



Federal Agency for
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European expert meeting in preparation of SBSTTA-27

International Academy for
Nature Conservation Isle of Vilm

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REPORT



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**European expert meeting in preparation of
SBSTTA- 27**

International Academy for Nature Conservation Isle of Vilm

Lennart Kümper-Schlake
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Magdalene Trapp
(Eds.)

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Introduction and general remarks

The European expert meeting in preparation for the 27th meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA-27) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was organized as an informal workshop, **aiming to facilitate the exchange of information and views on the issues to be addressed at the upcoming SBSTTA-27** (20–24 October 2025 in Panama City). The expert meeting was convened by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) at the International Academy for Nature Conservation on the Isle of Vilm, 8–12 September 2025. **A total of 44 participants from 20 countries attended in their personal capacities as biodiversity or biodiversity policy experts.**

As an exception, the agenda item 7 on risk assessment and risk management was discussed virtually in parallel to the physical meeting, with an additional 29 participants from 14 countries.

The meeting was opened and co-chaired by Lennart Kümper-Schlake and Birthe Thormann; the virtual session was opened by Barbara Engels and chaired by Samson Simon (all BfN, Germany). The agenda topics were briefly introduced by the experts in a plenary session and subsequently discussed in detail within small working groups, who worked on general reflections and detailed text proposals. These were reported back to the plenary, where they were discussed and finalized.

Sakhile Silitshena from the CBD Secretariat (participated as resource person. The experts introducing the agenda topics to the meeting were Louisa-Madeline Singer (Federal Ministry of Environment, Germany) and Sanne Kruid (Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Nature, Netherlands) for agenda item 3, Dr. Phil Raymond (Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Agricultural Ministry, United Kingdom) for agenda item 4, Mathias Bertram (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH) and Clarisse Kehler Siebert (Swedish Environmental Protection Agency) for agenda item 5, Han de Koeijer (Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences) for agenda item 6a, Jules De Brabander (Belgian Ministry for Environment) for agenda item 6b, Linn Appelgren (Swedish Environmental Protection Agency) for agenda item 6c, Johanna Niemivuo-Lahti (Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Finland) for agenda item 8, Dr. Jan Plesnik (Nature Conservation Agency of the Czech Republic) for agenda item 9 and Conor Kretsch (Cohab Initiative Secretariat, Ireland) for agenda item 10. Agenda item 7 was discussed by a separate online-expert group led by Valeria Giovannelli (Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research) and the results were shared and discussed in the overall plenary.

Magdalene Trapp (Biodiversity Policy Consultant and Facilitator), Birthe Thormann, Lennart Kümper-Schlake (both BfN, Germany) and Warthane Puvanarajah (German Federal Ministry of Environment) took on the role of rapporteurs for the sessions. Jillian Campbell, Tristan Tyrrell, Marianela Araya Quesada, Wadzanayi Mandivenyi and Austein McLoughlin from the CBD Secretariat supported as additional resource persons in short virtual exchanges.

This report summarizes the main points raised during the discussions and provides general reflections on the official SBSTTA-27 documentation published by the CBD Secretariat. It contains suggestions for amendments to the official documents and draft decisions. The purpose of the expert meeting was not to reach consensus on each issue, but rather to promote a constructive exchange of information, opinions and ideas.

This report is intended to assist individuals and delegations in preparing for the topics on the agenda of SBSTTA-27. The results and inspiration from the meeting may contribute to international exchanges and the upcoming negotiation processes.

Based on UNGA resolution A/77/460, this report applies the UN Editorial Manual to capitalize the term "Indigenous Peoples". This is without predetermination to the continued use of "indigenous peoples and local communities" under the Convention on Biological Diversity and its agreed terminology contained in CBD COP decision XII/12, pending negotiations on this issue. Therefore, related text proposals in the draft recommendations and annexes remain in lower case.

How to read the report

Amendments and additions to the draft SBSTTA-27 documents are marked as follows throughout the report:

~~Text~~ = text is suggested to be deleted

Text = suggestion for new text

[(Text)] = rationale on suggested change or comment on the text

This report seeks to maintain the text format as closely as possible to the official SBSTTA-27 pre-session documents provided by the CBD Secretariat, in order to facilitate easy comparison between the outcomes of the expert meeting and the original text. Minor formatting differences may nonetheless occur, even in paragraphs that were left unchanged, as the report follows a standardized European print format. The numbering of footnotes may also differ due to abridging or the continuation of text. These adjustments have no impact on the substance. Any proposed changes to the content are explicitly indicated, as described above.

1 Global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (Item 3)

The topic was introduced by Louisa-Madeline Singer and Sanne Kruid. Overall reflections by participants (not covered by suggested changes to the text):

The expert meeting expressed positive views about the recommendation and the draft annotated outline of the global report on collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework which is clearly structured and generally reflects COP decision 16/32. The experts emphasized the importance of a solid global report for the global review process and expressed concerns about not receiving enough submissions of the seventh national reports by the deadline. They considered it important to complement national reports, being the primary source for the global report, by other sources listed in decision 16/32 paragraph 18. Additionally, the target-by-target analysis was considered as an essential element of the global report. There is the concern that the online reporting tool does not allow for partial submission of national reports, as it results into errors.

Document CBD/SBSTTA/27/2

Suggestions on the text

Global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

abridged; continued.

V. Recommendation

24. The Subsidiary Body may wish to adopt a recommendation along the following lines:

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice

1. *Notes* the progress made in the work by the Ad Hoc Scientific and Technical Advisory Group for the Preparation of the Global Report on Collective Progress in the Implementation of the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;¹

2. *Recalls* that the seventh national reports are **required** to be submitted by 28 February 2026 and are the primary source of information of the global report on collective progress in the implementation of the Framework; **[Rationale: Included for clarity]**

2.bis Urges Parties to submit their seventh national reports by the submission deadline; [Rationale: The quality of the global report depends on the amount of national reports received]

3. *Notes* the progress made in the submission of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national targets, which are the basis for national reporting and the analysis of which will provide an additional source of information for the global report;

¹ Decision 15/4, annex.

3.bis *Urges Parties that have not yet done so to revise or update their national biodiversity strategies and action plans, as requested in decision 15/6, as soon as possible; [Rationale: In line with decision 15/6, Parties committed themselves to align their NBSAPs with the Framework]*

4. *Encourages* Parties to submit their seventh national reports or parts thereof before the submission deadline to facilitate the preparation of the global report;

4.bis *Further encourages Parties to enable the full and effective participation and engagement of women, indigenous peoples and local communities, persons with disabilities, youth, civil society organizations, academia, the private sector, all levels of government and stakeholders from all other relevant sectors in the preparation of the seventh and eight national reports; [Rationale: Since there are limited sources of information on contributions from actors other than national Governments, this addition is suggested based on decision 15/6 paragraph 23 c) and in line with the whole-of-society approach. It serves to provide more robust information on the engagement and commitments by these actors for the global report which is based on national reports. This list, including the order, is taken from decision 15/6 paragraph 23c). It is not the natural order as from other decisions. Persons with disabilities should be included as well]*

5. *Encourages* actors other than national Governments that plan to provide information on commitments towards the implementation of the Framework, as specified in subparagraph 18 (j) of decision 16/32 of 27 February 2025 and in the template contained in annex II to that decision, to provide such information by the national reporting deadline or earlier, to facilitate the preparation of the global report;

6. ~~*Takes note of*~~ ***Approves/Endorses*** the annotated outline of the global report contained in the annex to the present recommendation; **[Rationale: Since the outline will be the basis of the work of the Secretariat and the ASHTAG it is well placed to endorse or approve the annotated outline rather than to take note]**

7. *Requests* the **Executive Secretary and the** Ad Hoc Scientific and Technical Advisory Group for the Preparation of the Global Report to prepare the global report on the basis of decision 16/32, using the outline contained in the annex to the present decision. **[Rationale: the Secretariat is positioned to create the Global Report, with advice of the ASHTAG. Hence, the Secretariat should be primarily addressed]**

Annex

Draft annotated outline of the global report on collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

I. Outline of the global report on collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

1. The global report on collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework² will comprise the following sections:

Part I. Introduction and status of, and trends in, biodiversity

[Comment: Suggestion from Vilm experts to include short key messages as part of the introduction or provide an Executive Summary to enhance readability for lay people, making use of the conclusions of “Part III Conclusions and Key Messages”]

² Decision 15/4, annex.

A. Introduction to the global report, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

2. Section I.A will contain:

- (a) A description of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, its monitoring framework³ and the mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting and review;⁴
- (b) An introduction to the purpose and scope of the global report and how it links to the global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Framework;
- (c) A description of how the global report was prepared and links to relevant past assessments, including editions of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*.

[Comment: Participants wondered why the GBO has been highlighted here and no other relevant assessments are mentioned]

B. Concise scientific and technical synthesis of the status of, and trends in, biodiversity

3. Section I.B will contain:

- (a) A concise synthesis of the status of, and trends in, biodiversity and the **drivers of biodiversity loss** ~~pressures placed on it~~, as relevant to the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity;⁵ **[Rationale: To align language with IPBES and the Framework]**
- (b) A concise synthesis of the implications of those trends for the achievement of the 2050 vision of living in harmony with nature.

Part II. Collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

A. Summary of the status of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, national targets and national report submissions

4. Section II.A will contain information on the submissions of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, national targets and national reports. It will include an analysis of the status of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, national targets and national report submissions and the associated processes and arrangements for their development and implementation.⁶

B. Collective progress in the implementation of the targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

5. Section II.B will contain key messages related to collective progress towards the achievement of the 23 targets of the Framework. For each Framework target, the analysis will include the following:

- (a) An analysis of the alignment of the national targets with the Framework target, including a summary of the extent to which the level of collective ambition in national targets, submitted through the online reporting tool⁷ falls within the scope of the Framework target;⁸ **[Addition made in footnote to align with decision SBI/5/2/Add2/Rev1, paragraph 13.**

³ Decision 15/5, annex I.

⁴ Decisions 15/6 and 16/32.

⁵ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

⁶ As at 31 May 2025, 130 Parties had submitted their national targets and 51 had submitted their national biodiversity strategies and action plans (see document CBD/SBSTTA/27/INF/4 for an analysis of the submissions).

⁷ National targets are provided in the first part of the national reports. However, many Parties have already submitted them through the online reporting tool (see <https://ort.cbd.int/national-targets/analyzer>). The analysis of the contribution of national goals and the targets of the Framework presented in the report is based on the mapping of national targets against goals/targets undertaken by the Parties themselves.

⁸ The analysis will build on the analysis of national targets previously made available for the fifth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, as document CBD/SBI/5/2/Add.2/Rev.1, which will be updated for the present meeting. When analysing national targets, the Secretariat used the elements that were developed by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (see [CBD/COP/16/INF/4](#), annex I).

Rationale: For the sake of transparency, it is suggested to add that the analysis conducted on the basis of Parties' self-assessment.]

(a.bis) ~~A summary of regional and global trends in relation to the relevant and information on the state of implementation of each~~ **[Rationale: Currently it is unclear whether information on every single target is addressed, while this was a request from COP decision 16/32 paragraph 17c.]** Framework target based on the headline and binary indicators, including tabular or graphical representations of the indicator, where possible. Graphics of component, complementary and national indicators may also be included, where appropriate. Where feasible and relevant, the indicators will be disaggregated **based on the optional disaggregations set out in annex II of decision 16/31** **[Rationale: Include all the different types of possible disaggregations as written in decision 16/31 annex II. Currently only a subsection thereof is included]** ~~to illustrate trends across ecosystems, biomes and species groups and for information related to indigenous peoples and local communities, women, children, youth, and persons with disabilities. Where national data are insufficient,~~ **or where additional data would improve scientific rigour** **[Rationale: While national reports are the primary source for the global report, in line with decision 16/32 it allows other complementary data sources to be used]**, global and regional data sources may be used to supplement the analysis, provided that they are consistent with the guidance provided in decision 16/31 and meet the conditions set out in decision 16/32; **[Note: This paragraph has been moved from former paragraph (e)]**

~~(b) A summary of the number and types of contributions to the Framework target from actors other than national Governments. The summary will include information from two sources: (i) the commitments from actors other than national Governments reported in the submissions of national targets (see decision 15/6, annex I); and (ii) the commitments from actors other than national Governments reported directly by those actors in the online reporting tool (see decision 16/32, annex II).⁹ It should be noted that, in the submissions, actors are asked to identify any duplication in reporting in order to avoid double counting;~~ **[Rationale: This paragraph has been moved (and modified) under (e) as (e.bis) for a better flow of the priorities of the global report]**

(c) A summary of actions, successes and challenges in meeting the national targets, as provided in the national reports. This subsection will contain an overview of the types of actions that Parties have taken towards achieving the Framework target, highlighting success stories shared by Parties through their national reports, and of the challenges encountered. Where possible, particular attention will be paid to the specific challenges faced by developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, in achieving the Framework target;

(d) A summary of how headline, binary, component, complementary and national indicators were used by Parties for the relevant Framework target, and any identified challenges to their use;

~~(e) A summary of regional and global trends in relation to the relevant Framework target based on the headline and binary indicators, including tabular or graphical representations of the indicator, where possible. Graphics of component, complementary and national indicators may also be included, where appropriate. Where feasible and relevant, the indicators will be disaggregated to illustrate trends across ecosystems, biomes and species groups and for information related to indigenous peoples and local communities, women, children, youth, and persons with disabilities. Where national data are insufficient, global and regional data sources may be used to supplement the analysis, provided that they are consistent with the guidance provided in decision 16/31 and meet the conditions set out in decision 16/32;~~ **[Rationale: This paragraph has been moved (and modified) under (a) as (a.bis) for a better flow of the priorities of the global report]**

9 At the time of reporting, the tool had not been developed yet.

(e.bis) A summary of the number and types of contributions to the Framework target from actors other than national Governments, **including disaggregated information from indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth organizations, where feasible.** The summary will include information from two sources: (i) the commitments from actors other than national Governments reported in the submissions of national targets (see decision 15/6, annex I); and (ii) the commitments from actors other than national Governments reported directly by those actors in the online reporting tool (see decision 16/32, annex II)¹⁰. It should be noted that, in the submissions, actors are asked to identify any duplication in reporting in order to avoid double-counting; **[Rationale: In line with decision 16/32 paragraph 18 (j), it was suggested to specifically include disaggregated information from indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth organizations to highlight their contributions. Note: This paragraph has been moved from former paragraph (a)]**

(f) ~~Where possible, this~~ subsection will also contain an analysis of how the elements of section C of the Framework have been addressed in national biodiversity strategies and action plans, national targets and associated processes¹¹. **[Rationale: Ensure that the analysis is conducted. The footnote has been included for transparency that outcomes on this section are based on self-assessments by Parties]**

C. Review of collective progress in the implementation of the 23 targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

6. Section II.C will contain:

(a) A summary of the overall and cross-cutting messages from the target-by-target analysis described in section II.B above;

(b) A description of how collective progress relates to the 2030 mission of the Framework;

(c) An overview of how the considerations for the implementation of the Framework, as set out in its section C, have been addressed across the actions taken to date;

(d) An overview of how sections I (implementation and support mechanism and enabling conditions), J (responsibility and transparency) and K (communication, education, awareness and uptake) of the Framework have been taken into account in implementation.

