

KARNATAKA BIODIVERSITY BOARD
16th BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Date : 3/2/2011 Time : 11.00 AM

Venue: Chamber of Hon'ble Minister for Environment and Ecology,
Room No.141, 1st Floor, Vikasa Soudha, Bangalore.

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1. **Reading and recording the proceeding of 15th Board Meeting** – The proceedings of the 15th Board Meeting held on 30/9/2010 was communicated to all the members. In view of the above the revised proceedings may be adopted.
 2. Action taken on 15th Board Meeting proceeding.

Sl. No.	Subject	Action taken
8/11	Providing suitable staff to Karnataka Biodiversity Board	<p>The Director (Ayush) has been requested to depute Deputy Director. The orders are awaited.</p> <p>The post of DCF is vacant and hence PCCF has been also requested to depute one DCF.</p> <p>Against the vacant posts of Reader / Associate Professor Botany (Taxonomist), Reader /Associate Professor Zoology, it is proposed to appoint two Research Associate(for Botany & Zoology) on contract basis.</p> <p>Functioning of BMCs is most important for proper implementation of Biological Diversity Act. At present none of the 3400 BMCs, can be described as functioning. Hence, it is proposed to provide one District coordinator on contract basis in every District to help in preparation of PBRs, training to BMC members and sustainable utilization of bio-resources. He / she will be working under DCFs (Social Forestry). (Annexure-1)</p> <p>The proposal is placed before the board for consideration.</p>
10/1	Establishment of Dry Zone Biodiversity Conservation Site networks	<p>As per resolution of the Board, PCCF has been requested to raise seedlings of RET species and propagate them in the field. PCCF is requested to inform the Board about the action taken. (Annexure-2)</p>
12/22	Protection of Mangroves	<p>As per resolution of the Board, PCCF has been requested to identify the Mangrove patches for bringing the same under forest act for protection and conservation irrespective of their size.</p> <p>PCCF is requested to inform the Board about the action taken.</p>

13/6	Declaring Ambargudda as Heritage Site.	The draft preliminary notification proposing Ambargudda as Heritage Site is under consideration of the Government.
13/11	Bt. Brinjal – Bt. Crop	As per resolution of the Board, the report of National Biodiversity Authority is awaited. The Principal Secretary, FEE vide letter dated 27/4/2010 directed that, “ In case of Bt. Brinjal there is a moratorium therefore all the firms having the seeds should be asked to deposit the same. No commercial use is allowed. In case of violation the seeds should be confiscated.” Therefore in order to proceed further, it is appropriate that the matter may be referred to Law Department in consultation with Agriculture Department.
13/12	Vegetation Mapping by Forest Survey of India	The report on reduction in forest cover is awaited from Principal Chief Conservator of Forests.
14/1	Removal of some species from the purview of Biological Diversity Act 2002 under Section-40.	The Botanical Survey of India and Department of Botany in various Universities have been addressed for their opinion. The professor from Dept. of Botany, Gulbarga University has replied that 15 plants are vulnerable near threatened / endangered and critically endangered and their export in any form should not be allowed. Action will be taken after receiving some more responses. (Annexure-3)
14/3	Declaring Heritage Sites	The final notification on Netrani Island is under consideration of the Government. The Commodore incharge, Naval base Karwar has requested for handing over the Netrani island to Navy since it is the only place for carrying out gun fire practice on the West Coast. In their representation, the Indian Navy has stated that the Netrani / Pigeon Island did not form part of the territory of Karnataka at Independence as territorial waters extended till only 3 nautical miles assumed to be the range of a coastal battery (whereby a coastal state could then exercise control over those waters). This extent of territorial waters was increased to 6nm in 1956 and the present agreement of 12 nautical miles from the lowest low water line has come about after ratification of UNCLOS in 1970.They have a historical claim to the island in that firing practice on the rock (south of the island) has been prevalent for more than six decades. There has been no

		<p>report / indication that firing on the rock has adversely affected the flora / fauna in and around the island. Besides, the proposal for declaration of the island as a biodiversity site was not directly addressed to the Indian Navy. Hence they will continue to stake its claim on the island for reasons of national security. (Annexure-4)</p> <p>In view of the above, the Board is requested to deliberate the matter and pass appropriate resolution.</p>
14/4	Heritage Site Management Rules	The modified Heritage Site Management Rules have been submitted to National Biodiversity Authority. On approval, the modified rules will be placed in the Next Board Meeting.
14/5	Declaration of Heritage Trees	The proposal for declaring 10 Heritage trees in various parts of state, has been submitted to Government for consideration. Further, proposals are invited through advertisements (Kannada and English daily) from BMCs, NGOs, Govt. Departments and individuals to declare particular tree as Heritage Tree. After processing the proposals will be submitted to Government. (Annexure-5)
14/6	Accounts for 2009-10	The Audited Account and Annual Report for 2009-10 have been submitted to both the houses of Legislature.
14/8	Protection of Estuaries	The survey work of Kali and Aghanashini Estuaries to declare certain patches as Heritage sites taken up by Department of Marine Biology, Karnataka University, P.G.Center. Karwar sanctioned by KBB for Rs.35,000/-, dt 29/7/2010 is under progress. Further action will be taken after receipt of the report.
14/9	Preparation of documentary film	Action is being taken to call for Expression of Interest.
14/10	Conference of Biodiversity Management Committees in Bangalore	There is need to strengthen BMCs by taking Capacity Building programmes and in-situ and Ex-situ conservation works. Once some level of progress is achieved, conference may be called in Bangalore by entrusting work to some institute.

