

**ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'EDUCATION,
LA SCIENCE ET LA CULTURE**

Conseil international de coordination du Programme sur l'Homme et la biosphère (MAB)

Trente-et-unième session

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Point 14 de l'ordre du jour provisoire: Directives techniques pour les réserves de biosphère (DTRB)

1. À sa 29e session, le Conseil international de coordination du Programme sur l'Homme et la biosphère (CIC-MAB) a décidé d'élaborer des directives techniques pour les réserves de biosphère (https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000253591_fre).

2. Le Secrétariat du MAB a rendu compte des progrès accomplis jusqu'en juillet 2018 lors de la 30e session du CIC-MAB. Le CIC-MAB a approuvé le mandat et la feuille de route du groupe de travail TGBR, mais a décidé d'organiser un deuxième appel à candidature pour les experts souhaitant siéger au groupe de travail TGBR pour améliorer la répartition régionale et du genre inégale. Il a été demandé au Secrétariat du MAB d'envoyer une lettre aux États Membres leur demandant de désigner de nouveaux experts. (http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/SC/pdf/FINAL_30_MAB_ICC_REPORT_fr.pdf).

3. Ce document rend compte de la mise en œuvre des décisions ci-dessus du CIC-MAB et fait le point sur l'évolution des DTRB.

Rapport sur le deuxième appel à propositions:

4. En juillet 2018, 47 experts de 23 États membres ont composé le groupe de travail sur le DTRB (GT-DTRB) répartis en quatre sous-groupes thématiques (SGT): le zonage des réserves de biosphère; gouvernance des réserves de biosphère; politique & plans de gestion et stratégie financière, et gestion et suivi des données.

5. Après un long processus de candidature, le Secrétariat du MAB a reçu 25 candidatures éligibles des pays suivants:

Région	Pays	Nominations par pays
ALC		
	Mexique	3 incl. 1 femme
	Colombie	3 incl. 1 femme
	Cuba	4 incl. 1 femme
	Argentine	1 femme
AFR		
	Sénégal	1
	Soudan	1
	Nigeria	3
	Côte d'Ivoire	5 incl. 4 femme
ASPAC		
	Australie	1 femme
	Corée	2 incl. 1 femme
	Pakistan	1
Total		25

Deux candidatures n'étaient pas éligibles faute de CV et deux experts auto-retirés.

En novembre 2018, le Bureau du MAB a approuvé la composition suivante:

Groupe de travail DTRB: 70 experts de 33 pays dont 15 de l'Amérique latine et des Caraïbes, 23 de l'Europe et de l'Amérique du Nord, 23 de l'Afrique et 8 de l'ASPAC; 33% des experts sont des femmes.

Sous-groupes thématiques (SGT):

- **Zonation des réserves de biosphère :** 17 experts de 15 pays dont 3 de l'Amérique latine et des Caraïbes, 5 de l'Europe et d'Amérique du Nord, 7 de l'Afrique et 2 de l'ASPAC; 29% des experts sont des femmes.

- **Gouvernance des réserves de biosphère :** 17 experts de 17 pays, dont 4 de l'Amérique latine et des Caraïbes, 7 de l'Europe et d'Amérique du Nord, 4 de l'Afrique et 2 de l'ASPAC; 29% des experts sont des femmes.

- **Politique, plan de gestion et stratégie financière :** 20 experts de 19 pays, dont 5 de l'Amérique latine et des Caraïbes, 6 de l'Europe et d'Amérique du Nord, 5 de l'Afrique et 3 de l'ASPAC; 35% des experts sont des femmes.

- **Gestion et suivi des données:** 16 experts de 14 pays, dont 3 de l'Amérique latine et des Caraïbes, 5 de l'Europe et de l'Amérique du Nord, 7 de l'Afrique et 1 de l'ASPAC; 38% des experts sont des femmes.

