

Note of OTBG Meeting 3.

10th November 2010 Room 307 Nobel House, London 2pm – 4:30pm

Summary meeting note:

Representatives from UKOTA, Dfid, Defra, and FCO, JNCC (Secretariat) attended the third OTBG meeting chaired by Defra.

Departments gave updates on progress and activities over the last 6 months. Highlights included:

- **DFID:** £2.9 Billion International Climate finance announced (currently ODA countries eligible including OTs of Montserrat, St.Helena, Ascension, Tristan Anguilla and Pitcairn- HMG is looking at how to help all the OTs and not just those eligible to receive ODA); Contracted Field to coordinate OT input into UNFCCC CoP 16;
- **FCO:** Contribution to OTEP not yet confirmed; FCO negotiations with DECC have resulted in the identification of a OT Focal point: - Rachel.ash@Decc.gov.uk;
- **JNCC:** Funding Training delivered to 127 people in 7 UKOTs; funding to support 12 people to attend 5 training courses for 5 OTs; Regional focal points being developed; 30 projects in 13 OTs on invasive species (Defra-funded).
- **Defra:** Darwin Initiative will continue; contribution of £200,000 made to Henderson rodent-eradication project; Support continuation of ACAP coordination which is a potential model approach to OT engagement in MEA processes; 3 of 4 projects from Defra funded FFI flagship species fund went to OTs this year;
- **UKOTA:** Supported Field engagement work; OCTA climate change workshop to be held in March 2011; EU-OCT forum will be held in New Caledonia in 2011; UK environment officials requested to attend OCTA PWP environment meetings.

Agenda items included:

- **MEAs:** It was agreed that a comprehensive approach was needed to all MEAs looking at (1) how OTs can sign up; (2) how to communicate between UKOTs and HMG around MEAs (using Field work as a case study) (3) reporting should be considered.
- **UK government and EU developments:** The implications of UK government cuts for HMG input into OT biodiversity funding are still unclear. FCO will not be considering a new white paper for OTs, but will be looking at a new strategy for UKOTs. The European Commission will be hosting a workshop on BEST in January 2011. There will be an OCTA information day at the European Parliament on the 1st February 2011
- **UKOT marine strategy:** It was agreed that a marine document (nature of which to be decided) for UK government input into marine conservation in the OTs taking into account the levels of HMG responsibility vary between inhabited and uninhabited OTs.

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- **Annual NGO Stakeholder meeting.** It was agreed that there should be an annual stakeholder event. Defra will look into arranging the first, with the format to be changed to mirror that used in the recent South Georgia Stakeholders meeting (i.e. panel and discussion).

Presentations

- **The Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CEFAS)** gave a presentation to the group focussing on their organisation, their increased interest in working in the UKOTs and an idea for UKOT climate cards.

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Key Decisions
Decision 3.1a: No change to current OTEP feedback process required.
Decision 3.2a: It was agreed that an OT Biodiversity strategy progress report and a UK government OT biodiversity project list should be published online.
Decision 3.2b: It was agreed that a comprehensive approach to all MEAs looking at (1) how OTs can sign up (2) how to communicate between UKOTs and HMG around MEAs (using Field work as a case study) (3) reporting, should be considered.
Decision 3.2c: When any OTBG members circulate consultations relating to the European Commission and OCTs, OCT representatives should be included.
Decision 3.3a: A marine document (nature of which to be decided) for UK government input into marine conservation in OTs to be drafted (taking into account the fact that the levels of HMG responsibility vary between inhabited and uninhabited OTs).
Decision 3.3b: It was agreed that there should be an annual stakeholder event, and Defra would look into organising the first of these with the format to be changed to mirror that used in the recent South Georgia Stakeholder meeting (i.e. a panel and audience with open discussion rather than a reception).
Decision 3.3c. It was agreed that OTBG meetings should be held every 4 months instead of 6.
Decision 3.4: It was agreed that a teleconference would be arranged to discuss agenda item 4: i.e. proposals for a UKOT event.

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Meeting Actions:

ACTIONS	Deadline	Progress
Action 3.1a: Departments to circulate OT government environment focal points internally as required.	ongoing	
Action 3.1b: EB to write to UKOT focal points with feedback from Nagoya (including egram)	30 th November 2010	Done
Action 3.2a: KW to find out if any UKOTs are planning to go to UNFCCC CoP 16 in Cancun	30 th November 2010	Done
Action 3.2b: EB to report on progress of International Climate fund within Defra	Before next meeting (17 th Feb 2011)	
Action 3.2c: EB to arrange for Defra to invite someone from DECC to the next OTBG	Before next meeting (17 th Feb 2011)	
Action 3.2d TP to prepare and Defra to publish the OT biodiversity progress report and UK government OT project list online	Before next meeting (17 th Feb 2011)	
Action 3.3e: ALL – to write to KW with suggestions about OCTA climate change workshop agenda, and recommendations of people who might be good to make a presentation asap.	15 th November 2010	
Action 3.2d: JNCC to work with Defra (SC) in consultation with UKOTs to propose an action plan for a comprehensive approach to all MEAs looking at (1) how OTs can sign up (2) how to communicate between UKOTs and HMG around MEAs (using field UNFCCC work as an example) (3) reporting.	Before next meeting 17 th Feb 2011	
Action 3.2e: When clarification received on inclusion of OCTs in EU invasives strategy, TP to circulate to the group	30 th November 2011	Done.
Action 3.3a: JNCC to organise meeting with marine leads from OTBG members to develop a draft marine document (re	January 2011	

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decision 3.3.a)		
Action 3.3b: Defra to organise annual stakeholders meeting for April 2011	April 2011	
Action 3.3c: TP to organise the next OTBG meeting to coincide with the OTEP panel meeting in February.	30 th December 2010	
Action 3.4a TP to arrange teleconference to discuss agenda item 4 (an event)	30 th December 2010	

Colour coding key



Done



Started but not completed



Not started



Changed in the interim period therefore doesn't need to be done



Agenda item for the next meeting