



**SECRETARIAT
BAY OF BENGAL INITIATIVE FOR MULTI-SECTORAL
TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION
DHAKA**

**Second Meeting of the BIMSTEC Expert Group on Science, Technology and Innovation
Cooperation
Colombo, Sri Lanka
25-26 July 2024**

Annotated Provisional Agenda

This document contains the Annotations to the Provisional Agenda for the Second Meeting of the BIMSTEC Expert Group on Science, Technology and Innovation Cooperation:

Agenda Item 01: Opening of the Meeting

[Master of Ceremony from the Ministry of Education of the Government of Sri Lanka.]

- Opening Ceremony (if any)
- Welcome and Opening Remarks will be delivered by the Representative of the Ministry of Education of Sri Lanka.
- Special Remarks will be delivered by the Representative of the Secretary General of BIMSTEC.
- Keynote Address (if any)
- Group Photo
[Following the Remarks, there will be a photo opportunity where the Host will take the official photographs.]

Agenda Item 02: Election of the Chairperson

[The election of the Chairperson will be conducted by the Representative from the BIMSTEC Secretariat.]

As per the existing BIMSTEC practice, the Head of Delegation of the member State hosting the Meeting is elected as the Chairperson of the Meeting.

Accordingly, the Meeting may elect the Head of Delegation of the member State hosting the Second Meeting of the BIMSTEC Expert Group on Science, Technology and Innovation Cooperation, *i.e.* Sri Lanka, as the Chair of the Meeting.

Upon assuming the Chairmanship, the Chair will make initial remarks, which may include matters pertaining to the conduct of the Meeting.

Agenda Item 03: Adoption of the Agenda

The Provisional Agenda and the Annotated Provisional Agenda are circulated as the Secretariat's Document Number **BIMSTEC/EGSTIC/02/2024/01** and **BIMSTEC/EGSTIC/02/2024/02** respectively.

The Meeting may consider and adopt the Agenda contained in Document Number BIMSTEC/EGSTIC/02/2024/01 (with amendments, if any).

Agenda Item 04: Country Presentations by Delegations on:

“The success of leveraging digital technologies in realization of SDGs and importance of building Digital Public Infrastructures (DPIs) through regional cooperation”

The Delegations, will make presentations on the theme “the success of leveraging digital technologies in realization of SDGs and importance of building Digital Public Infrastructures (DPIs) through regional cooperation” in an alphabetical order of the names of the respective countries.

The presentations may be followed by Questions and Answers, as required, facilitated by the Chair.

Based on the presentations and deliberations, the Meeting may make recommendations for future cooperation to be recorded in the Meeting's Report or included in the BIMSTEC Plan of Action on Science, Technology and Innovation, as appropriate.

Agenda Item 05: Review of the BIMSTEC Plan of Action on Science, Technology, and Innovation 2023-2024

The First Meeting of the Expert Group held virtually on 21 June 2023 in Colombo, Sri Lanka finalized the BIMSTEC Plan of Action on Science, Technology and Innovation (2023-2024).

The Secretariat will brief the status of the following activities of the Plan of Action separately under the Agenda Item 5.1- Agenda Item 5.5.

5.1 Publication of “Assessment of Science, Technology, and Innovation Sectors in BIMSTEC Countries”

5.2 Organizing the Annual BIMSTEC Start-Up Conclave

5.3 Finalization of the Concept Note on organising a series of bootcamps focusing on innovative solutions through agricultural technology and food processing technology

highlighting ‘Addressing Food Security to Eliminate Poverty, Combat Climate Change, and Achieve SDGs Directed to Women Empowerment’

5.4 Current status on the establishment of the BIMSTEC Technology Transfer Facility

5.5 Other Matters relating to the Plan of Action including opportunities for regional collaboration in Science

The Meeting may consider the briefing by the Secretariat under each Sub-agenda, and may deliberate and decide further actions to be taken under each of the activity. The Meeting may also discuss on updating the Plan of Action while also recommending further collaborations on research and development in agro-technology including cooperation in the area of science.

Agenda Item 06: Any Other Matters

Delegations or the Secretariat may raise any other matter(s) within the scope of the Expert Group’s mandate or subject matter under the agenda item.

Agenda Item 07: Date and Venue of the Third Meeting of the BIMSTEC Expert Group on Science, Technology and Innovation Cooperation

As per the BIMSTEC Charter (entered into force on 20 May 2024), the Meetings of the Sub-sectoral Expert Groups are to be hosted and chaired by the Lead Country of a particular sector or any other interested member State.

Accordingly, as the Lead Country, the delegation of Sri Lanka or any other interested member State may propose dates for the Third Meeting of the Expert Group to be held in 2024.

Agenda Item 08: Consideration and Adoption of the Report of the Second Meeting of the BIMSTEC Expert Group on Science, Technology and Innovation Cooperation

[The Draft Report of the Meeting will be prepared by the Secretariat.]

The Meeting may consider and adopt its Report for submission to the next Senior Officials’ Meeting.

Agenda Item 09: Closing of the Meeting

Closing Remarks will be delivered by the Chair of the Meeting.

Vote of Thanks/Remarks may be delivered by any interested Delegations and the BIMSTEC Secretariat.
