**Online Forum & AHTEG Strategy**

**Who should participate?**

* Need to balance out the voice of groups opposed to syn bio and specifically gene drive
* Most likely that many members of the "CBD Alliance" will have registered as experts and will be vocal
* Currently Third World Network and ETC are represented on the AHTEG and are members of the online forum
* Other experts need to engage to provide counter argument and share evidence. There are researchers currenlty nominated on the online forum, but it is not clear how active they are and there are very few experts with an understanding of gene drive.
* Need expertise in a range of topics:
	+ geneticists
	+ evolutionary biologists
	+ entomologists
	+ modellers
	+ risk assessment specialists
	+ regulatory experts, esp. with good knowledge of CBD and related frameworks
	+ engagement experts
* Need good geographical and gender diversity and a diversity of institutions so it improves legitimacy. Also, the member states like having experts from their own country or region involved and tend to particularly value that input
* Experts need to be willing to participate over a few days (3-4) and need to be able to do in English
* All to participate in their own name
* Need to have a broad range of people registered as once the process start we can't add new people - so in case some are not available or able to participate
* CBD Secretariat does not have a clear or precise set of criteria for selecting who can join, it seems very flexible so it is likely that most of those put forward will be registered.

**How to reach out?**

* Prepare an outreach list, assign contacts to the group to reach out to
* Organise a briefing call with people who said they are willing
* Help draft the nomination letters (see template) for each expert
* Organising team to keep a list of the experts and status of registration, area of expertise etc + have a mailing list to help share updates and 'activate' experts when their topic comes up

**How to manage the process?**

* Online forum takes place over several weeks so have a core team that monitors day to day and 'activates' the network when gene drive topics come up (or other relevant topics are needed)
* Core team to provide support and guidance to participants to help focus on key issues and keep engagement positive

**How do we link this to the AHTEG participation? And SBSTA?**

* Members of AHTEG have to be registered for the online forum so need to make sure we have a broad range of experts to draw from
* Members have to be nominated by member countries - so much more complex but at the same time it is also not subject to clear guidelines or criteria.
* Experts from developing countries would be particularly valuable
* Reach out to key member states to make them aware experts from their own institutions are registered and encourage them to seek their nominations to the AHTEG
* Those who have participated in the online forum or in the AHTEG could be then tapped to attend SBSTA

**Timeline**

* March-April 2017: contact experts and confirm willingness to participate. Send out registration requests on a rolling basis.
* May-July 2017: refine briefing note for participants as information becomes available
* May-July 2017: reach out to selected countries to seek nominations to the AHTEG
* Summer/fall 2017: online forum
* 2018: AHTEG online discussions and in person meeting

**DRAFT - Expert list**

**To be put on google docs or a shared drive so it can be completed and kept up to date.**

**Current gaps: Latin America and Asia are big gaps, Africa is still too few. Gender balance is poor.**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name | Affiliation | Email | Expertise area | Geographical area | Contact person | Possible AHTEG nominee? |
| Ethan Bier | Tata Institute for Active Genetics and Society  |  |  | North America | Stephanie James |  |
| Tony James | University of California, Berkeley |  |  | North America | Stephanie James |  |
| Suresh Subramani | University of California |  |  | North America | Stephanie James |  |
| Robert Friedman | J Craig Venter Institute |  |  | North America | Stephanie James | ALREADY a member of AHTEG |
| Todd Kuiken | NCSU |  |  | North America |  | ALREADY a member of AHTEG |
| Jason Delborne | NCSU |  |  | North America |  |  |
| Austin Burt | Imperial College |  |  | Europe |  |  |
| Andrea Crisanti | Imperial College |  |  | Europe |  |  |
| Tony Nolan | Imperial College |  |  | Europe |  |  |
| Abdoulaye Diabate  | IRSS |  |  | Africa |  |  |
| Mamadou Coulibaly | MRTC  |  |  | Africa |  |  |
| Jonathan Kayondo | UVRI |  |  | Africa |  |  |
| John Mumford | Imperial College |  |  | Europe |  |  |
| Dan Masiga | Icipe |  |  | Africa |  |  |
| Fred Gould | NCSU |  |  | North America |  |  |
| Fredros Okumu | Ifakara |  |  | Africa |  |  |
| Fred Aboagye-Antwi |  |  |  | Africa |  |  |
| Paul Freemont | Imperial College |  |  | Europe |  | ALREADY on AHTEG |
| Jo Lines | London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine  |  |  | Europe |  |  |
| Ryan Phelan | Revive & Restore |  |  | North America |  |  |
| Stephen Higgs | Kansas State University |  |  | North America |  |  |
| Jeremy Herren | Icipe |  |  | Africa |  |  |
| Steven Russell | University of Cambridge |  |  | Europe |  |  |
| Dyann Wirth | Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health |  |  | North America |  |  |
| Andrew M. Scharenberg | Seattle Children’s Research Institute |  |  | North America |  |  |
| Ray Monnat | University of Washington |  |  | North America |  |  |
| Philipos Papathanos | University of Perugia |  |  | Europe |  |  |
| Jerome Amir Singh | University of KwaZulu-Natal |  |  | Africa |  |  |
| Margareth Capurro | University of Sao Paulo |  |  | Latin America | Stephanie James |  |
| Maharaj Kishan Bhan | Indian Institute of Technology |  |  | Asia |  |  |
| Zach N. Adelman | Texas A&M University |  |  | North America | Stephanie James |  |
| Omar S. Akbari | University of California, Riverside |  |  | North America |  |  |
| John Marshall | University of California, Berkeley |  |  | North America |  |  |
| Andrew Cox | Invasive Species Council |  |  | Oceania |  |  |
| Douglas W. Miano | University of Nairobi |  |  | Africa |  |  |
| Mark Benedict | CDC |  |  | North America |  |  |
| Frederic Tripet | Keele University |  |  | Europe |  |  |
| Gernot Segelbacher | University of Freiburg |  |  | Europe |  |  |
| Antoinette Piaggio |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| David Hartwell | Vice chair National Audubon |  |  | North America |  |  |
| Stewart Brand | Revive & Restore |  |  | North America |  |  |
| Donald Croll | UC Santa Cruz |  |  | North America |  |  |
| Bernie Tershy | UC Santa Cruz |  |  | North America |  |  |
| David Threadgill | Texas A&M University |  |  | North America |  |  |
| John Godwin | NCSU |  |  | North America |  |  |
| Athanase BADOLO | University of Ouagadougou |  |  | Africa |  |  |
| Bruce A. Hay | California Institute of Technology |  |  | North America |  |  |
| David O'Brochta | University of Maryland College Park |  |  | North America |  |  |
| Jake Tu | Virgina Tech |  |  | North America |  |  |
| Nora Besansky | Notre Dame |  |  | North America |  |  |
| Delphine Thizy | Imperial College |  |  | Europe |  |  |