the Authority meeting*".

Decision:

a) Authority approved the recommendations of the 33rd and 34th Meeting of EC on the ABS on applications and other issues.

b) Authority authorized the Chairman, NBA to provide NOC directly in cases where IPR is sought on mechanical/ design improvements/ inventions without placing before the EC on ABS. However, the same may be placed before the Authority for ratifications.

c) Authority decided that in case of foreign buyer who intends to buy Red Sanders wood shall apply to the NBA in Form-I and pay benefit sharing amount of 5% on the amount between the purchasing price payable by him (foreign buyer) and the original price already paid by the Indian buyer at the time of auction, excluding Govt. taxes.

d) Authority decided to form a Core Expert Group (CEG) consisting of Dr. R.S Rana, Member, NBA, Dr. Biswajit Dhar, Member, NBA and Dr.T.P.Rajendran, Co-chair, EC on ABS to examine the revised ABS application forms.

e) Authority decided that the opportunity to be heard u/s 19(3) of the BD Act, 2002 is not required in cases where the applicant fails to respond within the stipulated time for queries sought by the NBA.

f) The Authority approved the formation of two sub-committees viz., i) sub-committee consisting of Dr. Shivendu K. Srivastava, Dr. Pratibha Brahmi and Dr. G.S Prasad to examine the discussion note sent by DBT and ii) sub-committee consisting of Dr. A.K Ghosh, Dr. Ramakrishna, Dr. M. Sanjappa, Dr. G.S Prasad and Dr. D.J Bagyaraj to examine the issue of deposition of Indian bioresources in foreign repositories by Indian researcher for non-commercial purposes.

g) Authority decided to reject the applications which were recommended by the EC to initiate legal action against the applicants who violated the provisions of the BD Act.

h) Authority decided that when the members approved the recommendations of the EC on ABS without any modification, the secretariat may initiate further action on the concerned applications without awaiting the issuance of approved Proceedings of the Authority meeting.

Action: Secretary, NBA

35.04: To consider the Form-B applications

The Members were informed of the details and approval accorded by the Chairman NBA on four Form-B applications submitted by 1) Dr. Rachunliu Gaiduwan Kamei, Post - Doctoral Researcher for carrying 200 Caecilian specimens to Natural History Museum (NHM), London for post-doctoral research, 2) Shri. Rajurkar Ashish Balkrishna for Carrying Rice seed material for research at the International Rice Research Institute, Philippines, 3) Shri. Rajurkar Ashish Balkrishna for Transfer of Rice seed material for research at Duke University, North Carolina, USA and 4) Dr Parthiba Basu, Director, Centre for Pollination Studies & Department of Zoology, University of Calcutta for Sending 110 nos. of dry pinned specimen bees to Mr.Alain Pauly, Researcher, The Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences, Brussels, Belgium for taxonomic identification

Decisions:

The Authority ratified the approvals accorded by the Chairman, NBA on the four Form-B applications.

35.05: To consider the proposal of NIC for developing total module for online submission of application and offline processing

The Secretary, NBA apprised the Authority on the proposal received from the National Informatics Centre (NIC) for development of total module for online submission of application and offline processing of ABS applications. He also informed that for the development of the software/ database, the National Informatics Centre Services Incorporated (NICSI) has quoted Rs.40,28,462.00. Shri. Sanjay Singh Gahlout, Deputy Director General, NIC and Ms. Arpita, NIC were invited as

special invitees for the meeting. Shri Gahlout, informed the members about the structure of the project proposed for development and highlighted the special features available in the project. He also informed the members that an SMS alert system has been included in the proposal for the benefit of the applicants to ensure the application has been received by the NBA. It was also informed by him that the NICSI is the sister concern of the NIC to deal the financial aspects is concerned.

3. Thereafter, Ms.Arpita made a presentation on the project and explained the technical proposal in details to the members, particularly the approval process at different level of officer / stages.

4. It was also discussed that the development of the online application process could be implemented in stages. In the first stage, it was suggested to have the submission of application on-line functional.

5. The members also suggested introducing paper less working environment in the NBA secretariat to speed up the in house administrative related routine correspondences expeditiously. In response, the Secretary, NBA informed that as an initiative of paperless office, the NBA had a dialogue with the NIC, Chennai for procuring E-office application developed by NIC. It was informed that the said software is being used by many Central Government offices for their day to day routine administrative related works.