Les chartes de statistiques détaillées de la liste approuvée en novembre 2018 figurent dans le document SC-19/CONF.231/INF.4

Mise à jour des travaux du groupe de travail TGBR (GT-DTRB) et des sous-groupes thématiques (SGT)

6. Toutes les réunions du GT-DTRB et du SGT sont virtuelles et organisées par le Secrétariat du MAB. Les documents de travail sont en anglais.

7. Après la 30e session du CIC-MAB, le GT-DTRB a tenu une réunion le 26 juillet 2018 pour examiner un projet actualisé de l'esquisse des DTRB (prototype II du DTRB) préparé par le secrétariat du MAB, afin de décider du processus de nomination des Présidents et Rapporteurs du GT-DTRB et des SGT.

8. Les SGT ont commencé leurs travaux en janvier 2019. Trois d'entre eux ont commencé à rédiger le contenu des DTRB par domaines prioritaires et à se réunir régulièrement, deux fois par mois (annexe I).

9. Depuis le début des travaux des DTRB, un certain nombre d'experts n'ont pas participé activement aux réunions. Par conséquent, en tant que Président des SGT, le Secrétariat du MAB a envoyé un courrier électronique à chaque membre non actif pour lui demander de confirmer son intérêt. La liste finale des 70 experts approuvés, ainsi que des membres du SGT figure dans le document d'information SC-19/CONF.231/INF.5.

10. Afin d'améliorer la communication et le partage de documents, le Secrétariat du MAB a créé un espace de travail collaboratif dédié aux DTRB dans UNESTTEAM. Il est accessible à tous les membres actifs des SGT.

11. Il faut souligner que MAB France apporte son soutien au développement du DTRB. Un stagiaire est détaché auprès du Secrétariat du MAB pour une période de six mois, de février 2019 à juillet 2019.

12. Afin de documenter le travail de développement des DTRB, des enquêtes ont été envoyées aux membres du comité consultatif afin de recueillir leurs points de vue et expériences en rapport avec les DTRB (Annexe II A&B). Les réponses seront partagées sur l'espace de travail UNESTTEAM. Une interaction directe entre certains membres du comité consultatif et le groupe de travail stratégique pourrait être organisée selon les besoins.

13. Le projet de table des matières du DTRB de mai 2019 (Annexe III) sera soumis au Bureau du MAB pour approbation lors de la 31e session du CIC-MAB.

14. Le Conseil du MAB est invité à:

- a) prendre note de ce rapport et approuver la décision du Bureau du MAB sur le projet de table des matières du TGBR (Annexe III)
- b) orienter le travail du TGBR
- c) encourager les États membres à aider le secrétariat du MAB à élaborer les DTRB.

ANNEX I: CALENDAR OF THE TGBR MEETINGS & LIST OF BUREAU MEMBERS**TGBR working group**

Date	location	Main outcome
06/07/2018	Skype meeting	Draft TORs of the WG Draft Road map of the WG
07/26/2018	Face to face meeting in Palembang	finalize draft TORs and Road map to be presented to MAB ICC
09/26/2018	Skype meeting	Discussion on TGBR outline Nomination of Chair and Rapporteurs

Policy Management thematic sub-group

Date	Location	Main outcome
01/29/2019	Skype meeting	Election of interim Chair and Rapporteur Discussion on table of contents and agree on way forward for the drafting work Distribution of responsibilities among the experts by items of the priority area

Contributions of participants by mail and on a shared document

Governance thematic sub-group

Email discussions on going on table of content – work in progress

Zonation thematic Group

Date	Location	Main outcomes
26/03/2019	Skype meeting	Election of the Chair Discussion on the way of working in-group of the TSG Discussion on table of contents
09/04/2019	Skype meeting	Discussion on specifics items of the draft between the experts Presentation of the shared literature
24/04/2019	Skype meeting	Introduction to the UNESTTEAM platform Discussion on specifics items of the draft between the experts Distribution of the responsibilities between the participants