D. Review of the provision of means of implementation consistent with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

7. Section II.D will contain:

(a) A summary of the provision of means of implementation based on information from the national reports, in particular reporting against Goal D and Targets 18, ~~and 19~~ **and 20**, as well as **other relevant** information, **including information** contained in reports of the Global Environment Facility Council on the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund and the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund;¹²; **[Rationale: It was agreed (16/32, paragraph 18 (g)) that the sources of information for the means of implementation would include information from the GEF and GBFF, but it is not limited to these sources; it could for example also include information from other international public and private sources, including multilateral and regional development banks, multilateral environment funds, relevant international organizations, international philanthropies, national biodiversity finance plans or other similar instruments, and other public and private sources, to ensure a better reflection of the status of implementation of these targets]**

(b) A summary of successes and barriers, including possible gaps in means of implementation, that were noted by Parties in their national reports and in their national target

¹⁰ At the time of reporting, the tool had not been developed yet.

¹¹ **The analysis is based on national targets and NBSAP submissions received.**

¹² For documents and decisions of the Global Environment Facility Council, see www.thegef.org/who-we-are/gef-council.

submissions. This subsection will include information drawn from the national reports on the specific challenges faced by developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States;

[Comment: One expert expressed the concern that subparagraph (b) goes beyond the mandate provided for the global report]

(b.bis) Information on successes and barriers, including possible gaps in means of implementation for indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth and other stakeholders will also be included, where available [Rationale: One expert expressed the concern that the whole of society approach should be better reflected. These elements are also reflected in the resource mobilization strategy in COP decision 16/34]

(c) An analysis of the needs identified and means of implementation required to ensure progress towards Targets 18, 19 and 20 of the Framework.

E. Contributions of relevant multilateral environmental ~~or international~~ agreements, international organizations and processes towards the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework [Rationale: To be consistent with COP decision 16/32 paragraph 18 (k) sources of information]

8. Section II.E will contain examples of how actions taken at the national and international levels to implement relevant multilateral environmental agreements have created synergies resulting in progress towards the implementation of the Framework.

8.bis Section II.E will contain examples of how actions taken by international organizations and processes have created synergies resulting in progress towards the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. [Rationale: while international organizations and processes were reflected in the title, the sub-section below only focused on Multilateral Environmental Agreements. In line with decision 16/32 paragraph 18 (k) on sources of information]

F. Analysis of progress towards the four goals of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and its 2050 Vision for Biodiversity

9. Section II.F will contain:

(a) A summary of how collective progress towards the targets of the Framework is paving the way for meeting its four goals and the Vision for Biodiversity for 2050;

(b) A summary of how headline, binary, component, complementary and national indicators were used by Parties in the national reports, and any identified challenges to their use;

(c) A summary of global and, where possible, regional trends based on the headline and binary indicators, including tabular or graphical representations. An analysis of component, complementary and national indicators based on the data submitted in the national reports may also be included, where appropriate. Where feasible and relevant, the indicators will be disaggregated **based on the optional disaggregations set out in annex II, decision 16/31** [Rationale: ~~Include all the different types of possible disaggregations as written in decision 16/31 annex II. Currently only a sub-section thereof is included~~] to illustrate trends ~~across ecosystems, biomes and species groups and for information related to indigenous peoples and local communities, women, children, youth and persons with disabilities.~~ Where national data are insufficient, **or where additional data would improve scientific rigour,** [Rationale: **This would ensure that national reports are the primary source but would allow other data sources to be used in line with decision 16/32**] global and regional data sources may be used to supplement the analysis, provided that they are consistent with the guidance provided in decision 16/31 and meet the conditions set out in decision 16/32;

(d) Information on possible pathways and actions to address any challenges and gaps in implementation and how those link to the theory of change and to the goals and the Vision for Biodiversity for 2050 of the Framework.

Part III. Conclusions and key messages

10. Part III will contain:

(a) A summary of the key messages from the report, including those related to the provision of the means of implementation;

(b) Possible pathways and actions to overcome challenges and support the further implementation of the Framework and the achievement of the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity.

II. Geographical and temporal coverage and coverage of cross-cutting issues

11. The following will apply to all aspects of the global report:

(a) The report will cover regional and global dimensions. Specific challenges to the implementation of the Framework, especially for developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, will be considered throughout the report. In addition, where possible, information will be provided to show trends across various ecosystems and biomes, including for terrestrial, inland water, coastal and marine ecosystems and by species types. The scope of the geographical, biome and species-focused analysis will depend on the number and representativeness of seventh national reports submitted by the deadline;

(b) Illustrative case studies, **including from indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth**, will be used across the report; [Rationale: One expert suggested to emphasize that, where available, case studies on commitments and contributions from indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth should also be reflected in the report to align with decision 16/32 18 (j)]

(c) The report will be primarily based on the period covered by the Framework; however, historical trends may also be presented, in line with paragraph 2 of decision [15/5](#). As outlined in that paragraph, the Conference of the Parties decided to use the period 2011–2020, where data are available, as the reference period, unless otherwise indicated, for reporting and monitoring progress in the implementation of the Framework, while noting that baselines, conditions and periods used to express desirable states or levels of ambition in goals and targets should, where relevant, take into account historical trends, current status, future scenarios of biodiversity and available information on the natural state;

(d) Information, data and analysis related to indigenous peoples and local communities, women, children, youth and persons with disabilities and traditional knowledge inputs will also be incorporated across the report, where possible.

2 Matters related to the work programme of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (Item 4)

The topic was introduced by Dr. Phil Raymond. Overall reflections by participants (not covered by suggested changes to the text):

The expert meeting considered that it was important to integrate findings from the Nexus and Transformative Change Assessments throughout other relevant items, including items 5, 6, 9, and 10, so that science could effectively inform policy rather than being considered separately, and to break down siloes between sectors. In the same spirit, there was agreement that collaboration between IPBES and the IPCC was highly valued, and hope that there would also be collaboration in the future between IPBES and the newly established Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution.

In addition to the recommendations below, experts noted that the CBD could further mature its use of IPBES findings, drawing inspiration from the UNFCCC's use of science from the IPCC, for example in the Global Stocktake. This would involve continuing to return to findings from past reports in any relevant agenda items or processes, rather than considering their implications in a single SBSTTA only. There was agreement that it would be desirable to increase the use of IPBES findings more consistently throughout other CBD activities, for example communication, but that this might be more effective if discussed under the SBI agenda item on communication, education, and public awareness.

It was also discussed that SBSTTA delegates should reflect on what further actions could be suggested to facilitate greater uptake of the assessments at the national level.

Document CBD/SBSTTA/27/3

Suggestions on the text

Matters related to the work programme of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and implications of its assessments for the work undertaken under the Convention

Note by the Secretariat

I. Background

abridged; continued.

IV. Recommendations

17. The Subsidiary Body may wish to recommend that, at its seventeenth meeting, the Conference of Parties adopt a decision along the following lines.

The Conference of Parties,

Recalling its decisions XII/25 of 17 October 2014, 15/13 and 15/19 of 19 December 2022 and 16/11 of 1 November 2024,

Noting that the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework¹³ seeks to respond to *The Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services* of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services,

Recalling that the Framework quoted some of the main messages of the first global assessment report, in particular, “Nature can be conserved, restored and used sustainably while other global societal goals are simultaneously met through urgent and concerted efforts fostering transformative change”,

1. Welcomes *The Thematic Assessment Report on the Interlinkages among Biodiversity, Water, Food and Health* (“nexus assessment”) of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services **including its summary for policymakers and key messages, as well as the 71 response options, and highlights its relevance to the work undertaken under the Convention and to the implementation of the Framework;** [Rationale: we also want to highlight the key findings and actionable response options]

2. Encourages Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, **women, youth, persons with disabilities,** relevant organizations and stakeholders to take steps to promote and implement a synergistic and holistic approach for biodiversity and the other nexus elements, ~~as appropriate~~ **to strengthen interministerial coordination, interinstitutional and multistakeholder collaboration and more efficient national and subnational coordination, planning, reporting and review processes** [Rationale: For consistency with the biodiversity and climate change decision, but relevant to all five nexus elements];

3. Encourages Parties and ~~other~~ relevant **organizations and** stakeholders to: [Rationale: Broader range of actors who can carry out the following options]

(a) Build awareness of the interlinkages between the various nexus elements;

(a.bis) Promote and support the use of the 71 response options of the assessment; [Rationale: add more actionable elements to the decision]

(b) Support future research and data collection aimed at better understanding the status, ~~and~~ trends **and futures** of the interactions between the nexus elements **as well as synergies** and potential trade-offs;¹⁴ [Rationale: We want research to also explore positive futures for nexus interactions]

(c) Identify policy and financing options for promoting synergies across the nexus elements;¹⁵

(d) Promote engagement with a wide range of government authorities ~~at the national level~~ **all levels,** as well as with ~~other stakeholders, including subnational actors,~~ indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth, **persons with disabilities,** and the private sector **in order to apply the nexus approach;** [Rationale: We are expanding the groups involved in engagement and explaining why this is necessary]

4. Encourages coordination across relevant international organizations and stakeholders working on various elements of the nexus;

5. Welcomes *The Thematic Assessment Report on the Underlying Causes of Biodiversity Loss and the Determinants of Transformative Change and Options for Achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity* (transformative change assessment) ~~of the Plenary~~ of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services **including its summary for policymakers and key messages, as well as the strategies and actions for transformative change, and highlights its relevance to the work undertaken under the Convention and to the implementation of the Framework;** [Rationale: We also want to highlight the key findings and actionable strategies and actions];

¹³ Decision 15/4, annex.

¹⁴ A trade-off is defined in the summary for policymakers of the nexus assessment as the enhancement of a desirable outcome in one element leading to the deterioration of another element.

¹⁵ Synergy is defined in the summary for policymakers of the nexus assessment as the enhancement of a desirable outcome in one element leading to the enhancement of another element.

6. *Encourages* Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, **women, youth, persons with disabilities**, relevant organizations and stakeholders **including the private sector** ~~to take steps~~ to include the **four** key principles of transformative change in their strategies and actions, as appropriate; **[Rationale: Expanding the list of actors and linking the principles more closely to the assessment]**

6.bis Highlights the urgency for all actors to address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss and nature's decline, namely disconnection from and domination over nature and people, concentration of power and wealth and the prioritization of short-term, individual and material gains, as identified in the assessment; **[Rationale: To draw attention to the underlying societal causes of biodiversity loss which need to be addressed directly]**

7. *Encourages* Parties and relevant **organizations and** stakeholders, in particular, to: **[Rationale: consistency across the decision]**

(a) Build awareness about the need for transformative change to achieve the **mission and** targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework by 2030, **and work** towards the 2050 vision for biodiversity; **[Rationale: To more comprehensively reflect the 2030 elements of the KMGBF and their relationship to the 2050 vision]**

(b) Promote and support the use by all Governments **and authorities at all levels and as well as** relevant stakeholders of the strategies and associated actions identified in the assessment for bringing about transformative change; **[Rationale: To more clearly encompass subnational actors]**

(c) Evaluate the contribution of conservation policies to transformative change and, if needed, make them more inclusive, well resourced and focused on places of high value to nature and people and give higher recognition to the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities;

(d) ~~Encourage Governments and relevant organizations to~~ implement transformative change in **all sectors, focusing primarily on** the sectors most responsible for biodiversity loss; **[Rationale: All sectors are addressed in target 14, implement directly instead of indirectly]**

(e) ~~Encourage Governments, civil society organizations and all other relevant organizations to~~ take into consideration the findings of the transformative change assessment, as it is a system-wide approach that requires the engagement of all actors and sectors; **[Rationale: Implement directly themselves instead of indirectly through others]**

7.bis Requests the Executive Secretary to invite Parties, other Governments, observers, indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth, persons with disabilities and other relevant stakeholders and organizations to submit their views and experiences on implementing transformative and nexus approaches when implementing the Framework and to submit a compilation for consideration by the Subsidiary Body at a meeting before the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties; **[Rationale: To establish an ongoing process to use these interlinked assessments in the implementation of the KMGBF]**

8. *Welcomes* the approval of the undertaking of a second global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services, ~~the summary for policymakers of which will be considered by the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in 2028;~~ **[Rationale: The whole assessment will be considered, not just the summary for policymakers. The IPBES plenary will approve the summary. The chapters will be accepted]**

9. *Encourages* Parties to engage in the process ~~leading to the publication~~ **of preparation** of the second global assessment, **in particular the review processes, noting the relevance reiterating the importance** of the assessment to the work undertaken under the Convention on Biological Diversity,¹⁶ including the global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework to be considered at the nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties; **[Rationale: Highlighting the main point for Parties to engage, aligning the language with previous COP decisions (i.e. decision 16/32) and elevating the relevance to the global review]**

¹⁶ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

10. *Invites* the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services to **consider how to further** ~~prepare simple and tailored policy relevant messages to facilitate the use of the assessments at the national level by Parties.~~ **[Rationale: To facilitate increased use of IPBES assessments by Parties]**

18. In addition, the Subsidiary Body may wish to consider including language related to the nexus and transformative change assessments in other relevant recommendations, including those related to climate change, agriculture and health.

3 Biodiversity and climate change (Item 5)

The topic was introduced by Mathias Bertram. It included a brief summary of the agenda item, an overview of decision 16/22, the intersessional process including submissions by Parties and other actors on options for enhanced policy coherence and elements and the setup of a draft supplement to the Voluntary Guidelines for the Design and Effective Implementation of Ecosystem-based Approaches to Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction as synthesized by the Secretariat in the Note CBD/SBSTTA/27/4. Two anticipated information documents were not available in time for the workshop; one containing i) a further synthesis of submissions on options for enhanced policy coherence, ii) a statement by the Rio Joint Liaison Group (JLG), and iii) a report of the technical information exchange; the second information document comprising the long version of the supplement.

Breakout group discussions were facilitated by Clarisse Kehler Siebert and Mathias Bertram. Within the breakout group discussions on the draft supplement (CBD/SBSTTA/27/4 section III and annex), questions arose on the further revision of the draft supplement to the Voluntary Guidelines, based on two online consultation sessions (both held on 19 March 2025) and a three-day hybrid technical workshop (7–9 May 2025), and a potential future peer review. Experts suggested that SBSTTA-27 should request the Executive Secretary to invite Parties, other Governments, observers and other organizations, Indigenous Peoples and local communities to peer review the supplement to the Voluntary Guidelines contained in the awaited information document, in order to prepare this supplement for adoption at CBD COP17.

Experts within the breakout group discussions on enhancing policy coherence and cooperation across the Rio Conventions (CBD/SBSTTA/27/4 section II) generally appreciated the eight options for enhanced policy coherence mentioned, as well as the multidimensional roadmap with a phased approach (short-, medium- and long-term) and suggested to capture these elements in the draft recommendation text. Experts stressed that the eight options should be seen as mutually supportive building blocks to enhance policy coherence, and not as alternatives. They expressed the need for a continuation of technical information exchanges as ‘deep dives’ to further define the multi-level roadmap for policy coherence on all eight options. Several experts also suggested the JLG to fulfil its mandate and develop, with involvement of experts and bodies of the Rio Conventions, a joint work plan and a multi-level roadmap as referenced in SBSTTA/27/4 as a firmly anchored mechanism to support Parties in enhancing synergies and policy coherence at national and international levels and to present it to the Parties to CBD COP17, UNCCD COP17 and UNFCCC COP31. In the operative paragraph 8 of the draft decision, several experts supported to include a reference to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework which applies to all actors, instead of CBD Article 20 which only applies to Parties.