Decisions:

1. Authority approved the proposal submitted by the NIC, i.e. the financial outlay of Rs.40.29 lakhs

2. It was decided that as a first phase the receipt of applications through online may be developed and introduced from 1st Jan 2016.

3. Authority also approved the procurement of E-Office software from NIC.

4. Authority decided that the payment for the online application project may be released as – 40% before starting the project, 40% on completion of 75% of the work and remaining 20% may be released on completion of project as agreed upon.

5. The Authority directed the Secretariat to take further course of action on the above score, without waiting for the approved proceedings of the Authority.

Action: Secretary, NBA

35.06: Interim report from NIOT on harmful effects of Seaweed on the coral reefs island of Gulf of Mannar

The Secretary, NBA informed the Authority that as per the decision of the 33rd Authority under agenda item no. 33.02, the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) submitted an interim report on the status of seaweed invasion in the Gulf of Mannar vide email dated 22nd August, 2015 and requested more time to conclusively propose their final stand on the issue. The Authority took note of the status of issue.

35.07: To consider taking measures to oppose the grant of Intellectual Property Rights outside India on any biological resource obtained from India or knowledge associated with such biological resource which is derived from India, illegally.

The Secretary, NBA informed the Authority that as per Section 18(4) of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002 "*The National Biodiversity Authority may, on behalf of the Central Government, take any measures necessary to oppose the grant of intellectual property rights in any county outside India on any biological resource obtained from India or knowledge associated with such biological resource which is derived from India*".

2. It was informed that the NBA secretariat has noticed some non-Indian / Indian companies have filed patents outside India on the Indian biological resources. Those details were explained to the Members by the Technical officer (IPR), NBA. The Authority decided that the NBA Secretariat may take necessary measures against the IP applications/ applicants as per the provisions of the BD Act.

Decisions:

Authority directed the secretariat to take necessary measures to oppose the IP application.

Action: Secretary, NBA

35.08: To consider the training module for officers, staff and various stakeholders on legal, social, technical aspects of implementation of various provisions of BD Act, 2002

The Authority was apprised that the draft training module prepared by the NBA was presented to the EC members and the revised training module is placed in the Authority for approval. The Members appreciated the efforts of the expert committee Chair and members. The Authority decided that this module may be used

to develop user friendly guidelines for the different target groups as outlined in the training module. The work relating to the development of training module can be entrusted to the professional agencies who are well versed on this subject.

Decisions:

Authority approved the training module and directed the secretariat to develop user friendly guidelines for different target groups by engaging the professional agencies.

Action: Secretary, NBA

35.09: To consider the minutes of the meeting between NBA and DAC regarding ITPGRFA issues held on 13th August, 2015

The Authority was apprised that a meeting between NBA and the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) was held under the chairmanship of Shri Hem Pande on 13th August 2015 at MoEFCC, New Delhi to discuss the matter relating to exemption of crops listed in Annex-I of ITPGRFA as per the notification dated 17th December 2014. The Authority took note of the outcome of the meeting.

35.10: To consider the minutes of the 3rd and 4th meetings of the EC on Red Sanders

The Secretary, NBA informed the Authority that the 3rd and 4th meetings of EC on Red Sanders were held on 12th & 13th June, 2015 at the Institute of Wood Science and Technology (IWST), Bangalore and 18th July, 2015 at the National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai, respectively. The Members were apprised that the EC undertook field visits to the areas where Red Sanders naturally occurring / plantation raised and maintained by the Forest Departments at Hulikeri Forest Range in Mandya district, Karnataka, Thiruvallur, Tamil Nadu, Sesachalam hills, Tirumala hills and Renigunta Red Sanders depot at Andhra Pradesh. It was also informed that the first meeting of the Sub-committee-III was held on 29th August, 2015 at the National Biodiversity Authority, Chennai. The Authority took note of the minutes of the meetings.

2. It was apprised to the Members that the EC recommended that some of its members may be deputed to China to interact with the Government officials of China to gain better understanding about the marketing process of Red Sanders in China

and other related issues. The Authority in-principle agreed to the proposal and decided to forward the same to the MoEFCC for consideration.

Decisions:

Authority in-principle agreed to the proposal of deputing few members of the EC to China to gain better understanding about the marketing process of Red Sanders. In this connection, Authority directed the Secretariat to forward the proposal to MoEFCC for consideration.