14/11	Amendment to Karnataka Tree preservation Act .	According to the decision of the Board in the interest of conservation of tree species the PCCF has been addressed in this matter to take necessary action. PCCF is requested to inform the Board about on the action taken.
14/13	Preparation of district level Action plan on Biodiversity	It is stated that Hon'ble Minister for Ecology and Environment and Chairman, Karnataka Biodiversity Board has addressed the Hon'ble Minister for RDPR to instruct the Chief Executive Officers of Zilla Panchayath to form Expert committees in the district and get the District level Action plan on biodiversity prepared in accordance with Karnataka State Strategy and Action Plan on biodiversity and submit the same for further action. Member Secretary has pursued the matter with Principal Secretary, RDPR for issuing the direction to ZPs.
14/14	Project proposal of Pilukula Nisarga Dhama Society (R)	In pursuance to Government order an agreement has been signed between Board and Society for taking up the work Rs.14.00 lakhs has been released.
14/16	Project proposal of Baseline profiling of Cultural-Heritage Biodiversity Resources in Select Eco-Zones of Karnataka.	As per resolution of the Board, the proposal is submitted to Government for issuing necessary Government order.
15/1	Declaration of Natural Heritage Sites	As discussed in 15 th Board meeting, the concerned Deputy Conservators of Forests have been asked to submit the proposals. (Annexure-6)
15/2	Declaration of Agro Biodiversity Heritage Site	Letters have been addressed to Asst. Director of Agriculture, Sirsi and Biodiversity management Committee, Banavasi for submission of proposal to declare some villages near Banavasi in Varada river basin as Heritage Sites. The subject will be placed before Expert Committee after receipt of the proposals.
15/3	Declaration of some river patches as Heritage Site	The Fisheries Department with lot of persuasion has declared 7 patches out of identified 16 patches, as Fish sanctuaries under Karnataka Inland fisheries (Conservation Development and Regulation Act – 1996). (Annexure-7) The remaining 9 patches are still to be

		declared. As discussed in the 15 th Board Meeting, opinion of Director, Dept. of Fisheries has been sought. Reply is awaited.
15/4	Dry zone Forest Biodiversity Conservation Sites Network.	Since these areas are inside Reserved Forests, opinion of Principal Chief Conservator of Forests is sought to declare these sites as Heritage Sites as decided in the 15 th Board Meeting. (Annexure-8)
15/6	Conservation of Traditional Varieties of paddy.	In order to popularize the conservation of Traditional varieties of paddy a workshop was organized at Banavasi on 06/09/2010. As decided by the Board an amount of Rs. 25,000/- was released to Deputy Conservator of Forests, Sirsi as financial assistance.
15/7	Composition of Expert Committee	As per the decision of the Board, nomination of Dr. Krishnamurthy as Chairperson of Agro Biodiversity Expert Committee is under consideration of Government.
15/9	Financial assistance to the Lake 2010 Symposium	As requested by Karnataka State Council for Science and Technology, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore an amount of Rs. 40,000/- was released for organizing the symposium "Lake 2010: Wetlands, Biodiversity and Climate Change 22 nd – 24 th December 2010.
15/10	Integrated Ecological Carrying Capacity study of Uttara Kannada District	An amount of Rs.20.00 lakhs was released as 1 st Installment and so far only Rs. 5.63 lakhs is reported as spent. As desired in the 15 th Board Meeting a presentation on the work done so far was made by the Principal Investigator and Co-principal Investigator of the project on 19 th December 2010 before the Addl.Chief Secretary, FEE. A letter has been addressed to Registrar, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore for submission of Utilization Certificate for released amount. The 2 nd Installment will be released after receipt of UC and progress report.
15/11	Project on floristic diversity, ecological uniqueness, and Conservation strategies of riparian flora of Nethravathi river system in Western Ghats" range of Dakshina Kannada.	As this project was approved in the 15 th Board Meeting an agreement was signed and an initial advance of Rs. 8,200/- has been released. Further releases will be made as per progress.