Finally, the group worked through various text formulations to ensure consistency throughout the document, however without addressing the annex (short version of the supplement).

Document CBD/SBSTTA/27/4

Suggestions on the text

Biodiversity and climate change

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

abridged; continued.

IV. Recommendations

38. The Subsidiary Body may wish to adopt a recommendation along the following lines:

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice,

Recalling decisions VII/15 of 20 February 2004, IX/16 of 30 May 2008, X/33 of 29 October 2010, XIII/4 of 13 December 2016, 14/5 of 29 November 2018, 15/30 of 19 December 2022 and 16/22 of 1 November 2024 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,¹⁷ as well as the critical role of biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services in climate change mitigation, adaptation and disaster risk reduction,

1. *Welcomes* the draft supplement to the Voluntary Guidelines for the Design and Effective Implementation of Ecosystem-based Approaches to Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction,¹⁸ as contained in the annex to the draft decision below;

2. *Takes note* of the synthesis of submissions, the statement of the Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions and the report of the technical information exchange on enhancing policy coherence and cooperation across the Rio conventions contained in document CBD/SBSTTA/27/INF/8;

2.bis Requests the Executive Secretary to invite the Executive Secretaries of the other Rio Conventions and presidents of the 16th and 17th CBD COP, presidents of the 16th and 17th UNCCD COP and presidents of the 30th and 31st UNFCCC COP to collaborate on the organization of further technical information exchanges to develop concrete proposals with Parties, other Governments, observers, experts and other organizations on the eight options to enhance policy coherence referenced in SBSTTA/27/4 with clear actions and recommendations for consideration by Parties; [Rationale: We would like to emphasize the importance of the eight options being mutually supportive building blocks to enhance policy coherence. They are not alternatives. We need a continuation of technical information exchanges with experts as a deep dive to further define a multi-level roadmap for policy coherence on all eight options, as they are all valid]

2.ter Requests the Chair of the SBSTTA to exchange with the Chair of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific and Technological Advice of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and Chair of the UNCCD Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention, with a view of bringing this recommendation and options to enhance policy coherence referenced in SBSTTA/27/4 to the attention of the UNFCCC SBSTA at its 63rd session, in November 2025 and the UNCCD CRIC at its 23rd session, in December 2025 in order that they may take it into account during their deliberations and consider its contents; [Rationale: UNFCCC SBSTA 63 and UNCCD CRIC 23 will also discuss on policy coherence so results from SBSTTA-27 should inform SBSTA and CRIC chairs. Similar requests to the SBSTTA Chair have already been issued in the past e.g. by SBSTTA-9 Recommendation IX/11 paragraph 9]

3. *Notes* the relevance of work conducted under the United Arab Emirates-Belém work programme on indicators for measuring progress achieved towards the targets referred to in

17 United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

18 Decision 14/5, annex; see also CBD Technical Series No. 93 for complementary information.

paragraphs 9–10 of decision 2/CMA.5 of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement to the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;¹⁹

4. *Recognizes that using shared indicators when developing future monitoring approaches ~~a consistent approach to monitoring for~~ the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework²⁰ and the Paris Agreement²¹ would reduce reporting burdens and improve synergies; [Rationale: There is a need to use shared indicators for monitoring as suggested in one of the eight options on enhanced policy coherence in SBSTTA/27/4, II, paragraph 16 to avoid additional duplications and burdens]*

5. *Invites the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement ~~to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change~~²² to take the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework into account when considering indicators for measuring progress towards the targets referred to in paragraphs 9–10 of decision 2/CMA.5²³; [Rationale: To cite the correct governing body and be more specific about what is being measured]*

5.bis *Also invites the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement and the Conference of the Parties to the UNCCD to foster enhanced policy coherence and synergies amongst the Rio Conventions, stressing that climate change, biodiversity loss and land degradation can only be addressed successfully in an integrated manner; [Rationale: We can only achieve the goals and targets from the Paris Agreement, Global Biodiversity Framework and land degradation neutrality together]*

6. *Recommends that, at its seventeenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopt a decision along the following lines:*

The Conference of the Parties,

Reaffirming paragraph 8 of decision X/33 of 29 October 2010 and paragraph 3 of decision 16/22 of 1 November 2024,

*Recognizing that biodiversity loss, climate change, desertification and land degradation are inseparable and interdependent ~~challenges~~ **crises** requiring coherent and urgent action in an integrated manner to achieve the goals of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework²⁴ and the Paris Agreement,²⁵ as well as the voluntary land degradation neutrality targets under the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,²⁶ and the Sustainable Development Goals, [Rationale: Using ‘crises’ instead of ‘challenges’ corresponds to wording from UN-decision on triple planetary crises 2021 and the statement on synergies among the Rio Conventions in response to the call by the Secretary-General of the United Nations for suggestions for greater synergy in implementation, in the context of the UN80 Initiative]*

1. Welcomes The Thematic Assessment Report on Interlinkages among Biodiversity, Water, Food and Health (“nexus assessment”) of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services including its summary for policy makers and key messages, and highlights its relevance to the work undertaken under the Conventions and to the implementation of the Framework ~~at its eleventh session, in particular its integrated response options, that have broadly~~

19 Decision 15/5, annex I.

20 Decision 15/4, annex.

21 United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 3156, No. 54113.

22 Ibid., vol. 1771, No. 30822.

23 See Paris Agreement, Article 7.

24 Decision 15/4, annex.

25 United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 3156, No. 54113.

26 Ibid., vol. 1954, No. 33480.

positive impacts on biodiversity, water, food, health and climate; [Rationale: Those response options deliver very positive results and multiple benefits including climate change mitigation, adaptation and disaster risk reduction]

2. *Encourages* Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, **women, youth, persons with disabilities,** relevant organizations and stakeholders to take steps to promote and implement a synergistic and holistic approach for biodiversity and the other nexus elements, including climate change, ~~as appropriate~~ **to strengthen interministerial coordination, interinstitutional and multistakeholder collaboration and more efficient national and subnational coordination, planning, review and reporting processes;** [Rationale: Institutional coordination e.g. between national focal points is crucial and was stressed in COP decision 16/22 OP 11. Establishing interministerial committees or task forces are very good actions. “Whole of government”, “whole of society” and “whole of economy” collaboration needs to be strengthened through more efficient national and subnational coordination, planning, review and reporting processes. This includes enhanced cooperation between national focal points of the Rio Conventions at national level but also enhanced cooperation at subnational level, including with subnational Governments, cities and other local authorities, IPLCs, women, youth and persons with disabilities to enable successful, mutually supportive and resource efficient implementation from national to local levels]

3. *Acknowledges* advisory opinion AO-32/25 of 29 May 2025 of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights concerning the climate emergency and human rights and the advisory opinion of 23 July 2025 of the International Court of Justice concerning the obligations of States in respect of climate change, in both of which the inextricable links between climate change and biodiversity loss are highlighted and the need for urgent action under the Convention on Biological Diversity²⁷ is recognized for the long-term well-being and resilience of people in the face of a changing climate;

3.alt Acknowledges advisory opinion AO-32/25 of 29 May 2025 of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights concerning the climate emergency and human rights and the advisory opinion of 23 July 2025 of the International Court of Justice concerning the obligations of States in respect of climate change, in both of which the links between climate change and biodiversity loss, including action under the CBD are highlighted; [Rationale: More accurate language in line with the Advisory Opinions]

4. *Recognizes* **Stresses** that the achievement of the mission, goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework is not possible without urgent and effective action on climate change in line with the **goals of the** Paris Agreement **and that for achieving them it is highly critical to avoid further biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation;** [Rationale: In line with COP decision 16/22 PP 7 and 8 with the intention that KMGBF and Paris Agreement cannot be achieved in isolation. The delivery of integrated and mutually reinforcing solutions and measures on all levels, particularly in national and subnational actions, is crucial to effectively implement the Paris Agreement, KMGBF, SDGs and other frameworks]

5. *Adopts* the supplement to the Voluntary Guidelines for the Design and Effective Implementation of Ecosystem-based Approaches to Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction contained in the annex to the present decision;

6. *Urges* Parties, when undertaking actions to ensure the achievement of Targets 8 and 11 of the Framework, with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, **women and girls, children and youth, and persons with**

27 Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

disabilities; [Rationale: Alignment with the whole of society approach in the KMGBF and wording in target 22]

(a) To identify and maximize potential synergies through their national biodiversity strategies and action plans and relevant national targets, ensure synergies with other national planning processes, including nationally determined contributions, national adaptation plans and land degradation neutrality targets, as appropriate, and promote positive impacts and minimize or avoid negative impacts on biodiversity, in particular for vulnerable ecosystems and other ecosystems that are irreplaceable and for communities that directly depend on biodiversity;

(a bis) To prioritize the protection, conservation, restoration, sustainable management and enhancement of carbon-rich terrestrial, freshwater, marine and coastal, managed and unmanaged ecosystems and of ecosystems with high ecological integrity and adaptive capacities, limiting the risk of crossing tipping points; [Rationale: To consider the urgency of the climate crisis, addressing the rapidly diminishing global carbon emission budgets and carbon amount in the atmosphere that further increases the risk of tipping points; this links with the voluntary guidelines and its supplement as mentioned in the paragraph below]

(b) To use the tools and information available under the Convention, including the Voluntary Guidelines for the Design and Effective Implementation of Ecosystem-based Approaches to Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction²⁸ and its supplement;

(b bis) Promote and support the use of response options from those 71 assessed in the *Thematic Assessment Report on Interlinkages among Biodiversity, Water, Food and Health* of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services; [Rationale: 35 out of 71 response options mentioned in the IPBES nexus assessment are nature-based solutions, thus very relevant to achieving KMGBF targets 8 and 11]

7. *Encourages* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations, taking domestic priorities, circumstances and capabilities into account, to make use of the Voluntary Guidelines and its supplement when designing and implementing nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches for climate change mitigation, adaptation and disaster risk reduction, recognizing the co-benefits for biodiversity and livelihoods;

8. *Encourages* Parties, ~~invites~~ **encourages** other Governments, financial institutions, **multilateral development banks**, relevant organizations and ~~stakeholders, in particular through the private sector,~~ consistent with Article 20 of the Convention, to scale up investments for climate change mitigation, adaptation and disaster risk reduction, including through the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, **and leveraging the potential of nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches and their multiple benefits, with environmental and social safeguards, while monitoring and assessing the impacts on biodiversity and human rights** ~~ecosystem restoration and sustainable infrastructure;~~ [Rationale: Scaling up investments from all sources to implement nature based solutions and ecosystem based approaches, to close the funding gap. Art. 20 is applicable only to Parties. Consider whether CBD Article 20 or a reference to the KMGBF broadly that applies to all actors mentioned above is most appropriate. Ecosystem restoration falls under nature-based solutions and ecosystem-based approaches, we should not restrict ourselves to restoration only. The element on ‘sustainable infrastructure’ might be misplaced here. If it refers to green or blue infrastructure, it would fall under nature-based solutions and ecosystem-based approaches as well]

9. *Invites* the Coalition of Finance Ministers and its institutional partners to further integrate biodiversity and climate change **interlinkages** into its work programme, including through the development of tools and guidance to support the implementation of the Framework; **[Rationale: Climate change is already integrated in the work programme of Finance Ministers]**

10. *Invites* the United Nations Environment Programme, [in line with its forthcoming global environmental data strategy,] to include the indicators used under [the United Arab Emirates Framework for Global Climate Resilience and] the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework as the basis for monitoring biodiversity and climate change; **[Rationale: The square brackets are because the strategy and the GGA Indicators need to be finalised]**

10.bis *Invites the respective bodies of the UNFCCC and its Parties to consider using the Voluntary Guidelines and its supplement for Parties to integrate biodiversity and social and environmental safeguards in mitigation and adaptation measures;* **[Rationale: Based on COP decision 16/22 OP 12 adding the supplement]**

10.ter *Invites the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement²⁹ to take the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework into account when considering indicators for measuring progress towards the targets referred to in paragraphs 9–10 of decision 2/CMA.5³⁰;* **[Rationale: this OP is also included in the draft SBSTTA recommendation as OP 5 and the original draft recommendation text in SBSTTA/27/4; it is unclear procedurally, if SBSTTA, according to its modus operandi, can directly invite the COP serving as the meeting to the Parties to the Paris Agreement to take the KMGBF Monitoring Framework into account; for that reason it is important to reflect this invitation here as well; it is important to cite the correct governing body and be more specific about what is being measured]**

10.querter *Also invites the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement and the Conference of the Parties to the UNCCD to foster enhanced policy coherence and synergies amongst the Rio Conventions, stressing that climate change, biodiversity loss and land degradation can only be addressed successfully in an integrated manner;* **[Rationale: This operative paragraph is also included in the draft SBSTTA recommendation as a new operative paragraph 5bis; it is unclear procedurally, if SBSTTA, according to its modus operandi, can directly invite the COP serving as the meeting to the Parties to the Paris Agreement to take the KMGBF Monitoring Framework into account; for that reason it is important to reflect this invitation here as well; we can only achieve the goals and targets from the Paris Agreement, Global Biodiversity Framework and land degradation neutrality together]**

11. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to **use or** develop **user-friendly communication, dissemination tools strategies** and facilitate capacity-building **and development for Parties, other Governments, observers, relevant organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities and youth** on the use of the Voluntary Guidelines and its supplement; **[Rationale: We seek a way to make the Guidelines and supplement more broadly known in a cost-effective manner to a broad range of practitioners]**

11.bis *Requests the Executive Secretary, subject to availability of resources, to prepare a technical series document integrating both the voluntary guidelines adopted in decision 14/5 and the supplement referred to in paragraph 5;* **[Rationale: We want to have one practical guideline that combines nature-based**

29 Ibid., vol. 1771, No. 30822.

30 See Paris Agreement, Article 7.

solutions and ecosystem-based approaches for climate change adaptation, mitigation and disaster risk reduction]

11.ter Requests the technical and scientific cooperation support centres to make use of the Voluntary Guidelines and its supplement in supporting Parties in the implementation of target 8 and 11 of the Framework; [Rationale: We want to demonstrate how the Voluntary Guidelines and its supplement can be used to implement the targets, by making active use of the TSC mechanism via its regional and subregional support centers based on requests by Parties and, as appropriate, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth representatives and other relevant stakeholders in line with COP decision 16/3 paragraph 17].

