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European expert meeting in preparation of SBSTTA-28

International Academy for
Nature Conservation Isle of Vilm

15-19 June 2026

WORKSHOP-REPORT



Imprint

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(Eds.)

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Introduction and general remarks

The European expert meeting in preparation for the 28th meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA-28) 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-28** (27 July – 1 August 2026 in Nairobi). 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, 15 – 19 June 2026. **A total of 46 participants from 17 countries attended in their personal capacities as biodiversity or biodiversity policy experts.**

The meeting was opened and co-chaired by Barbara Engels and Birthe Thormann (both 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.

The agenda topics were introduced to the meeting by Marcel Kok (Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency) for agenda item 3a, Barbara Engels (BfN) for agenda item 3b, Eliška Rolfová (European Commission) for agenda item 4, Florian Rabitz (Ministry of Environment, Lithuania) for agenda item 5, Prof. Dr. Tanja Straka (Natural Resource and Wildlife Management, University of Applied Sciences Weihenstephan-Triesdorf) for agenda item 6, Dr. Joseph Appiott (CBD Secretariat) for agenda item 7 and Konstantin Wußmann (Federal Ministry of Environment, Germany) for agenda item 8.

Birthe Thormann (BfN), Éva Macskásy (Centre for Ecological Research), Victoria Schaeben (BfN), Dr. Aoife Delaney (National Parks and Wildlife Service, Ireland), and Heitor Ponce Delasta (GYBN) took on the role of rapporteurs for the sessions. Dr. Joseph Appiott and Lisa Janishevski from the CBD Secretariat participated as resource persons. Jillian Campbell, 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-28 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-28. 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-28 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-28 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 Planning, monitoring, reporting and review: Global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal-Global Biodiversity Framework (Item 3a)

The topic was introduced by Marcel Kok. He introduced the process of the global review and presented some of the main messages of the global review. The discussion among experts addressed the credibility of the report, the source of the information and how to improve and expand the information sources for the next reporting period.

The expert workshop considered general remarks as document CBD/SBSTTA/28/2 was not available at the time of the workshop. The following observations are not the result of a conclusive analysis of the global report; it is a collection of some aspect that were raised and collectively found important by the experts. The workshop did not consider the full report in detail.

The workshop came to the following results:

A. Experts made the following observations on the findings of the global report:

The experts of the workshop:

- Welcome the global report on collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework which has reflected unprecedented global engagement and commitment by Parties;
- Express, however, concern that the world is not yet on track to achieve the 2030 targets or mission or the 2050 goals or vision;
- Express concern about the ambition gap identified in the global report;
- Welcome the high number of submissions by the Parties and acknowledging/recognizing the work of the Secretariat compiling the information, which provides a basis for further work on SBSTTA;
- Note that the planning, monitoring, reporting and review mechanisms including the monitoring framework of the KM-GBF are working as intended, however, refinements are needed to strengthen consistency, completeness and usability;
- Expressed concern regarding the knowledge gaps highlighted in the national reports and underscored the importance of improving the coordination of biodiversity research and increasing investments in biodiversity research to strengthen planning, monitoring, reporting and review;
- Highlight the urgent need to improve data availability and coverage on inland water, coastal and marine ecosystems;
- Acknowledge the existence of additional sources of information that are relevant for the global review that have been made available since the adoption of decision 16/32, such as LBO 3;
- Welcome the Kunming informal technical Dialogue on implementation, voluntary country-by-country peer reviews and any dialogues undertaken to support implementation and cross-country learning.

B. Experts made the following observations to improve the current draft global report:

The experts of the workshop:

- Note that clearer key messages and actionable non-prescriptive approaches to address the gaps and challenges identified could be included to support Parties in accelerating implementation;
- Observe that the "possible opportunities for moving forward" (or non-prescriptive approaches) could draw more strongly from relevant findings from IPBES assessments, past editions of the GBO and LBO, and other scientific and technical sources, as applicable to the identified gaps;
- Note that further effort to improve the readability and clarity of the report would be beneficial, noting that some figures are difficult to understand.