Action: Secretary, NBA

35.11: To consider the minutes of the 2nd and 3rd meetings of the EC to revise the existing ABS agreements

The Authority was informed that the 2nd and 3rd meetings of EC to revise the existing ABS agreements was held on 12th June, 2015 at Bangalore and 18th August, 2015 at NBA, Chennai respectively. The Authority took note of the minutes of the meeting and directed the NBA Secretariat to extend the tenure of the Expert Committee.

Decision:

Authority directed the NBA Secretariat to extend the tenure of the EC till 31st December 2015 to revise the existing ABS agreements.

Action: Secretary, NBA

35.12: To consider the minutes of the fourth meeting of the EC on medicinal plants

The Secretary, NBA informed the Authority that the fourth meeting (first of the reconstituted) of the Expert Committee on Medicinal Plants was held on 10th July, 2015 at NBA, Chennai under the Chairmanship of Ms. Amarjeet Ahuja, IAS (Retd.). The Authority took note of the minutes of the meeting.

35.13: Draft notification of NTC – extension of time to SBB and public for providing their comments on the draft NTC notification

The Authority was informed that in the 10th National meeting of the SBBs held on 25th – 26th August, 2015, the State Biodiversity Boards sought more time to provide their comments on the draft notification of NTC. Therefore, an extension of time limit up to 15 days i.e upto 30th September, 2015 was provided to SBBs and public to provide their comments/ inputs. The Secretary, NBA informed that

comments were received from 15 SBBs and the same were considered by the EC on NTC. The Authority ratified the extension of time provided to the SBBs and public.

Decision:

Authority ratified the extension of time limit by 15 days i.e. up to 30th September, 2015 to the SBBs and public to provide their comments/ input on the draft notification of NTC.

Action: Secretary, NBA

35.14: Constitution of Expert/ Advisory Committees

The Office orders for constitution of the advisory committee to scrutinize the project proposals seeking financial assistance beyond 50 lakhs and the three sub-committees under the EC on Red Sanders to frame guidelines on different aspects outlined in the ToR were placed before the Authority for ratification.

Decision:

Authority ratified the constitution of these Expert/ Advisory committees.

Action: Secretary, NBA

35.15: Extension of time for Expert Committees

The office orders for extension of tenure for the EC on Red Sander, EC on Biodiversity Management Committee, EC to revise the existing ABS agreements and the Core Expert Group on designated repositories were placed before the Authority for ratification. The Authority decided to reconstitute the EC on Agro-biodiversity with tenure of one year at a time.

Decision:

a) Authority ratified the extension of tenure for the Expert Committees.
b) Authority directed the NBA Secretariat to re-constitute the EC on Agrobiodiversity and decided that the EC may be made operational on a continuous basis with tenure of one year at a time.

35.16: Tenth Annual Meeting of State Biodiversity Boards held on 25th – 26th August, 2015

The Authority was informed that the Tenth National meeting of State Biodiversity Boards was held on 25th -26th August, 2015 at Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi. The Authority took note of the various discussion held during the meeting.

35.17: To consider the draft Annual Report for 2014-15

The Secretary, NBA informed the Authority that the draft Annual Report for the year 2014-15 is prepared and if approved the same may be placed in the Parliament. The Authority directed the secretariat to carry out certain modifications in the text, photos and submit the report to the Ministry.

Decision:

Authority approved the draft Annual Report of 2014-15 with certain observations.

Action: Secretary, NBA

35.18: Additional office space on rental basis in TICEL Bio Park on 20/10 years lease basis

The Authority was informed that Dr. S. Subramaniyan, Member, NBA had submitted a letter dated 16th July 2015 regarding occupation of 34,100 sq.ft. (present area – 21,350 sq. ft. in the 5th floor + proposed additional area – 12,750 sq. ft. in the 3rd floor) in the same TICEL Bio Park building (Phase-I) at Chennai and enumerated the monetary benefits to the NBA for taking 34,100 sq.ft. on lease. The Authority decided that the NBA may continue in its efforts in seeking 2.5 acres of land for construction of NBA office from various sources.

Decision:

Authority did not approve the proposal and directed the secretariat to seek the land from other sources for NBA office premises and other facilities.

Action: Secretary, NBA

35.19.02: To consider the minutes of the 11th meeting of EC on NTC

The Secretary, NBA informed the Authority that the 11th meeting of the Expert Committee on Normally Traded Commodities (EC on NTC) was held on 29th September, 2015 at NBA Chennai. The EC examined the comments received from different quarters such as SBBs, Ministries/ Departments, Industries and the public on the draft notification of NTC hosted in the NBA website. After detailed discussion, the notification of 426 species/biological resources/items as NTCs was finalized.