11.quer Requests the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources and avoiding the duplication of efforts, to open a call for and to compile submissions by Parties, observers and other relevant organizations of existing information on carbon and biodiversity credits and offsets and their effects on biodiversity, and to make the compilation available to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting before the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties; [Rationale: Important to better understand how credits and offsets of market and non-market-based approaches affect biodiversity based on evidence. This wording was already reflected in CBD/SBSTTA/REC/25/8 OP 12]

12. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources and avoiding the duplication of efforts, in collaboration with the Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Convention, **rights holders including indigenous peoples and local communities and stakeholders, and initiatives such as National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans Accelerator (NBSAP) Partnership, the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) Partnership, the National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Global Network, the Enhancing Nature-based Solutions for an Accelerated Climate Transformation (ENACT) Partnership, the Friends of Ecosystem-based Adaptation network and the Partnership for Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction, and their respective members,** to further pursue enhancing policy **coherence and synergies** ~~and in~~ cooperation with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, including on capacity-building **and development, technical and scientific cooperation, and technology transfer,** and increasing awareness and understanding of nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches, as a complement to the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building and development.³¹ **[Rationale: The Secretariat and the JLG have to work together for better capacity building and development, in particular regarding nature-based solutions and ecosystem-based approaches with rights and stakeholders and making use of existing initiatives, partnerships and coalitions working on nature-based solutions and ecosystem-based approaches. Similar wording was already reflected in CBD/SBSTTA/REC/25/8 OP 10]**

31 Decision 15/8, annex I.

4 Strategic review and analysis of the programmes of work under the Convention in the context of the Framework (Item 6a)

The topic was introduced by Han de Koeijer. Overall reflections by participants (not covered by suggested changes to the text):

The proposed recommendations were developed based on the understanding that SBSTTA can provide guidance on the adjustment of the areas of work that fall within its mandates, for final consideration by the Conference of the Parties. One expert remarked that the strategic review should have included all different major groups instead of only one.

Document CBD/SBSTTA/27/5/Add.1

Suggestions on the text

Strategic review and analysis of the programmes of work under the Convention in the context of the Framework

I. Introduction

abridged; continued.

IV. Final conclusions of the strategic review and analysis

25. The draft strategic review and analysis was revised to take into consideration the submissions received through the peer review, and the ensuing conclusions are summarized below.

1. Areas of work that make a direct and comprehensive contribution to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

26. Most of the areas of work (including six programmes of work formally established by the Conference of the Parties) make a direct and comprehensive contribution to the Framework, and it is recommended that they be maintained close to their current form and regularly reviewed and updated (see table 1). In addition, three options for addressing the programme of work on protected areas are provided (see table 2).

Table 1

Areas of work requiring minimum adjustments

Agricultural biodiversity; biological and cultural diversity [Rationale: Moved from table 4 because only at COP 15 in decision 22, the Convention renewed its commitment to work together with UNESCO, IUCN and others on the links between biological and cultural diversity. Not even three years have passed since then; the Nature and Culture Summits are well recognized parallel COP events; therefore, the experts recommend to place it here]; climate change and biodiversity; communication, education and public awareness; forest biodiversity; gender and biodiversity; Global Strategy for Plant Conservation; Global Taxonomy Initiative [Rationale: Moved from table 4 because it is an extremely relevant initiative, when it comes to basic understanding of biodiversity]; health and biodiversity; inland waters biodiversity; invasive alien species; island biodiversity; marine and coastal biodiversity; mountain biodiversity [Rationale: Moved from table 4 given the relevance of the biome for targets 1, 3, 8 and 11 of the KMGBF; work under the Convention could
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however, be limited to a minimum]; planning, monitoring, reporting and review; synthetic biology; and traditional knowledge, innovations and practices (Article 8(j)).

[Comments on table 1:

- **All areas of work displayed seem useful to be updated and reviewed. Many areas have already been updated, some are being updated and others could be updated in light of the Framework. The group provided their assessment on the status of each area with regards to COP decisions and SBSTTA work during this biennium.**
- **Unclear what “minimal adjustments” are – the expert meeting interprets “minimal adjustments” does not exclude possible substantive updates, but leaves the overall focus; they still might be kept under review and might need updating; (see paragraph 26.)]**

Table 2

Options for the programme of work on protected areas

- Option 1: protected areas become the focal area for all work related to Targets 1, 2 and 3 of the Framework
- Option 2: protected areas, ecosystem restoration and spatial planning are kept as separate areas of work
- Option 3: protected areas, ecosystem restoration and spatial planning are placed under one umbrella programme with three discrete areas of work

[Comments on table 2:

- **The group could not provide a definite option as additional information as the basis of the information document (CBD/SBSTTA/27/INF/6) was not yet available at the time of the meeting.**
- **The expert meeting found it difficult to discuss the proposed options, given that potential future work on spatial planning is pending on the outcomes of the discussions on areas of potential further work, to be advanced under item 6c of SBSTTA-27. The way table 2 is presented, prejudices the outcome of these deliberations.**
- **The expert meeting does not favor option 1 because the focus should not be limited to focusing primarily on protected areas. The expert meeting supports ongoing work on protected areas, ecosystem restoration and spatial planning which could best be done by option 2 or option 3.**
- **Option 2 would be the preferred option in the short term and option 3 potentially in the long term, pending on the outcomes of the discussions on additional work on spatial planning. It would be important to keep the visibility of each work area, but an umbrella with distinct areas of work might be a good option.**
- **Pending the information contained in the information document, we might consider option 3 as best option if it strengthens the overall view on area-based approaches to address Goal A of the Framework. This could be named area-based conservation and management.]**

2. Areas of work with a scope that could be reviewed

27. Areas of work with a scope that could be reviewed contribute to the implementation of the Framework, but their alignment with the Framework could be strengthened. It is recommended to merge various areas of work, as shown in table 3.

Table 3

Areas of work that may benefit from enhanced integration with other related areas of work

- Business engagement, economics, trade and incentives; **and** mainstreaming, ~~and tourism and biodiversity~~ **[Rationale: Tourism and biodiversity has been moved to table 4 due to limitations of scope]**
- Capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation, and technology transfer
- Financial mechanism and resource mobilization
- Sustainable use of biodiversity and sustainable wildlife management

[Comments on table 3:

On business engagement, economics, trade and mainstreaming:

- The expert meeting was not clear about the activities carried out on the subareas under the convention in the past. However, it was of the view that some of the subareas might fit very well in one area of work. The area of work would clearly speak to important stakeholders, e.g. businesses and the private sector. Businesses, however, are a major group under the Convention and no area of work so far.
- There were questions whether the very broad item of mainstreaming would fit in here or whether an additional area of work on mainstreaming would not be beneficial. However, it would not fit under tables 1, 2, 3 or 4.

On capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation, and technology transfer, financial mechanism and resource mobilization and sustainable use of biodiversity and sustainable wildlife management:

- The expert meeting can support the three areas where enhanced integration is suggested. After the enhanced integration of work areas, the meeting proposes to potentially adjust the names. As for the area of work on sustainable use of biodiversity and sustainable wildlife management, this could be renamed to sustainable use and management of biodiversity.]

3. Areas of work that may present opportunities for enhanced efficiencies

28. Ongoing investment by the Conference of the Parties in areas of work that may present opportunities for enhanced efficiencies (see table 4) could be limited, and their implementation could be led by partner organizations and Parties. All achievements could continue to be recorded on the website of the Convention and through the clearing-house mechanisms, as information sources.

Table 4

4. Areas of work presenting opportunities for improved efficiencies

Biodiversity for development, ~~biological and cultural diversity~~ **[Rationale: Moved to table 1]**, dry and subhumid land biodiversity, ecosystem approach, ~~Global Taxonomy Initiative~~ **[Rationale: Moved to table 1]**, impact assessment and ~~mountain biodiversity~~ **[Rationale: Moved to table 1]**, tourism and biodiversity **[Rationale: Moved from table 3, the area of work mainly focuses on the limitation of impact of tourism on biodiversity. In addition, it seems to be only indirectly relevant to the KMGBF.]**

[Comments on table 4:

- The expert meeting provided their assessment on the status of each area and suggests that SBSTTA identifies relevant organizations to take the lead on the areas of work, e.g. UNCCD, UNESCO, WHC, UNDP and Parties.
- Impact assessment might play an important role for target 1 of the Framework. However, it could pause and potentially be integrated in the potential additional area of work on spatial planning.]

IV.bis Recommendations

[General comments:

- The group mentioned that there is no prioritisation on the importance of an area of work. The prioritisation is only on updating and reviewing the different areas of work.
- Based on the proposed text in this add 1 the expert group decided to prepare proposals for recommendations from SBSTTA to the Secretariat and COP. The group proposed to request the Secretariat to forward the review to SBI following the mandate given by decision 15/4 paragraph 9. These proposed recommendations are based on the exchange the expert meeting had on tables 1-4 and their rationales.]

XX. The Subsidiary Body may wish to adopt a recommendation along the following lines:

A) Strategic review of the programmes of work of the Convention in the context of the Framework

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice,

XX. Takes note of the strategic review and the analysis of the programmes of work of the Convention in the context of the Framework contained in document CBD/SBSTTA/27/5/Add.1 as well as the information document CBD/SBSTTA/27/INF/6 [Rationale: The ADD 1 and the information document should be noted]

XX. Notes that there were different views by Parties and observers on the scope and purpose of the strategic review according to document CBD/SBSTTA/27/5/Add.1. [Rationale: Paragraph to note that there were divergent views]

XX. Notes that the following areas of work have not yet been updated in line with the Framework through recent COP decisions: Protected areas, Agricultural biodiversity, Forest biodiversity, Global Taxonomy Initiative, ecosystem restoration; inland waters biodiversity, mountain biodiversity, [Rationale: Based on the analysis done on the areas of work in Chapter IV. We highlight the areas that have not yet been updated or are under review]

XX. Requests the Executive Secretary to forward the report of the strategic review and the analysis of the programmes of work of the Convention in the context of the Framework contained in document CBD/SBSTTA/27/5/Add.1 as well as the information document CBD/SBSTTA/27/INF/6 to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation for its consideration, of the areas of work under its mandates with the following recommendation: [Rationale: As some of the areas of work are under the mandate of the SBI, we need to forward them to SBI to also look at the strategic review. Based on the analysis the experts already proposed some changes towards the categorisation of the areas in Chapter IV]

(a) Limit the following areas of work, noting that their implementation could be led by partner organizations and Parties and that the achievements continue to be recorded on the website of the Convention and through the clearing-house mechanisms, as information sources. There could be the need to reactivate them under the CBD:

- biodiversity for development
- tourism and biodiversity

(b) Strengthen alignment with the Framework by merging the following areas of work:

- Business engagement, economics, trade and incentives,
- Capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation, and technology transfer
- Financial mechanism and resource mobilization

(c) Maintaining the following areas of work close to their current form and regularly review and update, also considering recent COP decisions as well as work under the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice:

- Communication, education and public awareness
- Gender and biodiversity
- Mainstreaming;

XX. Recommends that, at its seventeenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties consider adopting a decision along the following lines, noting that complementary recommendations may be elaborated by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation [Rationale: As some of the areas of work are under the mandate of the SBSTTA, SBSTTA can forward areas under their mandate straight to a COP decision. Based on the analysis the experts already proposed some changes regarding the categorisation of the areas in Chapter IV above]:

XX. Takes note of the strategic review and the analysis of the programmes of work of the Convention in the context of the Framework contained in document CBD/SBSTTA/27/5/Add.1 as well as the information document CBD/SBSTTA/27/INF/6

XX. Decides to limit the following areas of work, as their implementation could be led by partner organizations and Parties: dry and subhumid land biodiversity, ecosystem approach, impact assessment. All achievements continue to be recorded on the website of the Convention and through the clearing-house mechanisms, as information sources. There could be the need to reactivate them under the CBD or integrate them in other areas of work.

XX. Also decides that the following areas of work are maintained close to their current form and regularly reviewed and updated, also taking into account recent COP decisions as well as work under SBSTTA: Protected areas, ecosystem restoration, agricultural biodiversity; climate change and biodiversity; forest biodiversity; Global Strategy for Plant Conservation; health and biodiversity; inland waters biodiversity; invasive alien species; island biodiversity; marine and coastal biodiversity; planning, monitoring, reporting and review; synthetic biology; Global Taxonomy Initiative, mountain biodiversity;

XX. Recognises that the following areas of work might benefit from an update: Agricultural biodiversity, Global Taxonomy Initiative, ecosystem restoration; inland waters biodiversity, mountain biodiversity;

XX. Requests the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity related to indigenous peoples and local communities to review the report of the strategic review and the analysis of the programmes of work of the Convention in the context of the Framework contained in document CBD/SBSTTA/27/5/Add.1 as well as the information document CBD/SBSTTA/27/INF/6 for consideration of the elements related to biological and cultural diversity and traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, and to provide recommendations for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its eighteenth meeting. [Rationale: As some of the areas

of work are under the mandate of the SB8j, we need to forward them to SB8j to also look at the strategic review. Based on the analysis the experts already proposed some changes towards the categorisation of the areas in Chapter IV]

V. ~~Proposed approach~~

~~The Subsidiary Body may wish to note the differing views among Parties on the purpose, conclusions and recommendations of the strategic review and analysis.~~

~~On the basis of the conclusions reached in the strategic review and analysis, the Subsidiary Body may also wish to make recommendations to the Conference of the Parties aimed at better aligning the areas of work under the Subsidiary Body's mandate, taking into account their relevance and coherence with the Framework. The areas of work concerned comprise agricultural biodiversity; climate change and biodiversity; dry and subhumid land biodiversity; ecosystem approach; forest biodiversity; the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation; the Global Taxonomy Initiative; health and biodiversity; inland waters biodiversity; invasive alien species; mountain biodiversity; planning, monitoring, reporting and review; sustainable use of biodiversity; sustainable wildlife management; and synthetic biology.~~

~~The Subsidiary Body may further wish to recommend that the Conference of the Parties adopt a rolling schedule for the review and updating of those areas of work, under the framework of its multi-year programme of work and in line with the evolving needs identified to implement of the Convention and the Framework.~~

~~The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice may wish to request that the Executive Secretary draw the attention of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation to the findings of the strategic review and analysis, for its consideration, in particular in relation to areas of work under its mandates, including biodiversity for development; business engagement; capacity building; communication, education and public awareness; economics, trade and incentives; financial mechanism; gender and biodiversity; mainstreaming; resource mobilization; technical and scientific cooperation; technology transfer; and tourism and biodiversity.~~

~~The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice may also wish to request that the Executive Secretary submit the strategic review and analysis to the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities for consideration of the elements related to biological and cultural diversity and traditional knowledge, innovations and practices. [Rationale: These paragraphs are replaced by the new text]~~

5 Strategic review of and updates to the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity (Item 6b)

The topic was introduced by Jules De Brabander. The expert meeting appreciated the peer review process that took place and the opportunity to provide comments as well as the two notifications. Due to the information document SBSTTA/27/INF/8 not being available during deliberations in Vilm, the following analysis is based on a common understanding regarding the Information document that may change once the final document comes out:

The Vilm experts tentatively agree to use the second option in the potential approaches. The current annex is insufficient to guide the updating of the programme of work on forests due to a lack of linkage with the extended programme and alignment with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. The proposal would be to replace the annex with the more comprehensive and complete version anticipated in SBSTTA/27/INF/8. The draft table in SBSTTA/27/INF/8 should provide added value for the understanding for the proposed complementary activities by linking to the gap analysis and possible reordering and should be considered together.

Notes on the annex:

The discussions on the annex were initiated on the text proposals made by one expert, and were then further developed as a group. Not all targets of the Framework are reflected in the annex and no clear explanation is given as to why. Complementary activities for targets 4, 5 and 9 do not address the elements or objectives that all harvest, trade and use of wild species should be sustainable and enhance biodiversity. The group identified a need for clarification on the use of nature-based solutions and ecosystem-based approaches in addressing human-wildlife conflict, particularly regarding how these approaches can be applied in a biodiversity-friendly way in this context. Complementary actions related to target 7 on pollution, including soil, would benefit from alignment of efforts under agenda item 6c and agenda item 9. One expert proposed to add the following language: “Develop methodologies for optimization and payments for forest ecosystem services and forests’ contribution to society through land use planning, including their role of spatial planning in urban and peri-urban areas” under complementary actions for target 11. While the idea seems interesting, clarification is needed on the rationale.