Monitoring thematic sub-group

Date	Location	Main outcomes
22/03/2019	Skype meeting	Election of the Chair Discussion on the way of working in-group of the TSG Creation of thematic sub working group and a pool online for the participants
08/02/2019	Skype meeting	Election of the Rapporteur Distribution of the responsibilities between the participants Discussion on the way of working in-group of the TSG
02/05/2019	Skype meeting	Distribution of the responsibilities between the new participants Discussion on contributions on the shared document Introduction to the UNESTTEAM platform

List of Chairs and Rapporteurs of TSG

TSG	CHAIR	RAPPORTEUR
Governance	M. Martin Price (United Kingdom)	Ms. Mireille Jardin (France)
Data Management and Monitoring	M. Sergio Leandro (Portugal)	Ms. Beth Kaplin (Rwanda)
Policy, Management and business plans	M. Lütz Moller (Germany) a.i	Ms. Ruida Pool-Stanvliet (South Africa)
Zonation	M. Reinaldo Francisco Ferreira Lourival (Brazil)	Ms. Catherine Cibien (France)

ANNEX II A: GENERAL SURVEY FOR THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

In the framework of the redaction of the *technical guidelines of biosphere reserves (TGBR)*, we would like to ask you some questions on your experience as member of the Advisory Committee. This work is divided in four thematic sub-group: Governance, Zonation, Management & Policy and Monitoring.

We kindly invite you to illustrate the items with concrete examples if you can!

I. GOVERNANCE

Open issue: *What were the principal difficulties in terms of governance you may observed throughout the revision or the designation of new biosphere reserves? Are there specific questions which caused you any difficulties?*

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1. Local participation

- Problem according to **local participation**? Are there different interpretations of the vision of the “participation”?

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- Are there different ways of organizing the participation and its integration into the governance structure?

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- How should endorse and signs the nomination form?

E.g: in the BR of the Cevennes, some of the municipalities did not signed the Charter of the parc. For this reason the parc did not met the conditions of BR at the last report.

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- Did you meet some difficulties in the Integration of **indigenous people** in the governance? Their vision of biodiversity? The political organization?

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- What are the issues according the role of the **private sector**? Are their **different models of integration** of private sector in the BR governance?
Integration VS financing, element to select private enterprises or are all of them welcome?

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2. Institutional mechanism

- What kind of difficulties you noted in determining **the role of national authorities**?

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- What kind of difficulties you noted in determining the **function of management authorities** of the three areas? (Core, buffer and transition)?

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- In terms of governance, what are the issues of different kind of **ownership title** of biosphere reserve (private, public...). What kind of **mechanism/ Authority model** are set up? What are the advantages or weaknesses of the different models?

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II. MANAGEMENT

Open issue: *What are the difficulties encountered in the implementation of a management plan of BR ? ? Are there specific questions which caused you any difficulties ?*

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- Does this **notion (management plan = MP)** build a consensus? Are there various categories of visions?

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- Do exist difficulties to integrate in the long run the **3 aspects in the MP?** (Conservation, development structures and green economy?)

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- According to the **business strategy**, what are the principal issues? According to the **fund raising**?

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- According to the **marketing strategy** and the **communication strategy**, what are the **principal difficulties** you have met during your experience in the AC? : branding, logo settlement

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- Difference between plan and policy? What are the most frequently designed?

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III. ZONATION

Open issue: What are the principal issues connected with the zonation of BR ? ? Are there specific questions which caused you any difficulties?

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- What are the difficulties faced with the **exteriors limits**? (geographical, ecological, political, cultural limits) How the advisory committee decides **the area is adapted to coordinated the three functions of a BR?**

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- Areas: how you determine that **the 3 areas (Core, Buffer and Transition) are relevant in terms of the three functions** (conservation, development structures, green economy)?

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- Did you noted some difficulties **in building a BR on a pre-existing governance structure** like a National/regional parc, a protected area ... ?

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- Do the **notions of core area, buffer area and transition area** build consensus

Remind to develop some examples for each category if you can!