2. The Authority discussed the draft notification with special reference to the issues raised by the SBBs especially on exclusion of wild collected species/

biological resources, species collected from mixed sources, etc. It was decided that the EC on NTC may look into all the issues including the species suggested by SBBs for exclusion, in detail and provide their recommendations to the Authority. In the meantime, barring those species suggested by the SBBs having conservation and sustainability concerns, the remaining may be forwarded to Ministry for notification.

Decision:

Authority directed the Secretariat to exclude the species (from wild) suggested by the SBBs from the list and forward the notification to the Ministry for notification.

Action: Secretary, NBA

35.19.03: Processing of Red Sanders applications

The Secretary, NBA informed the Authority that while disposing the applications for access to Red Sanders wood, the NBA is facing certain administrative constraints such as non-receipt of full amount of benefit sharing component from the applicant, difference of conversion rates on the date of auction and on the date of deposition of ABS amount to NBA A/c, etc. The Authority considered the issue and decided that the collection of benefit sharing component from the successful bidders may also be entrusted to the concerned auctioneers (Forest Department / DRI / authorized agencies) wherever they agree to do so and thereafter, the collected amount may be transferred to the NBA A/c.

Decision:

Authority decided that the benefit sharing component from the successful bidders may also be collected by the concerned auctioneers (Forest dept/ DRI/ authorized agencies) wherever they agree, and thereafter, the collected amount may be transferred to the NBA account.

Action: Secretary, NBA

35.19.04: To consider the Minutes of the meeting of the Advisory committee to examine the project proposals seeking financial support from NBA

The Secretary, NBA apprised the Authority that the Advisory committee was constituted by the NBA under the chairmanship of Dr.Biswajit Dhar, Member, NBA to examine the project proposals received by the NBA seeking financial assistance for more than Rs 50.00 lakhs. The committee met on 14th September 2015 at New Delhi to evaluate the proposal submitted by Pushpa Gujral Science City (PGSC) for setting up of a BIOMES gallery. The Advisory committee did not recommend the proposal

since 95% of the financial assistance sought was to meet the capital expenditure and institutional overhead charges.

2. The Authority deliberated the proposal in detail and informed that such proposals are great source for awareness creation about the biodiversity and related issues. Further, it was decided that NBA may fund only to display materials / exhibits/ standees etc. However, the advisory committee may examine the proposals on case by case basis.

3. In the instant case, the Authority decided that Pushpa Gujral Science City may be advised to send a revised proposal seeking financial assistance for the expenditure that may be required towards development of display material and other exhibits and not for any infrastructure and institutional overheads. Further, the Authority directed that the revised proposal submitted by PGSC should be supported by a detailed cost-benefit study to explain the economic viability of the project.

Decision:

1. Authority did not approve the proposal in the present form, and directed the NBA Secretariat to advise Pushpa Gujral Science City to submit a revised proposal seeking financial assistance for the expenditure that may be required only towards development of display material and other exhibits and not for any infrastructure and institutional overheads. The revised proposal submitted by PGSC should be supported by a detailed cost-benefit study to explain the economic viability of the project.

2. Authority also directed the secretariat / advisory committee that in future, such proposal be supported by detailed cost-benefit study to explain the economic viability of the project.

Action: Secretary, NBA

35.19.05: To consider the Minutes of the 2nd meeting of CEG on Designated Repositories

The Authority was apprised that the second meeting of the Core Expert Group (CEG) on Designated Repositories (DRs) under the chairmanship of Dr. R.S Rana, Member, NBA was held on 5th October 2015 at MoEFCC, New Delhi. The Authority took note of the minutes of the meeting.

2. In the meeting, the CEG stated that the provisions of the BDA required deposition of voucher specimens/reference sample under the following circumstances:-

1. Whenever a new taxon is discovered [Sec. 39(3)];
2. When applicants, persons/ entities specified u/s 3(2), apply in Form-I for access [Rule 14(6 viii)];
3. When applicants apply in Form B as notified under the ABS Regulations in November 2014, for carrying biological resource outside India with them for research or sending them to foreign institutions for taxonomic identifications, etc. [Regulation 13(1)].

3. The CEG recommended that voucher specimen/ reference samples are not required to be deposited in the designated repositories for applications submitted in Form-II, III and IV.