Document CBD/SBSTTA/27/5/Add.2

Suggestions on the text

Strategic review of and update to the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity in the context of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

I. Introduction

abridged; continued.

VI. Recommendation

XX. The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice may wish to adopt a recommendation along the following lines:

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice,

Appreciating the contribution by [XX] that enabled the work on the update of the extended programme of work on forest biodiversity,

XX. Requests the Executive Secretary, to consider [the work under this agenda item] in updating other programmes and areas of work under the Convention. [Rationale: Link the outcome and the recommendation of this agenda item to the process under agenda item 6a, e.g. the work on protected areas]

29. The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice may wish to recommend that, at its seventeenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decisions IX/5 of 30 May 2008, XIII/7 of 17 December 2016 and 16/35 of 27 February 2025,

Recognizing that the conservation, restoration and sustainable management of forests ~~management~~ are vital for the achievement of many targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,³² [Rationale: Consistency of the language with sustainable forest management]

Deeply concerned about the continuous loss and degradation of forests, especially primary forest,

Recognizing that the conservation and sustainable use of forest biodiversity is a shared priority of the Rio conventions,

Welcoming the ongoing joint efforts undertaken under the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, including on enhanced policy coherence with the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030,³³

Appreciating the continuous contribution of the Korea Forest Service of the Republic of Korea to the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative to develop capacity on sustainable forest management,

Underlining the role of the programme of work on forest biodiversity to enhance the coherence and coordination among Parties and other Governments, relevant organizations, stakeholders and indigenous peoples and local communities to promote forest biodiversity. [Rationale: The programme of work should enable forest actors and practitioners to engage with it]

Recognising the importance of further promoting forest biodiversity and sustainable forest management in global, multilateral and bilateral contexts to support the implementation of the UN Strategic Plan for Forests, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement and other global instruments. [Rationale: Forest biodiversity is important for the implementation of global environmental goals and targets]

1. *Acknowledges that the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity³⁴ and related decisions of the Conference of the Parties provide strategic guidance for the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in forest ecosystems, but that updated guidance in relation to certain targets is needed;*

³² Decision 15/4, annex.

³³ See General Assembly resolution 71/285.

³⁴ Decision VI/22.

1bis. Welcomes the thematic assessment report on the interlinkages among biodiversity, water, food and health (“nexus assessment”) of the intergovernmental science policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services including its summary for policy-makers and key messages, and notes its relevance to the work undertaken under the convention and to the implementation of the Framework. [Rationale: Alignment with text proposed under agenda items 4, 9 and 10]

1.ter Welcomes the rapid gap analysis contained in SBSTTA/25/INF/1 and the value of aligning the programme of work on forest biodiversity with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework objectives and targets. [Rationale: The rapid gap analysis was important in order to make progress on the alignment]

1.quer Highlights the importance of the programme of work on forest biodiversity as a tool to achieve the targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. [Rationale: The programme of work is an important tool and its importance should be underlined]

2. [Endorses the complementary activities for further or improved guidance contained in the annex to the present decision, as an update to the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity, noting that the development of further guidance should take into account the work undertaken under the relevant targets of the Framework and in collaboration with the relevant intergovernmental organizations, respecting their mandates and avoiding duplication;] [Rationale: See note in the beginning about the relationship between the annex and the information document].

3. Invites Parties and other Governments to take into account the update to the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity in the revision or updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and their implementation, the development of national targets, national reports, national capacity-building and development programmes and resource mobilization strategies to support the implementation of the Framework, national forest programmes and other forest-related programmes, strategies and initiatives;

4. Invites the governing bodies and secretariats of relevant multilateral environment agreements, **FAO, UNFF, ITTO and other** international organizations to contribute to the implementation of the Framework in forest ecosystems by supporting the implementation of the updated programme of work on forest biodiversity, including through the development and dissemination of guidance and tools, the development of targeted capacity-building programmes and technology transfer; [Rationale: Important to flag the implementation of the programme of work on forest biodiversity outside the CBD in other relevant organizations and agreements]

5. Invites indigenous peoples and local communities, relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and academia, women, children and youth, **persons with disabilities and forest actors** to contribute to the implementation of the Framework in forest ecosystems by supporting the implementation of the updated programme of work on forest biodiversity; [Rationale: complete list of relevant stakeholders]

6. Invites the members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests to consider ways and means to further enhance their individual and collective contributions to support Parties in their implementation of the Framework in forest ecosystems;

6.bis. Urges Parties and other Governments and invites other relevant multilateral agreements and organizations to strengthen communication on the updated programme of work on forest biodiversity [Rationale: More awareness is needed on the existence and usefulness of the programme of work]

6.ter Invites Parties and other Governments to mainstream forest biodiversity through the extended programme of work on forest biodiversity within and across all relevant sectors and to provide relevant information through the national reports [Rationale: The integration of the programme of work on forest biodiversity is important at national level and in different sectors]

7. *Requests* that, with regard to the ~~issues listed in the~~ annex to the present decision, the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity,³⁵ in collaboration with relevant international organizations and subject to the availability of resources: **[Rationale: The annex does not contain issues and the proposal would need to be more complete and a more general reference is wanted]**

(a) Enhance cooperation with the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and its members to compile and make available relevant recent guidance and tools related to the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity and the complementary activities listed in the annex to the present decision, giving particular attention to sustainable forest management, as related to the activities linked to Target 10 of the Framework outlined in the annex to the present decision; **[Rationale: Editorial note, spelling]**

(b) Liaise with the executive secretaries of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa³⁶ and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change³⁷ to identify joint activities to support the conservation and restoration of forests in view of their role in achieving land degradation neutrality and climate change mitigation and adaptation;

(c) **Collect,** compile and make available relevant guidance and experiences from Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, and relevant organizations and stakeholders on the **use of the** expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity and the complementary activities listed in the annex, **to support the implementation of the Framework in forest ecosystems and report its outcomes at a SBSTTA before the eighteenth Conference of the Parties;** **[Rationale: the guidance and experiences should be considered by SBSTTA to develop relevant recommendations, e.g. a survey like it has been done under agenda item 9 on agriculture]**

(d) Integrate the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity and the complementary activities listed in the annex, as appropriate, into relevant capacity-building and development and scientific and technical cooperation efforts undertaken under the Convention, including through the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative and the Rio Conventions Joint Capacity-building Programme; **[Rationale: Editorial note, spelling]**

(e) Report to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, at a meeting held before the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, on the aforementioned cooperation activities in support of the implementation of the Convention and the Framework.

35 United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

36 Ibid., vol. 1954, No. 33480.

37 Ibid., vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Annex

Update to the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity

Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework ³⁸	Complementary activities to the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity ³⁹
Targets 1, 2 and 3	1. Conserve Contribute to the conservation of primary, high-integrity forests including through participatory, integrated and biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning and integrated land-use planning, while planning for improved ecological integrity, forest connectivity and forest intactness. [Rationale: Use terms of target 1 of the KMGBF. Question: Is there a definition of high-integrity forests under the CBD?] 2. Employ best practices in forest restoration, including with regard to spatial and within-stand heterogeneity, connectivity, climate resilience and climate projections and risks of wildfires and other threats. [Rationale: Wildfires are not the only threat to forests, diseases, storms etc. need to be included] 3. Employ other effective area-based conservation measures as an integral part of forest landscape spatial planning to increase connectivity, including by bringing terminology, concepts and definitions up to date. [Rationale: The scope of targets 1-3 is broader than forest landscape planning] 4. Establish a definition for a successfully “restored forest”, by forest ecosystem types. [Rationale: Unclear who should develop the definition, there are approaches at regional and national level to do so, that could contradict each other. Also, forests are different in different parts of the world, it is very time-consuming to develop a general definition for successfully restored forest, it could even be harmful for the conservation of biodiversity] 4.bis Further develop and implement practices that help to consider protected areas and managed forests more holistically. [Rationale: Managed and unmanaged forests need to be considered together for the benefit of biodiversity] 4.ter Implement science-based biodiversity-friendly practices in relation to afforestation and reforestation. [Rationale: Afforestation and reforestation efforts can contribute to the implementation of the targets of the KMGBF, if they are science-based and biodiversity friendly] 4.querter Assess degraded forests and deforested areas and improve monitoring, reporting and verified impacts on national restoration targets, pledges and 2030 commitments [Rationale: To facilitate actions towards target 2]
Targets 4, 5 and 9	5. Manage human-wildlife conflict, using nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches where possible, including through successful methods based on case studies, while recognizing and respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities. 6. Raise awareness and promote the application of best practices for conserving forest habitats and maintaining the genetic diversity of forest wild species and to prevent and mitigate disease risks to people. [Rationale: Original limits meaning to the prevention and mitigation of disease risks, while adding “and” broadens to other benefits] 6.bis Combat illegal logging and trade and stepping up actions against deforestation and forest degradation. [Rationale: In the context of target 5, combatting illegal logging and illegal trade is essential and should be highlighted in the complementary activities] 6.ter Identify ways and means to prevent trade of wild species, including invasive alien species, negatively impacting forest biodiversity. [Rationale: Trade of wild species should be prevented in the context of forest-biodiversity]

38 Decision 15/4, annex.

39 Decision VI/22.

<i>Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</i> ³⁸	<i>Complementary activities to the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity</i> ³⁹
Target 6	7. Taking cross-cutting work on invasive alien species into account, provide guidance to assist forest managers with preventing the introduction of invasive species, in particular those that may be unintentionally spread through forest machinery and operations.
Target 7	8. Taking the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity and the Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health ⁴⁰ into account, reduce soil loss and the impacts and risks of pesticides on forest biodiversity and human health [Rationale: wording in line with target 7 of the KMGBF] 8.bis <u>Increase understanding of the complex relationships between forest biodiversity and nutrient cycles and other biogeochemical flows, including novel entities and atmospheric aerosols.</u> [Rationale: Addressing the knowledge-gap around these topics]
Targets 8 and 11	9. Enhance the benefits for biodiversity, and avoid the negative impacts, of carbon market-driven incentives for large-scale restoration and afforestation. 10. Apply guidance from the Paris Agreement ⁴¹ to forest restoration and management, including for market-based incentive mechanisms. 11. Enhance forest ecosystem integrity and resilience by using nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches as an objective for climate change mitigation and adaptation and disaster risk reduction, considering likely long-term ecosystem changes and relevant environmental and social safeguards. [Rationale: All environmental and social safeguards should be taken into consideration] 11.bis <u>Strengthen integrated forest fire management, prevention, mitigation and control of all threats to forest biodiversity, as well as forest landscape restoration.</u> [Rationale: All threats to forest biodiversity, including fire, should be addressed adequately] 11.ter <u>Restore, maintain and enhance forest ecosystem functions and services, such as carbon sequestration, water regulation, water quality, soil health, pollination, and cultural values through nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches.</u> [Rationale: Alignment with target 11 of the KMGBF] 11.quater <u>Make use of nature-based solutions and ecosystem-based approaches to improve disaster risk reduction to minimize negative and foster positive impacts of climate action on forest biodiversity.</u> [Rationale: Alignment with target 8 and 11]
Target 10	12. <u>Further develop, promote, and implement</u> biodiversity-friendly practices, <u>such as sustainable forest management,</u> including reduced-impact logging practices, sustainable intensification, <u>agroecology,</u> agroforestry and inter-cropping to reduce forest fragmentation. [Rationale: Biodiversity-friendly practices, such as SFM, already exist but should be further developed, promoted and implemented.] 13. Promote approaches that improve the socioeconomic conditions of indigenous peoples and local communities, including alternative livelihoods based on the sustainable use of forest resources.
Target 12	14. Provide and apply the principles of urban forestry and urban green space planning to urban development to enable green spaces, including by establishing guidelines for tree density, the area and size of green spaces and connectivity between those areas.

40 Decision 16/19, annex.

41 United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 3156, No. 54113.

<i>Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework³⁸</i>	<i>Complementary activities to the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity³⁹</i>
Target 13 (no gaps)	15. Take into account the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization, ⁴² as applicable, and relevant decisions related to digital sequence information on genetic resources.
Target 14	16. Employ strategic environmental assessments, poverty eradication strategies, strategic environmental assessments, environmental impact assessments, and national accounting, as appropriate , as a part of an overall landscape plan, spatial planning, integrating biodiversity and its multiple values [Rationale: Alignment with target 14] 16.bis Strengthen cross-sectoral efforts and mainstream forest biodiversity into policies, strategies and measures, including national forest strategies, inter alia through forest and land-use policies, zero-deforestation initiatives, forest-agriculture integration and urban planning. [Rationale: Apply whole-of-government approach, while mainstreaming forest biodiversity between and across all levels of government]
Targets 15 and 16	17. Promote due diligence in the production and supply chains of non-forest industries to address the risk of deforestation and forest degradation, taking national socioeconomic conditions and legislation into account. 18. Encourage consumers to buy from legal, deforestation-free and sustainable supply chains, including through forest certification, by providing information enabling them to make informed decisions. 18.bis Promote monitoring, assessing and transparent disclosure of forest biodiversity related risks posed by activities of business and financial institutions. [Rationale: Alignment with target 15]
Target 17 (no gaps)	19. Take the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety ⁴³ into account, as applicable.
Targets 18 and 19	20. Develop forest biodiversity-positive financing instruments, including by repurposing subsidies harmful to forest biodiversity through an active Biodiversity Finance Initiative plan, and integrate the instruments into national finance or similar plans. 21. Work closely with the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network of the United Nations Forum on Forests. 21.bis Develop and implement financing instruments to enhance the role of indigenous peoples and local communities in implementing forest governance and community-based forest management. [Rationale: Proposal in line with target 19(f).]
Targets 21, 22 and 23	22. Taking the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity related to indigenous peoples and local communities to 2030 ⁴⁴ and the Gender Plan of Action (2023-2030) ⁴⁵ into account: (a) Integrate traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, as well as worldviews and values into forest landscape management practices; [Rationale: Next to article 8j, elements of section C of the Framework should be reflected] (b) Ensure the secure, equitable and legally recognized land and forest tenure for indigenous peoples and local communities; (c) Improve participation in the planning and management of forests by all sectors of civil society, including indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth

42 Ibid., vol. 3008, No. 30619.

43 Ibid., vol. 2226, No. 30619.

44 Decision 16/4, annex.

45 Decision 15/11, annex.

<i>Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework³⁸</i>	<i>Complementary activities to the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity³⁹</i>
	and persons with disabilities <u>and all sectors of civil society.</u> [Rationale: Indigenous peoples and local communities are not a part of all sectors of civil society.] <u>(c bis) Recognize gender roles, responsibilities, uses, rights and practices to address underlying social and gender inequalities and adopt a gender-responsive approach in conserving, sustainably managing and restoring forest biodiversity.</u> [Rationale: Alignment with target 23, section C, Gender Action Plan]

6 Areas of potential further work (Item 6c)

The topic was introduced by Linn Appelgren. The expert meeting discussed whether there is the need for SBSTTA recommendations for all areas of potential further work in addition to those proposed. However, they were of the view that these are not necessarily needed.