C. Experts of the workshop suggest the following elements to be included in the SBSTTA recommendation:

Experts recall paragraph 20 of decision 15/6, which recognises that Parties may take the outcome of the global review into account in future revisions and implementation of their national biodiversity strategies and action plans. The global review should send a clear signal about where practical effort and support now needs to be focused to accelerate the implementation of the framework.

- Encourage Parties to consider the possible actions and pathways identified in relevant assessments of IPBES in order to address the gaps and challenges identified in the global report;
- Encourage Parties to scale up effective implementation of existing targets;
- Encourage Parties to scale up use of the monitoring framework;
- Encourage the development of biodiversity finance plans, capacity building plans and monitoring plans for national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national targets.

D. Additionally, experts suggest requesting the Executive Secretary:

- To compile submissions from Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth and other stakeholders to evaluate the global review process, including the preparation of the global report, with the view to update the process at CBD COP 18;
- To transmit the global report to the Secretariats of Biodiversity-related Conventions, IPBES, and relevant international organizations;
- To compile the scientific and technical needs arising from the findings of the global report;
- To provide in collaboration with TSCCs and other partners support to Parties in addressing scientific and technical gaps identified in the global report, including, but not limited to, improving data collection, knowledge management and reporting systems.

E. Experts provided the following reflections in view of the next reporting cycle:

- It would be beneficial to more holistically and robustly assess collective progress of the

whole of society towards the goals and targets of the KM-GBF and improve the mechanisms to better receive information from non-state actors, in particular indigenous peoples and local communities, women, and youth;

- The experts recommend the use of other scientific and technical sources that could complement the global report to inform the global review, such as Local Biodiversity Outlooks 3 and other information shared by indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth and other organizations;
- To conduct a more thorough analysis of the contributions of non-state actors, in particular indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth as part of the assessment of the collective progress of implementation of the KM-GBF;
- Better integration of traditional knowledge and community-based information in the global report, including by addressing methodological gaps identified in the global report.

2 Monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (Item 3b)

The topic was introduced by Barbara Engels and the discussions were facilitated by her and Rayka Hauser (European Commission).

Document [CBD/SBSTTA/28/2](#) and related information documents were not yet available at the time of the workshop. The expert workshop therefore worked on the basis of document [SBSTTA/28/2/Add.2](#) “Monitoring Framework for the KMGBF” (note from the CBD Secretariat).

Summary Report

The experts in the workshop came to the following results:

1. In relation to SBSTTA/28/2/Add.2, Section II. Further development, review and update of the monitoring framework and the metadata of the headline indicators on the basis of, among other things, the submissions of views by Parties and observers on the monitoring framework and the metadata for the headline indicators

A. Updates to the monitoring framework (Additional component & complementary indicators)

Background

- The Secretariat has identified 12 indicators that could be considered for inclusion, listed in the annex to the Add.2 document. Paragraph 14 of the same document notes that the Subsidiary Body may wish to recommend that the Conference of the Parties consider adding those 12 indicators to the monitoring framework as complementary indicators, when the monitoring framework is next updated.
- Paragraph 15 notes that the Subsidiary Body may wish to recommend that the Conference of the Parties consider adding five indicators to the monitoring framework as component indicators when the monitoring framework is next updated.
- According to information from the CBD Secretariat, these updates are proposed for inclusion in the monitoring framework at COP 17.

On the 4 complementary indicators which were in decision 15/5 but removed in 16/31:

- Scorecard of genetic diversity in wild species *[metadata is now available online]*
- Global environmental impacts of consumption indicator *[meets criteria]*
- Dendritic connectivity index *[information and scientific literature available online]*
- Mortality rate attributed to household and ambient air pollution *[SDG indicator]*

THE WORKSHOP EXPERTS

- consider that these previously suggested and listed indicators are still relevant, and support their inclusion in the monitoring framework when it is next updated.

On the 5 proposed component indicators for KM-GBF Target 18:

- Monetary value of agriculture-related market price support
- Monetary value of agriculture-related non-exempt direct payments
- Monetary value of agriculture-related other product-specific support
- Monetary value of agriculture-related product-specific equivalent measurement of support
- Monetary value of agriculture-related non-product-specific aggregated measurement of support

THE WORKSHOP EXPERTS

- note that all of these indicators relate to harmful subsidies in the agriculture sector,
- note that an information document (not available) is expected to address the use of indicators in national reports and the gaps and needs of Parties,
- note that this and further information on these proposed indicators will be necessary to examine if they could fill a gap in reporting on Target 18, especially regarding other than fossil fuel subsidies.

