

Contact information		
Surname:	Seishu	
Given Name:	Okuda	
Government (if applicable):	Japan	
Organization:	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	
E-mail:	seishu.okuda@mofa.go.jp	
Title of document reviewed:	Annex of notification Ref: SCBD/OES/DC/RH/84326 dated 20 June 2017	
Comments		
Page #	Para #	Comment
2	3	We think no new and emerging issue should be added to the agenda of the next SBSTTA, as recommended by Australia, Canada, and the European Union and thus, support the opinion of these three parties.
2	Summary information	As regards the proposal submitted from an individual (Babagana Abubakar), proposals on new and emerging issues should be submitted only by Parties of the CBD or relevant organizations as set out in paragraph 8 of Decision IX/29.

2	5	<p>Regarding questions in paragraph 5 of the Annex, Japan's comments are as follows.</p> <p>(a) Should paragraph 12 of decision IX/29 be understood as implying that an issue qualifies only if all seven criteria are fulfilled or can it qualify if some of these criteria are fulfilled?</p> <p>Comment: Regarding the criteria for "new and emerging issues" in paragraph 12 of Decision IX/29, we think at least (a) to (e) should be all satisfied in order to regard any issue as "new and emerging". On the other hand, criteria (f) and (g) simply state impact on human welfare and economic benefits, and therefore they may be, but are not necessarily required in considering an issue as being "new and emerging issues".</p> <p>(b) Should paragraph 12 of decision IX/29 be understood as implying that an issue qualifies only if it has potential negative consequences for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity (risk, impact) or can it qualify if it focuses on opportunities to advance the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity?</p> <p>Comment: We interpret that the criterion (c) in paragraph 12 of Decision IX/29 requires the presence of negative urgent impacts on biodiversity. Therefore, we consider that only if an issue has such actual or potential negative impacts, it could be qualified as "new and emerging issues".</p> <p>(c) Are there adjustments to the criteria that should be considered?</p> <p>Comment: If paragraph 12 of Decision IX/29 is to be revised, our comment of (a) above, i.e. satisfying all criteria (a) to (e) in paragraph 12 of Decision IX/29, could be stated in the chapeau of that paragraph.</p> <p>(d) Are there additional criteria that should be added to the ones listed in paragraph 12 of decision IX/29?</p> <p>Comment: There is no issue that was identified as a "new and emerging issue" until the present SBSTTA meetings using the seven criteria in paragraph 12 of Decision IX/29. Therefore it is premature and we should first build our experience with current criteria to decide if a new criterion should be added or not.</p>
---	---	---

Please submit your comments to secretariat@cbd.int or by fax at +1 514 288 6588.