Document CBD/SBSTTA/27/5/Add.3

Suggestions on the text

Areas of potential further work in the context of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

abridged; continued.

III. Recommendations

58. The Subsidiary Body may wish to adopt a recommendation along the following lines:

27/--. Equity, gender equality and the human rights-based approach relating to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice,

Recalling the adoption of the Gender Plan of Action (2023–2030) by decision 15/11 of 19 December 2022 and of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity⁴⁶ related to indigenous peoples and local communities to 2030 by decision 16/4 of 30 October 2024, **and as well as subparagraph g in section C of the Framework**, both of which **all** promote the application of a human rights-based approach in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,⁴⁷ **[Rationale: To address all relevant key processes and sections where the human rights based approach is recognized]**

*Noting ~~that conduct~~ by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights **is conducting** of a global analytical study on the implementation of a human rights-based approach to the goals and targets of the Framework, as requested by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 57/28 on biodiversity and human rights of 11 October 2024,* **[Rationale: Editorial change]**

Requests the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, subject to the availability of resources, to review the global analytical study on the implementation of a human rights-based approach to the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework conducted by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, once available, and to submit a proposal for potential additional work on **the equity, gender equality and the human rights-based approach**, including intergenerational **equity** and gender equality, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth meeting. **[Rationale: This is to cover all elements of the title of the potential additional**

⁴⁶ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

⁴⁷ Decision 15/4, annex.

work area and to match the language for section C, which includes element of intergenerational equity and gender equality]

Requests the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, to consider available information on the human rights-based approach when preparing the revision of the programme of work on protected areas which is due to be considered by the twenty-eights meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice. [Rationale: Section C of the KMGBF including the human rights-based approach is highly relevant to target 3, among others]

59. The Subsidiary Body may also wish to recommend that, at its seventeenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties, adopt a decision along the following lines:

Areas of potential further work in the context of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

A

Biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning

The Conference of the Parties,

Noting the ongoing methodological assessment of integrated biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning and ecological connectivity of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services,

Recognizing that marine spatial planning has been adequately addressed in previous decisions, in particular decision XIII/9 of 17 December 2016, and has been the focus of capacity-building activities on marine and coastal biodiversity, including through the Sustainable Ocean Initiative,

Noting the existing experience and guidance on marine spatial planning on different scales, including under the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity,⁴⁸ subject to the availability of resources:

(a) To prepare a report on experiences with biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning, drawing on the inputs into the global review of collective process in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,⁴⁹ and, ~~on the basis of using~~ **[Rationale: To improve language to enable inclusion of the IPBES assessment on spatial planning]** the findings of the review **as well as of the methodological assessment of integrated biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning and ecological connectivity of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. [Rationale: IPBES spatial planning report to be considered in the conduct of the workshop]** to hold an expert workshop to advance a common understanding of biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning and its approaches, in the context of the implementation of the Framework;

(b) To prepare, on the basis of the findings of the methodological assessment of integrated biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning and ecological connectivity of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and the activities referred to in subparagraph (a) above, an updated proposal for potential further work on biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting to be held before the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

⁴⁸ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

⁴⁹ Decision 15/4, annex.

B

Pollution and biodiversity

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling decisions 16/12 of 1 November 2024 and 16/31 and 16/35 of 27 February 2025,

Recognizing that pollution is one of the main drivers of biodiversity loss,

Welcoming the establishment of Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution, [Rationale: The ISPCWP was established and we should welcome it]

~~2. *Decides* to establish, subject to the availability of resources, an ad hoc technical expert group on pollution and biodiversity, with a time bound mandate until the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, to develop guidance on ways to address the impacts of pollution on biodiversity, in accordance with the terms of reference contained in the annex to the present decision;~~ [Rationale: The expert group is not in favour of establishing a new AHTEG, expressing concerns with regards to budgetary implications and timeline. Instead, the group proposes to use the same methodology as for the area of potential further work on spatial planning]

3. *Invites* Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant organizations to submit scientific and technical information to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity⁵⁰ in relation to:

(a) The impacts of pollution on biodiversity in different biomes, including the types and sources of pollution of priority concern for different biomes and species;

(b) Priority biodiversity considerations to be incorporated into pollution prevention, control and mitigation measures, for key sources, sectors and stakeholders;

(c) The role of biodiversity and ecosystem services in pollution mitigation (nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches), including guidance for specific sectors and sources of pollution;

~~4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Convention to make the scientific and technical information submitted pursuant to paragraph 3 above available to the ad hoc technical expert group on pollution and biodiversity;~~ [Rationale: Based on the deletion of paragraph 2 above, this paragraph is redundant]

3.bis *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity,⁵¹ to engage with the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution and relevant bodies listed under paragraph 6 below, to explore potential areas of collaboration to contribute towards filling the gaps in tools and guidance on the implementation of target 7 of the Framework; [Rationale: To request that the Secretariat starts collaborating with the organizations mentioned in paragraph 6 with a view towards filling gaps in tools and guidance, as well as

50 United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

51 United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

exploring opportunities for collaboration with the newly established ISPCWP, which the expert group proposed to welcome in the new preambular paragraph 3.]

3.ter Requests the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity,⁵² subject to the availability of resources [Rationale: Proposed alternative to paragraph 2, which has been deleted by the expert group];

(a) To prepare a report based on the scientific and technical information submitted pursuant to paragraph 3 above and experiences on pollution and biodiversity, drawing on the inputs into the global review of collective process in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,⁵³

(b) To hold, on the basis of the findings of the report, an expert workshop to advance the implementation of target 7 of the Framework, including to address the gaps in tools and guidance thereof;

(c) To prepare, on the basis of the activities referred to in paragraph 3.bis and subparagraph (a) and (b) above, an updated proposal for potential further work on pollution and biodiversity, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting to be held before the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties

~~5. — Requests the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to review the outcomes of work of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Pollution and Biodiversity and to present its recommendations for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its eighteenth meeting; [Rationale: Based on the deletion of paragraph 2 above, this paragraph is redundant]~~

6. *Invites* the Secretariat of **the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Panel on Chemicals, Waste and Pollution** [Rationale: The expert group welcomed the establishment of ISPCWP and proposes to add it as one of the organizations to collaborate with], the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal,⁵⁴ the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade⁵⁵ and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants,⁵⁶ the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury,⁵⁷ the International Maritime Organization, the International Seabed Authority and the secretariats of the regional seas conventions and action plans to strengthen their focus **and enhance their activities** [Rationale: To make the invitation more active] on the interaction of chemicals and waste, including plastic waste, with biodiversity and ecosystem services **to advance the implementation of target 7 of the Framework** [Rationale: To make it clearer that collaborate should advance implementation of Target 7];

Annex

Terms of reference for the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Pollution and Biodiversity

~~1. — The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Pollution and Biodiversity shall provide technical advice to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice on:~~

~~(a) — The impacts of pollution on biodiversity in different biomes, including the types and sources of pollution of priority concerns for different biomes and species;~~

52 United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

53 Decision 15/4, annex.

54 Ibid., vol. 1673, No. 28911.

55 Ibid., vol. 2244, No. 39973.

56 Ibid., vol. 2256, No. 40214.

57 Ibid., vol. 3201, No. 54669.

~~(b) — Priority biodiversity considerations to be incorporated into pollution prevention, control and mitigation measures, for key sources, sectors and stakeholders; and the role of biodiversity and ecosystem services in pollution mitigation (nature based solutions and/or ecosystem based approaches), including guidance for specific sectors and sources of pollution;~~

~~(c) — Data and information management, in particular in relation to information on reducing the risk of identified pollutants of priority concern for biodiversity;~~

~~(d) — Biodiversity considerations to be taken into account in national integrated environmental monitoring systems and the alignment of data on pollution control measures with the targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.⁵⁸~~

~~2. — The Technical Expert Group shall comprise 30 technical experts nominated by Parties, including experts on biodiversity and pollution, and up to five representatives nominated by observer organizations and other relevant organizations.~~

~~3. — The Technical Expert Group shall nominate two co-chairs from among the selected experts.~~

~~4. — The Chair of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice shall be invited to participate, ex officio, in the meetings of the Technical Expert Group.~~

~~5. — The Technical Expert Group shall conduct its work primarily electronically; subject to the availability of resources, it shall also meet in person at least twice during the intersessional period.~~

~~6. — The Technical Expert Group should be established and start its work immediately after the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and report on its work to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting held before the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. [Rationale: As the expert group proposed deleting paragraph 2, this annex is redundant]~~

C

Sustainable biodiversity-based activities, products and services that enhance biodiversity [Rationale: To bring the headline in line with the area of potential further work as decided in COP decision 16/12]

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling decisions 16/12 of 1 November 2024 and 16/15 of 25 October 2024,

7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity,⁵⁹ subject to the availability of resources, to prepare a report on experiences with sustainable biodiversity-based activities, products and services that enhance biodiversity, drawing on the inputs into the global review of collective process in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,⁶⁰ and, on the basis on the findings of the review, to hold an expert workshop to provide technical advice on the definition, scope and elements of the concept of sustainable biodiversity-based activities, products and services **that enhance biodiversity** [Rationale: To bring the language in line with the area of potential further work as decided in decision 16/12.], and to prepare a report **including proposals for potential additional work in this area** [Rationale: The report should include proposals for potential additional work in this area] for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting to be held before the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

D

Equity, gender equality and the human rights-based approach relating to the

⁵⁸ Decision 15/4, annex.

⁵⁹ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

⁶⁰ Decision 15/4, annex.

conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources

The Conference of the Parties,

Taking note of the global analytical study on the implementation of a human rights-based approach into the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework⁶¹ conducted by the United Nations Commissioner for Human Rights,

Taking note also of the proposal for potential additional work on **the equity, gender equality and the** human rights-based approach [**Rationale: This is to cover all elements of the title of the potential additional work area**], including intergenerational **equity** and gender equality [**Rationale: To match the language for section C, which includes element of intergenerational equity and gender equality**], prepared by the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity⁶² pursuant to recommendation 27/-- of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice,

7.bis Welcomes the transformative change assessment of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services including its Summary for Policymakers and Key-messages, and notes its relevance to the work undertaken under the Convention and to the implementation of the Framework including this area of potential further work; [**Rationale: The group is of the opinion that the transformative change assessment of IPBES should be welcomed as it is relevant for this area of potential further work**]

7.ter Recognizes that “equity and justice” is one of the four principles as identified in the assessment to address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss and guide transformative change towards global sustainability; [**Rationale: transformative change assessment in IPBES background message A5 recognizes that “equity and justice” is one of the four principles to address the underlying causes of biodiversity loss and guide transformative change towards global sustainability which is relevant here**]

8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to finalize a proposal for potential additional work on **the equity, gender equality and the** human rights-based approach, including intergenerational **equity** and gender equality [**Rationale: See rationale for preambular paragraph**], taking into account the global analytical study on the implementation of a human rights-based approach to the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework conducted by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights **and other relevant information, tools, guidance and assessments** [**Rationale: To also make use of other relevant materials developed**], and to submit the proposal for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation and the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities at meetings to be held before the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

8.bis Requests the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, to consider available information on the human rights-based approach when reviewing and updating other areas of work [**Rationale: Section C of the Framework including the human rights-based approach is relevant for all areas of work**]

61 Ibid.

62 United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

E

Different value systems, as stated in paragraph 7 (b) of section C of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling that, in subparagraph 7 (b) of section C of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,⁶³ the Conference of the Parties affirmed that different value systems should be taken into account in its implementation and that, in Target 14 of the Framework, it called for the integration of multiple values of biodiversity in decision-making,

Recalling also the adoption of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity related to indigenous peoples and local communities to 2030 by decision 16/4 of 30 October 2024 and the elements and tasks related to the joint programme of work on the links between biological and cultural diversity in the annex to decision 15/22 of 10 December 2022, both of which support the application of diverse value systems in the implementation of the Framework,

Recalling further *The Methodological Assessment Report on the Diverse Values and Valuation of Nature* of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and decision 16/14, [Rationale: This decision reviewed the findings of the assessment for the work of the Convention and provided guidance on its use]

8.bis Invites the TSC support centres to make active use of the values assessment in supporting Parties in the implementation of the Framework; [Rationale: Facilitate the increased use of the IPBES values assessment by Parties, in particular for the implementation of section C of the KMGBF]

8.ter Invites the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and other relevant organizations to further support the use and uptake of the values assessment in the implementation of the convention and the Framework; [Rationale: Facilitate the increased use of the IPBES values assessment by Parties, in particular for the implementation of section C of the KMGBF]

9. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, subject to the availability of resources, to facilitate the exchange of knowledge, experiences and good practices among Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant stakeholders at the next nature and culture summit, including through the holding of dialogues and through learning platforms, to support the effective integration of diverse values and knowledge systems into the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. [Rationale: The expert group considered “holding of dialogues and learning platforms” not clear. Proposal to ensure that exchange of knowledge, experiences and good practices will be facilitated in an adequate manner and established format such as at the next nature and culture summit, which is an official parallel event to CBD COPs]

63 Decision 15/4, annex.

7 Risk assessment and risk management (Item 7)

The topic was introduced by Valeria Giovannelli. Overall reflections (not covered by suggested changes to the text):

The experts generally agreed that the proposed workload for the AHTEG to develop additional voluntary guidance materials for four topics and technical notes for three topics would be too high for one intersessional period. It is suggested that the topics to work on are limited to a manageable number and to prioritize at this point one topic for additional voluntary guidance materials and one for technical notes. The group did not discuss prioritizing any of the topics.

Document [CBD/SBSTTA/27/6](#)

Suggestions on the text

Risk assessment and risk management of living modified organisms

Note by the Secretariat

I. Background

abridged; continued.

III. Recommendations

60. Further to the request in decision [CP-11/7](#), the Subsidiary Body may wish to recommend that, at its twelfth meeting, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol,

Recalling decisions [CP-9/13](#) of 28 November 2018 and [CP-11/7](#) of 30 October 2024,

1. *Welcomes* the outcomes of the meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment,⁶⁴ ~~and takes note of the outcomes of~~ **including** the structured analysis of the topics of risk assessment proposed by Parties in relation to needs and priorities for further guidance on specific topics of risk assessment of living modified organisms;⁶⁵ **[Rationale: To be consistent with paragraphs 2 and 3 we “welcome” the whole work of the AHTEG, and that also includes the structured analysis]**

2. *Endorses* the ~~recommendation~~ **conclusions** of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment to develop additional voluntary guidance materials for living modified algae, living modified microorganisms, living modified organisms expressing genome editing machinery for pest or pathogen control and living modified fish; **[Rationale: AHTEG did not provide a recommendation, but rather conclusions]**

3. *Also endorses* the ~~recommendation~~ **conclusions** of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment to develop technical notes⁶⁶ for voluntary use for long-term and cumulative effects of genetic constructs and living modified organisms,

64 See CBD/CP/RA/AHTEG/2025/1/3.

65 CBD/SBSTTA/27/6, annex.

66 To serve as practical supplements to existing guidance materials to support Parties in addressing specific challenges or contexts.

operationalizing protection goals into relevant assessment and measurement end points, and the use of living modified organisms in centres of origin and in traditional agricultural systems; [Rationale: AHTEG did not provide a recommendation, but rather conclusions]

3.bis *Decides to develop additional voluntary guidance materials for topic [one listed in paragraph 2].* [Rationale: It is not feasible to develop material for all four topics in one intersessional period. All identified topics are important, so we suggest to prioritize one topic for additional voluntary guidance materials, to be developed at this time]

3.ter *Decides to develop a technical note for topic [one listed in paragraph 3].* [Rationale: It is not feasible to develop material for all three topics in one intersessional period. All the topics for the technical notes are important, so we suggest to prioritize one topic for technical notes, to be developed at this time]

3.quer *Decides to consider the remaining topics listed in paragraph 2 and 3 at the thirteenth meeting of the COP/MOP.* [Rationale: All the seven topics did fulfil all criteria in the analysis of the AHTEG]

4. *Decides* to establish a new ad hoc technical expert group on risk assessment, with the terms of reference contained in the annex to the present decision;

5. *Invites* Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant organizations to submit information relevant to the work of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment;

6. *Decides* to extend the Open-ended Online Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management to support the work of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment;

7. *Also decides* to consider at its thirteenth meeting additional issues on which guidance materials on risk assessment may be needed, further to the process established in decision CP-9/13 for the identification and prioritization of specific issues of risk assessment of living modified organisms that may warrant consideration, taking into account the priorities identified by Parties, including in their national reports;

7.bis *Calls for broad international cooperation to continue sharing information and experiences, particularly through the Biosafety Clearing-House, and to engage in cooperation and capacity building and development activities to support scientifically sound risk assessment, particularly with regard to the topics prioritised by the AHTEG (CP/RA/AHTEG/2025/1/3);* [Rationale: Cooperation, capacity building and development activities are of very high importance. Moreover, these tasks require direct and active engagement of all.]