Core: difference between German vision of the core area: no management VS French vision: strict interpretation of the statutory framework: the protection of the core area must be organized according the objectives of the BR (but who decides of the coherence? How?) How make others countries?

Buffer: How do you interpret the framework statutory if it does not specify some case?
e.g BR in Spain do not meet the criteria because there was a nuclear central on his buffer area (statutory framework do not specify it is forbidden)

e.g: sometimes, there is no place around the core area to set up a buffer zone (e.g BR Gorges du Gardon), what should we do in this case? How do we consider the protection of the core area is sufficient?

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- How do you chose at the AC the **activities, which are compatible**? By which logic of interpretation for each area (Core, Buffer and transition) ? Are there oppositions?

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Transition: Do this notion build consensus?

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IV. MONITORING

Open issue: According to the monitoring, what kind of difficulties you noted during your experience at the Advisory committee? *Are there specific questions which caused you any difficulties?*

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- What are the difficulties to build **performance indicators**?
For the 3 areas?
For the long run?

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- Which **criterion need indicators**? Does that build consensus?

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- By which logic do we decide the **conditions of excellence awards**?

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- What problem do you encountered **for periodic report**?

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- Do you heard about difficulties in the **building of information center**?

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ANNEX 2B: SURVEY FOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBER - TSG GOVERNANCE

For each issue, please can each of you briefly indicate what you feel is - or are:

- the main problem(s) that should be looked at;
- the various solutions which you know have been found to solve the problem;
- what sort of guidance or recommendation would be needed to help countries or sites to improve the situation or simply deal with the issue.

I. Local participation (elements of this section will include sub-sections a) before nomination and b) after designation

- Engagement strategy development: early engagement and building long-term relationships
- Stakeholder mapping: how to proceed and how to use it
- Local participation: how to organize it, mechanisms to ensure local participation and techniques for conflict resolution
- Inclusion of areas where traditional lifestyles and indigenous uses of biodiversity are practiced (including sacred sites) cf Seville Strategy, Goal II, 3
- Role of the agency responsible for the core area
- Role of local authorities and other government agencies/organisations (at any level from local to national)
- Involvement of the private sector

II. Institutional/governance mechanisms

- Role of national authorities and/or, in federal states, regional authorities
- Establishment of a biosphere reserve from 1) an existing protected area or 2) ex nihilo
- Mechanisms to manage human use and activities in the buffer zones (art 4 item 7 a): regulatory and contractual policies, incentives, joint decision-making
- Authority or mechanism: difference between authority and mechanism, composition, regulatory/enforcement powers (police powers)
- Institutional mechanisms to manage, coordinate and integrate programmes and activities of the BR
- Models for authorities and mechanisms; and their advantages and weaknesses
 - 1) Existing body of a protected area, (in some cases, extending beyond its boundaries), or of part of the area
 - a. e.g., National Park, Regional Nature Park, cooperation Nature/Marine Park
 - 2) Structure under specific national legislation on BRs
 - a. e.g. Spain, Mexico
 - 3) Public governing body adapted to the needs of the BR
 - a. e.g. a municipality with the addition of a management committee and associations
 - 4) Governance of an Island
 - a. e.g., Minorca, Isle of Man
 - 5) Public
 - a. e.g., grouping of public institutions including municipalities
 - 6) Private
 - a. e.g., association or charity under national law
 - 7) Public/private partnerships (with clear definition of roles and responsibilities)
 - 8) Ad hoc structure
 - 9) Others

ANNEX III: Draft Outline of the Technical Guidelines for Biosphere Reserves (TGBR)

Part I. Background information on biosphere reserves

I. Introduction

- A. Background and purpose of the TGBR
- B. MAB programme
 - 1. What is a biosphere reserve?
 - 2. The World Network of Biosphere Reserves
 - 3. Transboundary biosphere reserves
 - 4. Multi-designated sites
 - 5. Biosphere reserves as protected areas (IUCN classifications) and as areas beyond protection
 - 6. MAB – an intergovernmental programme of UNESCO, bodies and decision-making
 - 7. Context (2030 Agenda, Rio conventions)
- C. Drafting procedure
- D. Open access policy