4. The Authority discussed the above issues in detail including the requirement of deposition of biological resources under collaborative research project. Further Authority took note of the progress made in the working guidelines and other issues.

Decision:

Authority decided that voucher specimen/ reference samples are not required to be deposited in the designated repositories for application submitted in form-II, III and IV.

Action: Secretary, NBA

35.19.06: To consider inviting the representatives of PPVFR Authority to the Authority Meeting.

The Chairman, NBA informed the Members of the meeting with the PPVFRA held on 13th October 2015. Dr.R.R.Hanchilal, Chairman, Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority and his team had a discussion with the officers of NBA and MoEFCC, on certain technical and administrative issues between two Authorities. One of the agenda item proposed by the PPVFRA is that the Chairperson or Registrar-General may be appointed as non-official member of National Biodiversity Authority. It was also pointed out that the Joint Secretary of MoEFCC is one of the members of PPV&FR Authority.

2. The matter was deliberated and decided that the Chairperson or Registrar General of PPVFRA may be invited as a special invitee to the Authority as and when the subject matter of PPVFRA arises.

Decision:

Authority decided that the Chairperson or Registrar General of PPVFRA may be invited as a special invitee as and when the subject matter of PPVFRA comes for discussion by this Authority, which would create an effective link between NBA and PPV&FRA

Action: Secretary, NBA

Annex-I

List of Participants

Official Members who participated			
1	Shri Hem Pande, IAS, Chairman, NBA and Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan Vayu Block, Fifth Floor, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi	2	Smt. Shomita Biswas CEO, National Medicinal Plant Board, Department of AYUSH, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, 3rd Floor, AYUSH Bhawan, B Block, G.P.O. Complex, I.N.A., New Delhi
3	Dr. R.K Singh, IAS., Joint Secretary (Seeds), Dept. of Agriculture and Cooperation, Room no. 244, Krishi Bhawan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi -110 001.	4	Dr. Jeet Singh Sandhu Deputy Director General(Crop Science), Division of Crop Science, ICAR, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi -110 001.
5	Dr.Renu Swarup Senior Advisor, Department of Biotechnology, CGO Complex, Block No. 2, Lodhi Road, New Delhi.	6	Dr. R. Kirubagaran Scientist G, National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Velachery-Thambaram Main Road, Narayanapuram, Pallikaranai, Chennai – 600 100
7	Shri T. Rabikumar, IFS., Secretary to the Authority		
Official Members who did not participate			
1	Dr. Anil Kumar, IFS Additional Director General of Forests, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan Vayu Block, Fifth Floor, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi	2	Shri Anil Sant, IAS, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhawan Vayu Block, Fifth Floor, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi
3	Dr. B.K Shukla Scientist G & Head Planning, coordination & Performance Management Department of Science & Technology, Technology Bhavan, New Mehrauli Road, New Delhi – 110 016.	4	Shri. Sushilesh Mohan Sahai, Director, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Room no. 736, A-Wing, 7th Floor, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi – 110001.
Non-Official Members who participated			
1	Dr.R.S.Rana Chairman, Bio-Link, D-43, Indraprastha Apartments, Sector 14, Rohini, New Delhi	2	Dr. S. Subramaniyan 54, VGP, Golden Sea View, Part-II, 2nd Main Road, 5th Cross Street, Palavakkam, Chennai.
3	Dr.Biswajit Dhar Professor of Economics, Jawaharlal Nehru University, I Block, 1796A,Chittaranjan Park, New Delhi.		
	Non-Official Members who did not participate		
1	Prof.M.K.Ramesh Professor of Law, National Law School, Nagarbhavi, Bangalore		

Special Invitees			
1	Dr.Sujata Arora, Director, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Indira Paryavaran Bhavan, Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi – 110 012	2	Dr, R,R Hanchilal, Chairman, Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority, Pusa, New Delhi.
3	Shri. Sanjay Singh Gahlout Deputy Director General, National Informatics Centre, Ministry of Communication & Information & technology, A Block, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi	4	Ms. Arpita, Scientist, National Informatics Centre, Ministry of Communication & Information & technology,A Block, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road,New Delhi
5	Dr. T.P. Rajendran, Co-chair of the EC on ABS, New Delhi	6	Dr.Manoj Kumar Modi Scientist C, Department of Biotechnology, CGO Complex, Block No. 2, Lodhi Road, New Delhi. *(Represented Dr. Renu Swarup)*