15/12	<p>Declaration of Sri. Lakshmikantha Swamy, Medicinal Eco-park, Devaragudda (Sri giri), Padmanabhanagar, Bangalore as heritage site.</p>	<p>As decided in the 15th Board meeting the report of the enquiry conducted by the Assistant Conservator of Forests, KBB is placed for kind perusal. It is found that while laying chain link fence there has been damage to trees in the park. At present there is stay against the laying of stone pathway by Court on the WP No 20078 / 2010-PIL. Sri. Dashavathara Lakshmikantha Swamy Temple Trust has given a representation to Forest Department to register forest offence cases against the offenders and declare this site as protected forest under Section 33 of Karnataka Forest Act.</p> <p>Based on the request by Sri. Dashavathara Lakshmikantha Swamy Temple Trust, Padmanabanagara, Bangalore, a letter has been addressed to Government to declare this land as protected forest. (Annexure-9)</p> <p>Action taken by Forest Department may kindly be informed to the Board.</p>
15/13	<p>Financial assistance to Raichur Vignana Kendra for establishment of biodiversity park.</p>	<p>A reply is awaited from Deputy Conservator of Forests (Social Forestry) Raichur.</p>

New Subjects

16/1	<p>Establishment of Dry Zone Biodiversity in-situ Conservation sites network.</p>	<p>It is proposed to take up the following activities.</p> <p>1. Herbarium Assistance To keep and maintain plant species which have been collected during first year of the project, while documentation and inventorisation, it requires a herbarium cabinet with necessary instruments. The estimated cost is Rs. 36,000/-</p> <p>2. Botanical Survey In order to cover more number of plant species in 13 sites, it is proposed to include 2 more seasonal surveys. The estimated cost is Rs. 1.75 lakh / season.</p> <p>3. Identification and establishment of five in- situ conservation sites. This work is proposed in the districts of 1.Ramanagar, 2.Chikkaballapur, 3.Haveri, 4.Gadag, 5.Yadgir at rate Rs. 2.413lakhs /site with total cost of Rs. 12.065 lakhs.</p>
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16/2	Calling for Expression of Interests on Integrated Ecological Carrying Capacity study of 6 districts of Western Ghats.	<p>It was decided in the 13th Board meeting held on 26/2/2010 (Subject -12/14) to conduct Integrated Ecological Carrying Capacity study in other districts of Western Ghats as done in Uttara Kannada districts. For the above purpose the action is being taken to call for Expression of interests from Scientific Institutions / Universities / Government organizations. (Annexure-11)</p>
16/3	Declaration of Mango Farm as Agro Biodiversity Heritage Site.	<p>In Kirugavalu village of Malavalli taluk, Mandya District, a Mango orchard is being maintained by a farmer. It is said that this orchard was established during the period of Tippu Sultan by one of his soldiers. This orchard contains 120 traditional varieties of mango. The farmer who is maintaining this orchard is also propagating 150 traditional varieties of rice apart from maintaining different varieties of Ragi and other cereals. (Annexure-12)</p> <p>This place can be considered for declaration as Agro Biodiversity Heritage Site. The matter is placed for kind perusal of the Board.</p>
16/4	Project on Conservation and Utilization of Deep water Rice Genetic Resources of the Varada River Course in the Western Ghats of Karnataka.	<p>A project proposal was submitted by Dr..G.S.Mohan, Junior Breeder (Rice), Agriculture Research Station, Ponnampet, Kodagu, (U.A.S. Bangalore) for Rs.6.18 lakhs, the project duration is two years. The proposal is placed for consideration of the Board. (Annexure-13)</p>
16/5	Financial Assistance to conduct National Seminar on Forest Resources: Diversity, Utilization and Conservation.	<p>Organizing Secretary, National Seminar on Forest Resources: Diversity, Utilization and Conservation, University of agricultural sciences, GKVK, Bangalore, has submitted a proposal requesting for financial assistance of Rs. 2.00 lakhs to conduct the above said</p>