On the remaining 8 proposed additional complementary indicators:

- Number and list of tree and other woody plant species that have been included in in situ conservation programmes of forest genetic resources
- Extent of lost farmed types of aquaculture species
- Freshwater eutrophication index
- Levels and trends of mercury and mercury compounds in the environment and in humans due to anthropogenic emissions and releases
- Extent of non-native species used in aquaculture posing a risk for native biodiversity
- Extent of populations of wild relatives of aquaculture species subject to conservation measures
- Extent of ex situ conservation for important farmed types of aquatic genetic resources
- Biodiversity investment ratio
-

THE WORKSHOP EXPERTS:

- note that three of the above indicators relate to aquaculture and could fill a gap identified in the global report,
- welcome the inclusion of indicator “Levels and trends of mercury and mercury compounds in the environment and in humans due to anthropogenic emissions and releases” proposed by the Minamata Convention that would provide for synergy.

B. Update of metadata/methodology of headline indicators

Background: According to information from the CBD Secretariat, an information documents (in preparation) will outline the updated indicator metadata / methodologies. As this information document was not available at the time of the workshop, the workshop experts worked on the basis of Add.2.

In relation to the methodological updates on the following headline indicators:

Headline Indicator 1.1 Percentage of land and sea area covered by biodiversity-inclusive spatial plans (low methodological readiness)

Headline Indicator 7.2 Pesticide environment concentration and/or aggregated total applied toxicity

Headline Indicator 9.1 Benefits from the sustainable use of wild species (low methodological readiness)

Headline indicator 22.1 Land-use change and land tenure in the traditional territories of indigenous peoples and local communities (based on submissions from Parties)

THE WORKSHOP EXPERTS:

- on Headline Indicator 1.1: welcome the ongoing work on the IPBES methodological assessment of integrated and biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning and ecological connectivity that could provide information relevant to the further development of the metadata for this indicator, as well as support the development of additional indicators for KM-GBF Target 1. The experts note that national indicators and data collected through the 7th National Report could provide a basis for the further methodological development of a global indicator,
- on Headline Indicator 7.2: welcome the efforts by FAO to advance the methodological development and piloting of the ATAT indicator (aggregated total applied toxicity),
- on Headline indicator 22.1: welcome the progress towards operationalization of the indicator.

2. In relation to SBSTTA/28/2/Add.2 - Section III. Information-sharing

“Sharing information on the monitoring framework and providing support for its use.”

Background information

Document CBD/SBSTTA/28/2/Add.2 – Section III specifies that, “To support the further operationalization of the monitoring framework and its uptake by Parties, the Secretariat, in cooperation with various partners, has:

- *convened nine regional and subregional dialogues on national biodiversity strategies and action plans, during which issues related to national reporting and the monitoring framework were considered and the capacity needs related to the use of monitoring were discussed, in particular in the context of the preparation of the seventh national reports;*

- *convened a series of webinars, for different time zones, on the national reporting template, the monitoring framework and the use of the online reporting tool;*
- *presented the monitoring framework at relevant meetings and promoted complementary approaches to monitoring across the wider United Nations system;*
- *developed or strengthened collaboration with organizations supporting the development and operationalization of the headline indicators and with organizations supporting Parties in using the monitoring framework and in developing or strengthening their national monitoring systems;*
- *further developed with various partners the metadata for the headline indicators and identified options and approaches for addressing gaps in the monitoring framework;*
- *developed and operationalized the online reporting tool, including the elaboration of templates for the submission of indicator information, and worked with relevant partners, such as FAO and the United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre, to make indicator information contained in international databases accessible through the online reporting tool;*
- *Provided direct support to Parties, on a request-driven basis, on the use of the monitoring framework in the preparation of their national reports.*

THE WORKSHOP EXPERTS:

- note the need to further improve the online reporting tool to ensure that indicator information contained in international databases are accessible through the online reporting tool for all relevant indicators,
- consider that information on the monitoring framework, including links to the indicator metadata, could be made more visible on the CBD website (single entry point),
- highlight the role of the Technical and Scientific Support and Cooperation Centres (TSCCs) and other global and regional organizations in building capacities for the implementation of the KM-GBF Monitoring Framework and note that progress towards the establishment of the TSCCs will be discussed under SBI 7 Agenda Item 10,
- welcome support by global, regional and national organizations for the implementation of the KM-GBF Monitoring Framework by Parties,
- welcome and encourage initiatives that support Parties with the implementation and operationalization of indicators (e.g. on genetic diversity, GENOA COST Action, Biodiversa+, GINAMO and Coalition for Conservation Genetics).

3. In relation to SBSTTA/28/2/Add.2 Section IV. Considerations for possible updates to the monitoring framework

THE WORKSHOP EXPERTS:

- highlight that the headline indicators in the KM-GBF monitoring framework provide good coverage of the overall scope of the KM-GBF,
- stress the need for consistency of the reporting of indicators in the 7th and 8th National

Report and beyond,

- caution against adding new headline indicators to the monitoring framework until COP 19 and consider that efforts should focus on fully operationalising and reporting on the headline indicators in the monitoring framework, in line with the agreed methodology,
- recall the gap analysis of the KM-GBF monitoring framework. SBSTTA could welcome ongoing efforts to address those gaps which could improve evidence-based planning and implementation of the KM-GBF in the future,
- also highlight the need for improvement of the online reporting tool in regard to data input, information extraction, display and reuse,
- note that the update of the template for National Reports should be subject to discussion in the context of the PMRR,
- did not come to a conclusion on the need and mandate for an AHTEG because of missing relevant information.

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

The topic was introduced by Eliška Rolfová. She presented the outcomes of IPBES 12 (February 2026, Manchester, UK), in particular the key messages of the SPM of the Business and biodiversity assessment (and their links to the KM-GBF targets, as outlined in the working document prepared by the CBD Secretariat), as well as the revised schedule of future IPBES assessments for consideration by the Convention, the mid-term review under the rolling work programme and a proposal to be developed on future IPBES work. She also provided reflections on the deliberations on the IPBES-related agenda item at SBSTTA-27.

The expert meeting discussed an overall ambition of the draft recommendation and considered that the text would benefit from more prominent reflection of the key messages of the SPM, namely those targeted to business, highlighting their impact and dependencies on biodiversity and the urgency to act without delay.

Document [CBD/SBSTTA/28/3](#)

Suggestions on the text

Matters related to the work programme of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

Note by the Secretariat

I. Background

abridged; continued.

VI. Recommendations

35. The Subsidiary Body may wish to recommend that, at its seventeenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopt elements of a decision along the following lines, for consolidation into the draft decision contained in recommendation [27/2](#):

The Conference of the Parties

1. Welcomes **with appreciation** [Rationale: To highlight the importance of the science collected by IPBES underpinning the work of CBD (endorsing scientific approach) and to align the language with previous COP decisions related to IPBES] *The Methodological Assessment Report on the Impact and Dependence of Business on Biodiversity and Nature's Contributions to People* ("business and biodiversity **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 the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;** [Rationale: Similar to the above, to make it more precise and highlight the relevance to the CBD explicitly, in line with previous decisions on IPBES]

2. Encourages Parties:

(a) To use the findings of the business and biodiversity assessment to support the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, in particular to achieve Targets **14, 15, 16, 18 and 19,** [Rationale: The assessment is also relevant to these targets, as outlined by the

Secretariat in the document 28/3] including through the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and ~~relevant other~~ policy and regulatory frameworks; **[Rationale: To underline the importance of mainstreaming the findings into different policy sectors. To make it more concise, “relevant” isn’t necessary.]**

(b) To ~~provide~~ **create** **[Rationale: To be more aligned with the language of the SPM]** or enhance enabling environments for sustainable business practices through the implementation of the needed actions listed in the assessment **in particular in part A of Table SPM.1**, **[Rationale: to reference Table SPM.1 which lists actions required to create an enabling environment (part A: actions by governments)]** including by:

- (i) Removing the barriers to action across components of the enabling environment mentioned in Table SPM.4;** **[Rationale: To highlight the table from the SPM that is relevant in this context, providing more examples of barriers]**
- (ii) Setting up and enforcing policy, legal and regulatory frameworks;** **[Rationale: To highlight this part of KM3, as it is considered key for creating an enabling environment.]**
- (iii) Developing and enforcing disclosure mechanisms and environmental impact assessments.** **[Rationale: To highlight these specific actions from Table SPM.1 A1]**
- (iv)** Fully implementing Target 18 of the Framework and aligning fiscal policies and financial flows with the goals of the Framework;
- (v)** Undertaking capacity-building **and development** **[Rationale: Add for consistency with CBD language]** activities focused on measuring business impacts and dependence on biodiversity, **including on interweaving scientific and traditional knowledge**; **[Rationale: To reference to KM8 and Table SPM.1, interweaving is understood as more equal than integrating in line with the language of the assessment]**
- (vi)** ~~Incorporating traditional knowledge into capacity building frameworks;~~ **Ensuring fair and equitable benefit sharing particularly with indigenous peoples and local communities, and fostering inclusive and equitable decision-making frameworks with free, prior and informed consent¹** **[Rationale: To reference Table SPM.1 and highlight actions relevant to IPLCs namely A.1.9. and A.3.1.]**
- (vii)** ~~Encouraging businesses, the~~ **financial actors, businesses and financial institutions, and other sectors** ~~sector and other actors~~ to implement the actions required to create an enabling environment, as listed in the assessment, and supporting them in that regard; **[Rationale: To reference Table SPM.1 part B targeting businesses and financial institutions and to keep consistent reference to “financial actors, businesses and financial institutions, and other sectors” across the recommendation, in line with the SPM.]**
- (c) To identify gaps in knowledge and the application of knowledge for measuring business impacts and dependence on biodiversity;
- ~~(d) To address such gaps by:~~
- ~~(i) Facilitating the uptake by businesses of existing methods and knowledge for measuring business impact and dependence on biodiversity;~~

¹ All references to “free, prior and informed consent” refer to the tripartite terminology of “prior and informed consent”, “free, prior and informed consent” and “approval and involvement”.

- ~~(ii) Collecting and sharing information on the activities and locations of businesses, their operations and value chains that can be compared among businesses and the financial sector, including through disclosure mechanisms;~~
- ~~(iii) Providing actionable guidance for businesses to select methods appropriate for their context and needs;~~
- ~~(iv) Supporting research and data collection;~~
- ~~(v) Strengthening the integration of science and traditional knowledge and of methods and practices for measuring business impact and dependence on biodiversity; [Rationale: Moved under a different dedicated paragraph (2.ter) directed to businesses, as they are key actors in the context of addressing the gaps]~~

(e) To strengthen engagement and collaboration with **financial actors, businesses and financial institutions, and other sectors** ~~business and financial sectors and other actors~~, [Rationale: similar to above, consistency of the language in the document with the assessment] including indigenous peoples and local communities, consumers, non-governmental organizations, international organizations and academia, ~~to address gaps in knowledge and the application of knowledge, as described in the assessment, and to engage~~ [Rationale: Incorporated below] in conservation, ~~restoration or~~ **and** the sustainable use of biodiversity; [Rationale: Editorial]

2.bis Invites financial actors, business and financial institutions to consider and align with the key messages of the summary for policy makers of the assessment, including that “All businesses depend on and impact biodiversity and can be agents of positive change” (KM1), that “All businesses have a responsibility to address their impacts and dependencies” (KM4) and that “Methods, knowledge and data for measuring impacts and dependencies already exist and can further inform decisions and actions, directly and in the value chain” (KM5); [Rationale: To better address the main key messages for business, the urgency, and the finding that methods and knowledge already exist for business to act and to address their impact on biodiversity]

2.ter Invites financial actors, business and financial institutions and other actors to address gaps in knowledge and its application, including by:

- (i) Facilitating greater uptake by businesses of existing methods and knowledge and their integration into business accounting and management systems;**
- (ii) Collecting and sharing comparable information, including through disclosure mechanisms, on the activities and locations of businesses, their operations and value chains;**
- (iii) Providing scenarios that support the assessment of performance against agreed goals and targets;**
- (iv) Providing actionable guidance for businesses to select methods appropriate to their context and needs;**
- (v) Co-creating actions based on methods and knowledge built with participatory approaches involving indigenous peoples and local communities**
- (vi) Supporting research and data collection;**
- (vii) Strengthening the interweaving of science and traditional knowledge and of methods and practices for measuring business impact and dependence on biodiversity;**

[Rationale: Former 2d), moved here to bring the business-relevant text into a para specific to businesses]

3. ~~Encourages~~ **Invites financial actors, business and financial institutions** ~~business and financial actors~~ to identify and use appropriate existing methods to measure and manage the impacts and dependence of businesses on biodiversity and to use that information to guide decision-making and actions aimed at improving biodiversity outcomes, in line with Target 15 of the Framework; [Rationale: Consistency of the language to align with agreed CBD language]

3.bis Invites financial institutions to allocate financial services in ways that incentivise conservation and sustainable practices while discouraging harmful activities, and encourage financial regulators, supervisors and central banks to promote transparency through biodiversity inclusive financial regulation and risk management; [Rationale: Reference to B3]

3.ter Urges/Invites [Rationale: Different opinions on the need for urgency: whether this is an obligation or not] **financial actors, business and financial institutions to respect indigenous peoples and local communities and their free, prior and informed consent, and to ensure fair and equitable benefit sharing and inclusive decision-making processes;** [Rationale: Consistency of the language (similarly above) and reference to KM8 as well as Table SPM1 and actions targeted at other actors]

3.quer Invites the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services to consider how to further facilitate the uptake of the key messages identified in the assessment by governments, financial actors, business and financial institutions, and other actors, in particular by improving understanding of the financial drivers, incentives, and financial flows associated with illegal exploitation of biodiversity and unsustainable use of biological resources facilitating biodiversity loss and undermining conservation goals and human wellbeing. [Rationale: To facilitate further uptake of IPBES deliverables; the focus on financial drivers, incentives and flows was missing]

4. *Invites* the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services to implement the recommendations from the midterm review under the rolling work programme of the Platform up to 2030, **that are relevant to the work of the Convention** in particular recommendations to increase the policy relevance of assessments and to strengthen collaboration between the Platform and the Secretariat of the Convention. [Rationale: CBD should speak to IPBES on issues that are relevant for both]

5. *Requests* the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to consider the outputs of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services according to the schedule contained in the annex to the present decision;

Annex*

Schedule of assessments of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and of their consideration under the Convention on Biological Diversity (2024–2030), as updated after the twelfth session of the Plenary of the Platform**

abridged.

* The annex will be updated, as necessary, in the compilation of draft decisions to be considered by the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth meeting.

** The original schedule was issued as the annex to decision [16/11](#).

4 Synthetic Biology (Item 5)

The topic was presented by Florian Rabitz (Ministry of Environment, Lithuania) including a brief overview of the history of the topic. The work of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) and the Thematic Action plan was presented during plenary. The discussion in the group discussion was focused on the outcomes of the AHTEG on synthetic biology 2026 and the draft thematic action plan ([CBD/SBSTTA/28/4/Add.1](#)), as the draft recommendations on synthetic biology to SBSTTA had not been published at the time of the expert workshop.

Due to time constraints the expert meeting exclusively focused on the enclosure of the draft thematic action plan with the exception of 2.3 and 3.4. It was decided to delete specific examples given in the text to make it more flexible and open-ended as well as less prescriptive.

Suggestions on a potential draft decision:

The Expert meeting on Vilnius welcomes the outcomes and conclusions of the AHTEG on synthetic biology (2026) and proposes two main areas for future work:

First area of work:

- The AHTEG on synthetic biology (2026) identified five priority areas of the most recent technological developments in synthetic biology outlined in annex II to document CBD-SYNBIO/AHTEG/2026/1/2, namely: artificial intelligence and computational biology; bioremediation and waste reduction applications; artificial cell, synthetic genomics and artificial biochemical pathways; applications for conservation use; and microbiome engineering,
- A future AHTEG should apply an agile process for the assessment of potential positive and negative impacts of the most recent technological developments to one of these five areas.