II. Nomination of a new biosphere reserve

- A. Biosphere reserves as learning sites for sustainable development: Three integrated functions (Article 3, Seville)
 - 1. Conservation
 - 2. Development
 - 3. Logistical support
 - 4. What does a functioning model for biosphere reserves look like?
- B. How to nominate a biosphere reserve
 - 1. How to initiate a nomination
 - 2. How to prepare a nomination file
 - Info box/case study
 - 3. What is the Designation Procedure? (Article 5, Seville)
 - 4. How to nominate transboundary biosphere reserves
 - 5. What about multi-designated sites?

C. How to participate in the WNBR

1. Scientific research

- Subregional
- Regional
- Global
- Publication

2. Environmental /sustainable development education and training

- Subregional
- Regional
- Global

3. Regional and thematic networks

4. Twinning partnerships

5. Collaborative projects

6. UNESCO networks

D. How to extend an existing biosphere reserve

E. How to rename a biosphere reserve

F. How to voluntarily withdraw a biosphere reserve

G. What is the WNBR Coding System?

Part II. Zonation in biosphere reserves

I. Introduction

Definition of zones in the Statutory Framework of the WNBR:

- a) A legally constituted core area or areas devoted to long-term protection, according to the conservation objectives of the biosphere reserve, and of sufficient size to meet these objectives;
- b) A buffer zone or zones clearly identified and surrounding or contiguous to the core area or areas, where only activities compatible with the conservation objectives can take place;
- c) An outer transition area where sustainable resource management practices are promoted and developed.

II. Definition of the 'zonation' notion

- A. Zonation: A tool for integrated management that incorporates the three functions of the biosphere reserve
- B. Flexibility of the biosphere reserve model
- C. The different models of biosphere reserve

III. External limits of the biosphere reserve

- A. How to build a biosphere reserve around a protected area (centrifugal/cluster)
- B. How to build a biosphere reserve ex nihilo
- C. How do you delimit the border of the biosphere reserve?
- D. How to ensure that, in spite of borders, a biosphere reserve can inspire and disseminate its effects to a wider landscape/constituency?
- E. How to establish a biosphere reserve along a border

IV. Objective: What are the conservation and development objectives of the biosphere reserve? (Article 4, 5.a. of the statutory framework of the World Network of Biosphere reserves)

- A. How and who should define the conservation objectives of the biosphere reserve?
- B. What are the development objectives of the biosphere reserve?

V. Core area: How is it established?

- A. Size
- B. Degree and type of protection
- C. Which level of human use? How is it controlled?
- D. Role for sustainable development (ecosystem services): research, monitoring, education and training

VI. Buffer zone: How is it established?

- A. Size
- B. Geographical definition
- C. What is the system of regulation for activities and resource use (public/private)
- D. Roles for conservation, intensive and subsistence agriculture, livestock grazing, sustainable development, research, monitoring, education and training
- E. Population

VII. Transition area: How is it established?

- A. Size and geographical definition
- B. Level of development and types of activities (intensive and subsistence agriculture, industry, mining, power stations and cities)
- C. Roles for conservation, sustainable development, research, monitoring, education and training
- D. Population

VIII. Mapping

- IX. When do biosphere reserves have to propose an extension or a reduction: Reasons and procedure for changes
- X. Why it is important to have a zonation agreed by the local authority and population
- XI. What is the importance to have an efficient biosphere reserve model monitoring and evaluation (in relation with Governance TSG)

Part III. Governance in biosphere reserves

I. Introduction

II. Local participation

- A. Engagement strategy development: Early engagement and building long-term relationships
- B. Stakeholder mapping: How to proceed and how to use it
- C. Local participation: How to organize it, mechanisms to ensure local participation and techniques for conflict resolution
- D. Inclusion of areas where traditional lifestyles and indigenous uses of biodiversity are practised, including sacred sites (Seville Strategy, Goal II, 3)
- E. Role of the agency responsible for the core area
- F. Role of local authorities and other government agencies/ organizations (at any level from local to national)
- G. Involvement of the private sector