		<p>seminar. The seminar is scheduled to be held from 9th to 11th March 2011. The proposal is placed for consideration of Board. (Annexure-14)</p>
16/6	<p>Incentives to farmers who are maintaining Traditional Varieties of crops.</p>	<p>Now a day due to high yielding varieties and hybrids of crop plants the cultivation of Traditional / local varieties of these crops have decreased to alarming level. If this trend continues, in the future we may lose these invaluable local varieties which affect the Agro biodiversity in general and Agriculture in particular by reducing the availability of diverse genes for Crop Improvement Programme.</p> <p>To safeguard this rich agro biodiversity there is a need to identify the farmers who are conserving this rich biodiversity of Agricultural crops and these farmers are need to be supported financially.</p> <p>The issue will be placed before the agro biodiversity expert committee for deliberation and fixing up quantum of financial assistance.</p> <p>The matter is placed for consideration of the Board.</p>
16/7	<p>Biodiversity Awareness programmes in Eco clubs established under NGC programme.</p>	<p>Under National green corps programme 250 school/colleges are to be identified in each district. Each identified school is supposed to form one Eco club. These Eco clubs act as conduits for awareness of the society on environmental issues. Presently EMPRI is implementing the NGC programme in Karnataka by providing Rs.2,500/- per school per year to carry out different activities of this programme.</p> <p>It is proposed to take advantage of these clubs and conduct biodiversity awareness programme, by the board, through resource persons, in selected schools and colleges of the districts where Eco Clubs are formed. 10 schools and one PU college per district will be selected (Schools from gram panchayats and PU colleges from Taluk panchayaths where BMCs have been formed).</p> <p>Master trainers of NGC programme in each district will be asked to conduct biodiversity awareness programmes at the district level to teachers-in-charge of each eco club of respective school of the district. The teacher-in-charge in turn will conduct the biodiversity awareness programmes in the respective eco-clubs. Selection of Eco clubs will be done with the help of Education Dept.</p>

		Amount of Rs 2,500/- per eco-club is proposed to be provided by the Board for conducting biodiversity awareness programmes. The matter is placed before the board for kind consideration.
16/8	Providing incentives to owners of the Heritage trees.	<p>The owners of the heritage trees may be provided with the financial assistance as an incentive to continue their noble work of conserving these age old heritage trees. This money may be utilized for fencing and other necessary activities. The issue may be referred to Expert Committee on Heritage Sites to make appropriate recommendations.</p> <p>The matter is placed before the Board for kind consideration.</p>
16/9	Providing financial assistance to BMCs for protection of Biodiversity Heritage Sites	<p>The three biodiversity heritage sites finally notified by Government of Karnataka till date are:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nallur tamarind grove in Devanahalli taluk of Bangalore rural district. 2. Parts of GKVK campus of UAS, Bangalore. 3. Hogrekhan giri in Kadur taluk of Chikkamagalore district. <p>For protection of these Heritage Sites it is proposed to provide financial assistance to BMCs of respective sites.</p> <p>This amount can be spent on providing watch and ward facility, fire protection, fixing of display boards and signage. An amount of Rs. one lakh per site may be provided. The matter is placed for the consideration of the Board.</p>
16/10	Construction of agriculture museum building in E-10 Block of GKVK Campus	<p>167 ha of GKVK Campus of UAS, Bangalore has been declared as Biodiversity Heritage Site by the Government.</p> <p>E-10 block of this campus has 8 ha of area out of which only 6 ha land is included under heritage site. While proposing the heritage site, entire E-10 block is shown in the plan.</p> <p>UAS, Bangalore has planned to construct a museum building in 2 ha of E-10 block, which is not included under heritage site.</p> <p>ICAR is the main funding agency for this project. This project involves construction of museum building and establishment of orchards of fruits crops. (Annexure-15)</p> <p>The matter is put up for kind information of the Board.</p>

**Chief Conservator of Forests
and Member Secretary.**

**KARNATAKA BIODIVERSITY BOARD
16th BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

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Additional Agenda

Agenda No : 16/11

Sub: Organizing Awareness Programmes on Environment through out state by Vanamitra organization.

Vanamitra organization has requested Addl.Chief Secretary, Dept. of FEE, Govt. of Karnataka requested for encouragement and support in their effort in creating knowledge about environment, ecosystems and conducting Awareness programmes on Environment through out state. The Secretary (E&E) Govt. of Karnataka has directed to place this matter in 16th Board Meeting. **(Annexure-16)**. The same is placed for consideration of the Board.

Agenda No : 16/12

Sub: Financial assistance to “Karnataka Grammeena Paramparika Vaidya Parishat (R).

Karnataka Grammeena Paramparika Vaidya Parishat (R) Nallur, Ron taluk, Gadag district has requested for financial assistance to conduct second state level Conference of Nati Vaidyas **(Annexure-17)**. The proposal is placed for consideration of the Board.

Agenda No : 16/13

Sub: Financial assistance to Dept. of Botany, University of Dharwad.

Chairman, Dept. of Botany, University of Dharwad and Organising Secretary for National conference on “**Biodiversity and Biotechnology for sustainable development**” has requested for financial assistance of Rs. 50,000/- for conducting above said conference. **(Annexure-18)** The matter is put up for consideration of the Board.

**Chief Conservator of Forests
and Member Secretary**

Agenda No : 16/14

Sub: Annual plan of operation for balance amount
of Rs. 22.393 lakhs- reg .

An action plan has been prepared for remaining amount of Rs. 22.393 lakhs under establishment of Kuvempu Bio-park project (**Annexure-19**) The Board is requested to consider the proposal.

**Chief Conservator of Forests
and Member Secretary**