8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to:

(a) Convene at least two meetings of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment, one of which will be in person, before the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;⁶⁷

(b) Convene discussions in the Open-ended Online Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management during the same intersessional period;

(c) Synthesize information collected in response to paragraphs 5 and 6 of the present decision;

(d) Continue to undertake capacity-building and development activities to support the risk assessment of living modified organisms;

9. *Requests* the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to consider the outcomes of the meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment at a meeting held before the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and to make recommendations to the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol.

Annex

Terms of reference for the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment

1. The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Risk Assessment shall:

(a) Be composed of experts, selected in accordance with section H of the consolidated *modus operandi* of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice,⁶⁸ with specific scientific and technical expertise relevant to the present mandate, and include experts from academia, relevant international organizations and indigenous peoples and local communities, in line with decision 14/33 of 29 November 2018 on the procedure for avoiding or managing conflicts of interest in expert groups, as amended in decision CP-11/6 of 1 November 2024;

(b) Subject to the availability of funds, hold at least two meetings, one of which will be in person, before the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety⁶⁹ and perform any necessary tasks between its two meetings by online means of communication and engagement;

(c) Develop draft additional voluntary guidance materials **in accordance with annex III to the protocol** for **the topic identified in paragraph 3.bis** ~~living modified algae, living modified microorganisms, living modified organisms expressing genome editing machinery for pest or pathogen control and living modified fish~~, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body at a meeting held before the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol; **[Rationale: to support focused work of the AHTEG; streamline with paragraph 3.bis]**

(d) Develop draft technical notes⁷⁰ **in accordance with annex III to the protocol** for **the topic identified in paragraph 3.ter** ~~the long term and cumulative effects of genetic constructs and living modified organisms, operationalizing protection goals into relevant assessment and measurement end points, and the use of living modified organisms in centres of origin and in traditional agricultural systems~~, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body at a meeting held before the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol. **[Rationale: to support focused work of the AHTEG; streamline with paragraph 3.ter]**

2. In undertaking its work, the Expert Group shall consider the information submitted pursuant to paragraph 5 of the present decision, the discussions held in the Open-ended Online Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management, the synthesis of information prepared by the Secretariat pursuant to paragraph 8 (c) of the present decision, the synthesis of submissions of information on risk assessment and the discussions of the Open-Ended Online on Risk Assessment and Risk Management⁷¹ and the list of bibliographic references provided in the submissions from Parties and during the discussions of the Open-ended Online Forum on Risk Assessment and Risk Management.⁷²

3. In conducting its work, the Expert Group shall also consider information produced by other international, regional and national bodies, to avoid the duplication of existing materials.

68 Decision VIII/10, annex III.

69 United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

70 Technical notes serve as practical supplements to existing guidance materials to support Parties in addressing specific challenges or contexts.

71 CBD/CP/RA/AHTEG/2025/1/INF/1.

72 CBD/CP/RA/AHTEG/2025/1/INF/2.

8 Invasive alien species (Item 8)

The topic was introduced by Johanna Niemivuo-Lahti.

Document CBD/SBSTTA/27/7

Suggestions on the text

Progress report on intersessional activities on invasive alien species

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

abridged; continued.

IV. Recommendations

23. The Subsidiary Body may wish to recommend that, at its seventeenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decision 16/18 of 1 November 2024, in which it recognized the urgent need to implement the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,⁷³ in particular its Target 6, and that increasing the availability and accessibility of information and means of implementation and addressing major knowledge gaps on biological invasions, in particular in developing countries, would result in more robust and effective policy instruments and management actions,

Recalling also that, to address the challenges posed by invasive alien species, it highlighted the relevance of coordination and collaboration across sectors in its decisions XII/17 of 10 October 2014, 14/11 of 29 November 2018, 15/27 of 19 December 2022 and 16/18 of November 2024, as well as urged Parties to support the implementation of the One Health approach in its decisions 16/18 and 16/19, **[Rationale: The date was added to be consistent; decision 16/19 was added because it is another relevant document for the interlinkage between One Health and Invasive Alien Species]**

1. *Notes with appreciation* the work done by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity⁷⁴ during the current intersessional period, including the hosting of the discussions of the Open-ended Online Forum on Invasive Alien Species and convening of the fourteenth meeting of the Inter-Agency Liaison Group on Invasive Alien Species;

2. *Encourages* Parties, in accordance with national circumstances and priorities, and invites other Governments, relevant organizations and indigenous peoples and local communities, as appropriate:

(a) To improve the ~~collection and availability~~ **gathering, analysing and distribution** **[Rationale: To match the common, normally used language]** of data on impacts, pathways of introduction, **especially through international trade including online trade**, occurrences and management measures with regard to invasive alien species identified in their territories, to support efforts towards addressing Target 6 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework; **[Rationale: This was one of the**

⁷³ Decision 15/4, annex.

⁷⁴ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

areas identified by the Inter-Agency Liaison Group requiring further work, cf. paragraph 7 (c). We considered it important that Parties continue gathering, analysing and distributing data related to international trade. A good and important example is the “Guidance Document on e-commerce and IAS” (2021) by the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and its natural habitats (Bern Convention)]

(b) To ~~consider the use of~~ integrated and collaborative approaches, to mainstream actions to ~~that~~ bring together relevant sectors to address the challenges posed by invasive alien species, involving especially the private sector, in order to mobilize resources and raise awareness; [Rationale: To strengthen the language to signal that all relevant sectors need to work together for the implementation of target 6. Involving public private partners is a necessary and cost-effective way to address, amongst others, the obstacle of low public awareness, as well as the need to prevent introduction and further spread of IAS]

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources:

(a) To continue to collaborate with the Inter-Agency Liaison Group on Invasive Alien Species on, among other things: (i) producing guidance on how relevant government agencies can improve cross-sectoral collaboration to address the challenges posed by invasive alien species, including through the use of integrated approaches [Comment: Some experts considered “compiling best practices and lessons learnt” may suffice and could reduce the workload for the Secretariat, however, acknowledging that official “Guidance” has a stronger mandate]; and (ii) exploring strategies to enable early detection and rapid response to support the mobilization of data, so as to reduce the time lag between the detection of an invasive alien species and information availability;

(b) To continue to improve the invasive alien species portal⁷⁵ on the website of the Convention on Biological Diversity, to ~~serve as a one-stop shop for users and~~ support the implementation of Target 6 of the Framework; [Rationale: We support that the portal on IAS will be updated, continued and improved, but questioned the function as a “one-stop shop”: There are many (regional and local) databases. If this will be done, it is important that it is interoperable/compatible with existing ones and not creating double structures. It might also require too many resources]

(c) To submit the outcomes of the work described above to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice for consideration at a meeting held before the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

⁷⁵ www.cbd.int/invasive.

9 Biodiversity and agriculture (Item 9)

The topic was introduced by Dr. Jan Plesnik.

Document CBD/SBSTTA/27/8

Suggestions on the text

Biodiversity and agriculture

I. Introduction

abridged, continued

V. Suggested recommendations

91. The Subsidiary Body may wish to adopt a recommendation along the following lines:

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice,

Having considered the note by the Secretariat on biodiversity and agriculture,⁷⁶

Recommends that, at its seventeenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decisions VI/5 of 19 April 2002, VIII/23 of 31 March 2006, X/34 of 29 October 2010, XIII/3 of 17 October 2016 and 15/28 of 19 December 2022,

Noting the importance of soil biodiversity to achieve multiple global commitments, including the Rio conventions, by contributing to solutions to tackle climate change, biodiversity loss and land degradation,

Recognizing that the conservation and sustainable use of soil biodiversity is key to achieving food security and nutrition, while contributing to the achievement of multiple goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,⁷⁷

Recognizing the importance of restoring soil health and increasing soil organic carbon as part of a nexus approach on biodiversity, water, food, health, and climate as described by the Thematic Assessment Report on Interlinkages among Biodiversity, Water, Food and Health of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, towards achieving multiple targets of the Framework [Rationale: The nexus assessment provides some findings that are useful for the further development of soil protection, conservation and management]

1. *Welcomes* the progress made in the implementation of the Plan of Action (2020–2030) for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity,⁷⁸ and recognizes the barriers and opportunities in national implementation summarized in document CBD/SBSTTA/27/8;

1.bis Welcomes the Thematic Assessment Report on Interlinkages among Biodiversity, Water, Food and Health of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, including the summary for

⁷⁶ CBD/SBSTTA/27/8.

⁷⁷ Decision 15/4, annex.

⁷⁸ Decision 15/28, annex.

policymakers and the key messages, as well as the 71 response options, and notes its relevance to the work undertaken under the Convention and to the implementation of the Framework; [Rationale: The nexus assessment provides some findings that are useful for the further development of soil protection, conservation and management]

2. *Encourages* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to continue to support the implementation of the Plan of Action in alignment with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;

3. *Encourages* Parties to integrate the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of soil biodiversity in their national biodiversity strategies and action plans, including through biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning conducted in a participatory manner;

4. *Invites* Parties to strengthen cooperation among national focal points for the Minamata Convention on Mercury,⁷⁹ the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal,⁸⁰ the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade⁸¹ and the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants⁸² and to implement coherent and integrated actions to address the conservation and restoration of soil biodiversity and its interlinkages with pollution control; [Comment: In this context, also the ongoing negotiations to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution including in the marine environment are relevant]

5. *Encourages* Parties, other Governments, subnational governments, local authorities and relevant organizations to provide support and resources, **including technical and technological assistance and digital tools, including through the technical and scientific support centres,** for monitoring soil biodiversity, including for community-based monitoring that engages indigenous peoples and local communities, farmers, pastoralists, women and youth in the development and management of monitoring systems; [Rationale: To make capacity-building more effective]

6. *Invites* relevant global and regional organizations, as well as academic institutions, to address the knowledge gaps in soil biodiversity;

7. *Notes* the ongoing work on microorganism and invertebrate genetic resources conducted under the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, and welcomes the request made by the members of the Commission at its twentieth session that the Secretariat of the Commission engage with potential partners, including the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity,⁸³ in the establishment of a global pollinator platform;

7.bis Reminds Parties and other Governments to identify, eliminate, phase out or reform incentives, including subsidies, harmful to biodiversity, including those directly related to agriculture and invites them to redirect them to increase biodiversity-friendly practices in soil biodiversity protection, conservation and management; [Rationale: KMGBF-target 18 (harmful subsidies) is not addressed in the analysis of progress in the implementation of the Plan of Action (2020–2030) for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity (neither are positive agricultural production subsidies mentioned). It was the only KMGBF target that was identified as a gap (see paragraph 68). The target is very important for protection, conservation and management for soil biodiversity]

79 United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 3201, No. 54669.

80 Ibid., vol. 1673, No. 28911.

81 Ibid., vol. 2244, No. 39973.

82 Ibid., vol. 2256, No. 40214.

83 Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Convention to further engage with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture on the ongoing work on microorganism and invertebrate genetic resources, including in relation to soil biodiversity and pollinators;

9. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to cooperate with relevant organizations, **especially those mentioned in paragraph 4**, on the development of relevant tools and guidance on reducing the impacts of pollution on soil biodiversity and to report on progress to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting held before the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties; **[Rationale: To specify key stakeholders]**

10. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, and invites the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Global Soil Partnership, the Global Soil Biodiversity Initiative and other relevant organizations, to continue efforts to develop harmonized methodologies for the conservation and sustainable use of soil biodiversity and indicators to support Parties in the monitoring of and reporting on soil biodiversity, providing relevant capacity-building, as necessary;

11. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to bring the present decision to the attention of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme, **UNESCO, World Health Organization**, the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat,⁸⁴ the Minamata Convention on Mercury, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,⁸⁵ the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change⁸⁶, **the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services** and other biodiversity-related conventions and entities of the United Nations system, in particular those involved in the implementation of the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration;⁸⁷ **and consider to establish, subject to availability of resources, an inter-agency Liaison Group/informal coordination group/committee consisting of the entities above, to coordinate the various efforts, enhance synergies and avoid duplications, on the work on soil biodiversity.** **[Rationale: UNESCO is important and relevant, e.g. because of their field of activities, e.g. good capacities in communication (e.g. MAB Programme); the WHO is important because of the interrelations between soil and health within One Health concept; to coordinate the efforts, avoid duplications, and enhance synergies]**

84 Ibid., vol. 996, No. 14583.

85 Ibid., vol. 1954, No. 33480.

86 Ibid., vol. 1771, No. 30822.

87 See General Assembly resolution 73/284.

10 Biodiversity and health (Item 10)

The topic was introduced by Conor Kretsch. In reviewing the note from the Secretariat for agenda item 10, the expert meeting considered the following: (a) whether the item would give justice to the COP 16 decision on health (decision 16/19), (b) facilitate the development and delivery of the appropriate scientific and technical support for Parties and the Secretariat in their work to implement the decision, including national/subnational implementation of the Global Action Plan (GAP) on Biodiversity and Health, (c) ensure the profile and importance given to the CBD's thematic area of work on health and biodiversity is sustained, and (d) support and enhance other ongoing CBD work on mainstreaming, policy coherence and synergies with other multilateral processes.

The expert meeting noted that very little detail is presented in the draft text for agenda item 10 on the implementation activities requested in decision 16/19, paragraph 9. It was noted that the CBD Secretariat, and the consultees identified in decision 16/9 including the Secretariat and members of the One Health Quadripartite, face significant resourcing and capacity issues, so the scope of ongoing engagement remains in any case uncertain. The experts feel it would be valuable for SBSTTA-27 to be able to reflect on further information and potential outputs to identify any opportunities to further strengthen the work of CBD and Parties on health, particularly the implementation of the GAP.