III. Institutional/governance mechanisms

- A. Role of national authorities and/or regional authorities (in federal states)
- B. Establishment of a biosphere reserve from an existing protected area or ex nihilo
- C. Mechanisms to manage human use and activities in the buffer zones (Seville strategy Art. 4, item 7a): Regulatory and contractual policies, incentives and joint decision-making
- D. Authority or mechanism: The difference between an authorities and mechanisms, their composition and regulatory/enforcement powers (police powers)
- E. Institutional mechanisms to manage, coordinate and integrate programmes and activities of the biosphere reserve (role of a central coordinating entity for the biosphere reserve vs. roles of all other public actors in the area)
- F. Models for authorities and mechanisms and their advantages and weaknesses
 - 1) Existing body of a protected area (in some cases extending beyond its boundaries) or of part of the area
 - 2) Structure under specific national legislation on biosphere reserves

- 3) Public governing body adapted to the needs of the biosphere reserve
- 4) Governance of an island
- 5) Public (including (inter)municipal)
- 6) Private
- 7) Public/private partnerships (including clear definition of roles and responsibilities)
- 8) Ad hoc structure
- 9) Others

Part IV. Management and policy in biosphere reserves

I. Introduction

II. Management policy and plan

- A. Introduction
- B. Why is a management plan necessary (i.e. what are its crucial benefits)?
- C. What is a management plan?
- D. What are the issues to be addressed by a management plan?
- E. How to plan and draft a management plan. (including how to develop a biosphere reserve vision, stakeholder and community participation and involvement, and governance of biosphere reserves.
- F. How to implement a management plan (including stakeholder and community participation and involvement.

III. Business policy and plan

- A. Introduction: Terminology for a business strategy, business policy and business plan
- B. Why is a business strategy/policy/plan necessary?
- C. What is a business strategy/policy/plan? What might it include?
- D. How to plan a business strategy
- E. How to implement a business strategy
- F. Funding models for biosphere reserves
- G. Fundraising strategy

IV. Marketing strategy

- A. Introduction: Why is a marketing strategy necessary?
- B. What is a marketing strategy? What might it include?
- C. How to plan a marketing strategy
- D. How to implement a marketing strategy
- E. How to develop a brand for biosphere reserves

V. Communication plan

- A. Introduction: Why is a communication strategy and plan necessary? (Make the link to the global MAB communication strategy)
- B. What is a communication plan? What might it include?
- C. How to plan and implement a communication plan

VI. Transboundary biosphere reserves

Introduction, specificities, case studies

VII. Multi-designated sites

Introduction, specificities, case studies

Part V. Monitoring in biosphere reserves

I. Introduction

II. Quality control

- A. The quality control process
- B. How to track performance of a biosphere reserve: Performance indicators (Seville Strategy)
- C. What effective tools can be used to monitor biosphere reserves?

III. Periodic review

- A. What is the Process of Excellence?
- B. How to prepare a report for the periodic review
- C. The evaluation process
- D. How to implement corrective measures

IV. Web-based information clearing house and information centre (3.1 Madrid Action Plan)

- A. Common requirements of a Web-based information centre (monitoring data collected, collaboration, exchange)
- B. Components of an information centre
- C. Suggested architecture of a Web-based information centre
- D. Technical suggestions for the architecture: OS, database, web tech, and software

V. How to map biosphere reserves

- A. Methods to be adopted
- B. Reference data
- C. Available tools

VI. Management and monitoring of transboundary biosphere reserves

- A. The agreement between the countries
- B. Boundaries issue (link with Zonation TSG)
- C. Info box/case study

VII. Management and monitoring of biosphere reserves with multi-designations

- A. Description of international multi-designation
- B. Case studies

ANNEXES

BIBLIOGRAPHY