



Ympäristöministeriö
Miljöministeriet
Ministry of the Environment



Public participation in international biodiversity matters in Finland

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The National Working Group on Biodiversity

- Formally appointed by the MoE since 2007, currently appointed for 2017-2021
- Main objective: Facilitate the implementation and monitoring of the national BD strategy and action plan, which are based on our 2030 targets on the EU and international level.
- Members: Ministries, state and local administration, state agencies, the scientific community, the Sámi Parliament, as well as environmental NGOs and other stakeholders, including a youth umbrella organisation. + Experts
- The WG's tasks include
 - Contributing to the preparation of national positions on topical BD issues
 - Strong international links; recent discussions have concerned the Post 2020 BD-negotiations, the Dasgupta-report, the role of BD in development aid
- Discussions in the WG are active and candid



Sub-WG on International BD issues

- Members: Some of the BD WG members (including environmental NGOs and the Central Union of Agricultural Producers and Forest Owners) as well as the lead negotiators of all BD Conventions and Protocols + Experts
- Focuses on international BD issues
 - Preparation of positions and Finland's participation in EU affairs and international negotiations
 - Exchange of information, preparation of reports, promotion of synergies between MEAs
 - Monitoring the implementation of the international aspects of our national BD strategy and action plan
- All positions and reports are approved in the BD WG before submission to international forums



Sub-WG on CBD Article 8j issues

- Members: Sámi representatives (incl. Chair), Ministries, Parks&Wildlife Finland, researchers + experts
- Prepares Finland's positions for and participation in international negotiations, namely CBD meetings.
- Prepares and implements actions related to protection of traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples stemming from the CBD Article 8j and our national BD strategy and action plan
- Implements other decisions stemming from the CBD Article 8j WG
- Promotes knowledge of the Sámi people and of the impact of climate change and BD loss on the traditional knowledge of the Sámi



Other relevant aspects

- Coordination schedules do not always allow for formal WG discussions of positions before international conferences
- CBD delegations Include Sámi representatives, environmental NGOs and other stakeholders
 - Coordination meeting at the beginning of the year with NGOs to allocate funding
- Good informal cooperation among WG members



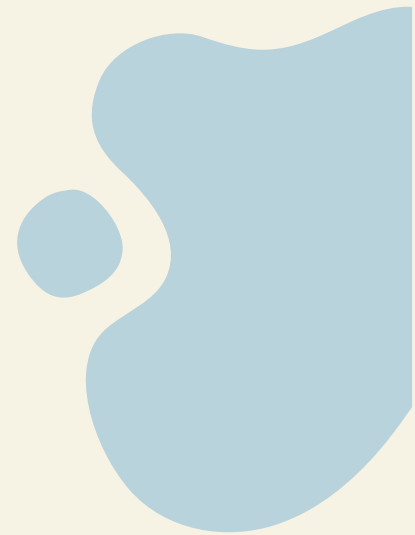
Thank you for your attention!

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