Document CBD/SBSTTA/27/9

Suggestions on the text

Biodiversity and health

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

abridged, continued

VI. Recommendations

11. The Subsidiary Body may wish to adopt a recommendation along the following lines:

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice

1. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to ~~submit~~ **complete** the ~~final list~~ **work pursuant to paragraph 13 (a) of decision 14/4 and reiterated in paragraph 9 (a) of decision 16/19 regarding the development** of integrated science-based indicators, metrics and progress measurement tools on biodiversity and health **and submit the final list of integrated science-based indicators, metrics and progress measurement tools on biodiversity and health for consideration at a SBSTTA before the eighteenth Conference of the Parties and to the Conference of the Parties for consideration at its ~~seventeenth~~ eighteenth meeting; [Rationale: Since the proposed timeline does not allow a sufficient review process and party engagement and the consideration of the indicators by SBSTTA-27 or SBSTTA-28 it was suggested to consider a postponement of the adoption to COP 18]**

1.bis Also requests the Executive Secretary to adjust the timeline of the development of the indicators accordingly to provide adequate time for peer review; [Rationale: If adoption is postponed to COP 18, the timeline should be adjusted]

1.ter Requests the Executive Secretary to consider the discussion of indicators on climate change and health of the UNFCCC Framework for Global Climate Resilience adopted at COP 28 and the outcomes of UNFCCC COP30 for the development of indicators requested in Dec.14/4; [Rationale: Indicators developed under UNFCCC on health might be relevant for the voluntary actions in the GAP proposed in relation to KMGBF target 8 which states e.g. “Explore the possibilities of developing indicators on linkages between climate, biodiversity and health”]

1.quater Takes note of the update provided by the Secretariat at SBSTTA-27 on the progress on activities requested in Dec. 16/19 paragraph 9 (a)-(f); [Rationale: The Vilm experts would hope for at least an oral update on progress on activities requested in 16/19 since the publication of the document by the ES at SBSTTA-27 and are of the view this should be considered in addition of the information provided in SBSTTA-27/9]

1.quinquies Requests the Executive Secretary to initiate and continue the tasks as outlined in subparagraphs 9 (b), (c), (d) and (e) of decision 16/19; [Rationale: Participants were of the view that not all activities requested in decision 16/19 were addressed in the document and wanted to reiterate the mandate to initiate and continue the work, e.g. initiating cooperation work with the Office of the United Nation’s High Commissioner for Human Rights since (d) requested cooperation with the Human Rights Agreements or outreach to the other Rio Conventions (UNFCCC, UNCCD)]

1.sexies Encourages the Executive Secretary to consider engagement in the process on Pandemic Agreement; [Rationale: Ongoing discussions in the Intergovernmental Working Group of the Pandemic Agreement on Access and Benefit-sharing will include considerations of the Nagoya Protocol and will inform the development of national One Health strategies and action plans, which are also ongoing]

1.septies Requests the Executive Secretary to provide an update on progress related to the work mentioned above at the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth meeting; [Rationale: To provide update to COP 17]

2. *Recommends* that, at its seventeenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties,

Recognizing the relevance of the interlinkages between biodiversity and health for the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework **as highlighted in Section C, subparagraphs (g) and (r) of decision 15/4 [Rationale: Recognition of (g) the human rights-based approach and human right to a clean environment, (r) on biodiversity and health and the One Health approach],**⁸⁸

Recalling paragraph 8 of its decision 16/19 of 1 November 2024, in which it invited Parties, other Governments, relevant multilateral environmental agreements and other organizations to share measures, guidance and tools, examples, best practices and lessons learned in the implementation of the Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health⁸⁹ and the mainstreaming of biodiversity and health interlinkages at all levels,

1. *Welcomes* *The Thematic Assessment Report on Interlinkages among Biodiversity, Water, Food and Health* of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services,⁹⁰ **including the summary for policymakers and**

⁸⁸ Decision 15/4, annex.

⁸⁹ Decision 16/19, annex.

⁹⁰ At the time of reporting, only the summary for policymakers had been published, but it is expected that the full report will be available by the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

the key messages as well as the 71 response options and highlights its relevance to the work undertaken under the Convention and to the implementation of the Framework and the Global Action Plan on biodiversity and health. [Rationale: Related to agenda item 4, standard language]

1.bis Recognizes the key messages⁹¹ and 71 response options related to health and the interlinkages to the other nexus elements. [Rationale: to highlight key messages relevant for the biodiversity-health nexus]

1.bis alt Welcomes the key messages and response options of the IPBES Nexus Assessment report, which confirms the findings of the State of Knowledge Review that greater integration of the design and implementation of policy responses across the nexus elements of biodiversity, water, food, health and climate, which are inclusive, equitable, accountable, coordinated and adaptive, can enhance their efficiency and effectiveness, support multiple goals and targets across policy frameworks. [Rationale: Alternative to 1.bis was proposed to back up the nexus report through the findings of the state of knowledge review which are already established and accepted by COP decision 13/6]

1.ter Recalling also previous decisions by the Conference of the Parties relating to biodiversity and health interlinkages and cooperation with the health sector, which stress that mainstreaming biodiversity in the health sector is essential for halting the loss of biodiversity and called for greater cooperation with the health sector, particularly decisions XII/21, XIII/6, XIV/4 and XVI/19. [Rationale: In order to reinforce that the health sector is important for mainstreaming]

1.ter alt Highlighting the contribution of the Thematic Assessment Report on Interlinkages among Biodiversity, Water, Food and Health of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services to the mainstreaming of biodiversity into the health sector and other sectors. [Rationale: The nexus assessment also recognizes other nexus elements, and to strengthen mainstreaming biodiversity in other sectors]

PLACEHOLDER: Takes note of the list of the integrated science-based indicators, metrics and progress measurement tools on biodiversity and health and encourages Parties and other Governments to make use of it, on a voluntary basis, in their report of the implementation of the Global Action Plan; [Rationale: In case COP 17 adopts the list of indicators, the recommendation should encourage Parties to use these]

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity,⁹² subject to the availability of resources:

(a) To compile and synthesize information from Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, relevant multilateral environmental agreements and other organizations on measures, guidance and tools, examples, best practices and lessons learned in the implementation of the Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health and the mainstreaming of biodiversity and health interlinkages at all levels, and to make the information available through the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention or on its website, as appropriate;

(a.bis) To include potential cross-linkages of biodiversity and health in the ongoing revision of the programmes of work and other areas of work where relevant and where appropriate; [Rationale: Nexus assessment key messages include considerations of trade-offs of siloed approaches vs. integrated approaches]

91 E.g. KM-A1, KM-B1, KM-B2, KM-B3, KM-C2, KM-C3, KM-D1

92 United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

(a.ter) To consider the IPBES nexus elements and related reports in engagements with the secretariats of the other Rio Conventions, and other multi-lateral environmental processes, and with the World Health Organization and other members of the One Health Quadripartite; [Rationale: The nexus assessment identifies the nexus elements as being key points of integration and coherence across Multilateral Environmental Agreements]

(a.quater) To further pursue policy coherence and synergies with the secretariats of the other Rio Conventions and to conduct a review of health-related decisions from the Conferences of the Parties of the other Conventions including science-based indicators, any responses to the nexus assessment, and report on same to a SBSTTA meeting before the eighteenth Conference of the Parties; [Rationale: COPs of other Rio Conventions, e.g. UNFCCC COP30 are considering nexus elements and interlinkages between biodiversity and health; concerns were raised as to the work load of this task]

(b) To continue cooperation on biodiversity and health with relevant organizations, as outlined in subparagraphs 9 (b), (c), (d) and (e) of decision 16/19;

(c) To submit a report on the outcomes of its work for consideration **to a SBSTTA before** ~~by~~ the Conference of the Parties at its eighteenth meeting. **[Rationale: No consideration currently foreseen on engagement of SBSTTA]**

A Appendix

A.1 Participants of the European expert meeting in preparation of SBSTTA-27, 08–12 September 2025, INA Vilm, Germany

Participants at the venue

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A.2 Programme of the European expert meeting in preparation of SBSTTA-27, 08–12 September 2025, INA Vilm, Germany

Background and objectives

The 27th meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) will take place in October 2025 in Panama City, Panama. The aim of the workshop on Vilm Island is to stimulate a focused discussion and allow for an in-depth preparation of the issues which will be dealt with at SBSTTA-27.

In preparation for SBSTTA-27, experts from European countries (EU member states and others) are invited to attend the European expert meeting convened by the German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN) at the International Academy for Nature Conservation, Isle of Vilm, to be held from 8 – 12 September 2025.

The meeting will be characterized by informal discussions between National Focal Points and other experts, focusing on the agenda items that will be considered at SBSTTA-27. The aim is to work on the text and to have participants jointly develop text suggestions in a unique atmosphere.

As an exception, the agenda item 7 on Risk assessment and risk management will be discussed virtually in parallel to the physical meeting.

The results of and inspiration from the meeting may feed into the international negotiation process. The outcomes of the discussions will be published and shared among the CBD- and SBSTTA National Focal Points and made available to SBSTTA-27.

Target group

The target group of the meeting are National Focal Points and/or secondaries, experts on thematic topics and/or procedural matters as well as selected experts from NGOs, IPLCs, youth and academia. Members of the CBD-Secretariat and the SBSTTA-Bureau are invited as resource persons.

Organiser

Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN): Division International Nature Conservation, Bonn, and International Academy for Nature Conservation, Isle of Vilm.

Costs

Ca. 400 € per participant (including full board and lodging). For prices and fees please see the [price list of the International Academy for Nature Conservation Isle of Vilm](#).

Payment by EC card or credit card please. Bank transfer is only possible in exceptional cases.

Please note, that participants from developing countries or countries with economies in transition and members of NGOs can apply for financial assistance. The travel support is based on a reimbursement policy.

Travel information

By train via Stralsund – Bergen auf Rügen – Lauterbach Mole

By car via Stralsund or Glewitzer Fähre, Garz, Putbus to Lauterbach

The ferry transfer from Lauterbach to the Isle of Vilm takes 10 minutes. The ferry is run by BfN. Information on how to get to the Isle of Vilm and the current ferry schedule to Vilm from Lauterbach (Rügen) can be found [here](#).

Contact

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Content

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Cover picture: © U. Euler

Programme at the venue

Monday, 08.09.2025

Arrival	Ferry crossings from harbour Lauterbach/Mole at 4:10, 05:10 and 06:10 pm (very last possibility at 08:00 pm)
06:30 pm	<i>Dinner</i>
07:30 pm	Welcome and Introduction Birthe Thormann & Lennart Kümper-Schlake (BfN)
08:30 pm	Informal get-together

Tuesday, 09.09.2025

From 07:30 Breakfast

Plenary: Introductory Presentations and Discussions

09:00 am	Planning, monitoring, reporting and review: global review of collective progress in the implementation of the KMGBF (Item 3) Louisa Singer (Ministry for the Environment, Climate Action, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany) and Sanne Kruid (Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, Food Security and Nature, The Netherlands)
09:45 am	Biodiversity and climate change (Item 5) Mathias Bertram (Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, GIZ)
10:30 am	<i>Break</i>
11:00 am	Invasive alien species (Item 8) Johanna Niemivuo-Lahti (Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Finland)
11:45 am	Biodiversity and health (Item 10) Conor Kretsch (Cohab Initiative Secretariat)
12:30 pm	<i>Lunch</i>
01:45 pm	<i>Guided tour through the nature reserve of the Isle of Vilm</i> <i>Thomas Götttert (BfN)</i>
03:00 pm	<i>Break</i>

Parallel Drafting/Discussion Groups

03:30 pm	Drafting/Discussion Group Contribution to the workshop report
06:00 pm	<i>Dinner</i>
07:30 pm	Drafting/Discussion Group Contribution to the workshop report, including parallel online Q&A session for items 3 and 5 with Jillian Campbell and Tristan Tyrrell respectively (CBD Secretariat) at 8:00 pm
09:00 pm	Informal get-together/Preparation of working group results (as needed)

Wednesday, 10.09.2025

From 07:30 Breakfast

Plenary: Introductory Presentations and Discussions

09:00 am	Strategic review and analysis of the programmes of work under the Convention in the context of the Framework (Item 6a) Han de Koeijer (Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences)
09:45 am	Areas of potential further work (Item 6c) Linn Appelgren (Swedish Environmental Protection Agency)
10:30 pm	Risk assessment and risk management (Item 7) Brief introduction to online session, prepared by Valeria Giovannelli (Italian Institute for Environmental Protection and Research)
10:35 am	<i>Break</i>
11:00 am	Strategic review of and updates to the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity (Item 6b) Jules De Brabander (Ministry for Environment, Belgium)
11:45 am	Biodiversity and agriculture (Item 9) Jan Plesnik (Nature Conservation Agency, Czech Republic)
12:30 pm	<i>Lunch</i>

Parallel Drafting/Discussion Groups

01:45 pm	Drafting/Discussion Group Contribution to the workshop report
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03:45 pm *Break*

04:00 pm Drafting/Discussion Group
Contribution to the workshop report

06:00 pm *Dinner*

Plenary: Introductory Presentations and Discussions

07:00 pm **Matters related to the work programme of IPBES (Item 4)**
Phil Raymond (Defra, UK)

Plenary: Reporting back

07:45 pm **Presentation and Discussion of working group results**
Contribution to the workshop report

9:00 pm Informal get-together/Preparation of working group results and
potentially **parallel Q&A session for other Agenda Items, with the
CBD Secretariat at 9:15 pm** (as needed)

Thursday, 11.09.2025

From 07:30 Breakfast

Plenary: Reporting back

09:00 am **Presentation and Discussion of working group results**
Starting with report from the online session on Risk assessment
and risk management (Item 7)

10:30 am *Break*

Parallel Drafting/Discussion Groups

11:00 am **Drafting/Discussion Group**
Contribution to the workshop report

12:30 pm *Lunch*

Plenary: Discussion of Working Group Results

01:45 pm **Presentation and Discussion of working group results**

Parallel Drafting/Discussion Groups

02:15 pm **Drafting/Discussion Group**
Contribution to the workshop report

03:45 pm *Break*

Plenary: Discussion of Working Group Results

04:00 pm **Finalisation of the workshop report**
Contribution to the workshop report

06:00 pm *Dinner Reception at the invitation of the German Federal Agency
for Nature Conservation*

Plenary: Discussion of Working Group Results

08:30 pm **Finalisation of the workshop report**
Contribution to the workshop report

Friday, 12.09.2025

Departure

From 07:30 Breakfast

07:25 am First ferry crossing: Early **departure (from Vilm)** - packed breakfast
will be provided

07:55 am Further ferry crossings from Vilm

08:25 am

09:20 am

Virtual Programme

Wednesday, 10.09.2025

Virtual Drafting/Discussion Group on RARM (Agenda Item 7)

01:00 pm **Welcome and Introduction**
Barbara Engels (BfN)

01:15 pm **Introductory Presentation and Discussion Risk assessment and
risk management (Item 7)**
Valeria Giovannelli (Italian Institute for Environmental Protection
and Research)

02:00 pm **Drafting/Discussion Group**
Contribution to the workshop report

03:30 pm *Break*

04:00 pm	Discussion Group Q&A with Wadzanayi Mandivenyi and Austein McLoughlin (CBD Secretariat)
04:45 pm	Drafting/Discussion Group Contribution to the workshop report
06:00 pm	End of the Session

Thursday, 11.09.2025

Reporting back to the Plenary on Vilm

09:00 am	Presentation and Discussion of working group results Valeria Giovannelli
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