Second area of work:

- The AHTEG on Synthetic Biology (2026) has identified new and distinct priority issues and has confirmed some other issues highlighted by the two previous Synbio AHTEGs. The AHTEG on Synthetic Biology further recognized the importance of anticipatory approaches, including horizon scanning and monitoring mechanisms in supporting the timely identification and assessment of potential positive and potential negative impacts of future developments in synthetic biology,
- The COP should ensure the continuation of anticipatory approaches (COP 14/19 and 15/31) without duplicating previous relevant work under the Convention.

Document [CBD/SBSTTA/28/4/Add.1-CBD/SBI/7/8/Add.1](#)

Suggestions on the text

Draft thematic action plan to support capacity-building and development, access to and transfer of technology, and knowledge-sharing in the context of synthetic biology for the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

Note by the Secretariat

abridged; continued.

Annex

Draft thematic action plan to support capacity-building and development, access to and transfer of technology and knowledge-sharing in the context of synthetic biology for the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

I. Introduction

abridged; continued.

II. Structure

abridged; continued.

III. Linkage to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and existing plans

abridged; continued.

IV. Use of the thematic action plan

abridged; continued.

V. Guiding principles

abridged; continued.

VI. Means of implementation

abridged; continued.

VII. Role of the Secretariat and of the scientific and technical support centres

abridged; continued.

VIII. Monitoring and reporting on progress in the implementation of the thematic action plan

abridged; continued

Enclosure

Outcome areas and indicative strategic actions to support capacity-building and development, access to and transfer of technology and knowledge-sharing in the context of synthetic biology for the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

[Rationale: consistent to wording in paragraph 5 in decision 16/21]

Outcome area 1: strengthened capacity for research and development in and the assessment <u>and oversight</u> of synthetic biology	
Objective: actors ¹ have improved capacity for undertaking research and development in and the assessment and oversight of synthetic biology applications that are relevant to the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework [Rationale: to be in line with the objective]	
<i>Output</i>	<i>Indicative strategic actions</i>
1.1 Identification of needs and priorities	(a) Assess capacities and identify needs related to research and development, access and transfer of technology, regulation, assessment, monitoring and knowledge-sharing in the context of synthetic biology; (b) Prioritize activities for short-, medium- and long-term action on the basis of identified needs and national circumstances; (c) Integrate synthetic biology research and development, <u>training</u> and assessment needs into various sectoral budget plans and identify training needs . [Rationale: to ensure adequate budget to implement a) and b)]
1.2 Strengthened physical infrastructure	(a) Establish, strengthen or provide access to technical laboratory <u>and in silico</u> infrastructure [Rationale: To streamline the text and to underline the need to ensure access to in silico infrastructure. This concept was missing in the former 1.2 c)] (e.g. polymerase chain reaction machines; sequencing equipment; DNA synthesizers; molecular biology, microbiology and biosafety laboratory facilities; biocontainment facilities; automated equipment; biomanufacturing platforms; genome editors; and detection, traceability and monitoring tools); ² [Rationale: Other action plans do not use detailed list] (b) Develop governance mechanisms, technical support and sustainability models <u>as well as continued, sustainable financing</u> [Rationale: To streamline the text] to ensure long-term functionality and equitable use of laboratory <u>and in silico</u> infrastructure; [Rationale: To be consistent with 1.2 a)] (c) Develop in silico infrastructure (e.g. computational facilities for data processing, computer aided design, modelling, bioinformatics and artificial intelligence; software; and servers); [Rationale: Now included in 1.2 a) and b)] ;

¹ National Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth, academia, research institutions, the business sector, civil society and other relevant organizations.

² ~~Where needed to complement infrastructure supported under the capacity building action plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the capacity building and development action plan for the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization, for Parties to those respective instruments.~~

	(c) Establish or strengthen public laboratories, university laboratories, reference laboratories, mobile laboratories and biofoundries at the national, subregional or regional level; (d) Promote continued and sustainable financing for the maintenance of infrastructure and the procurement of reagents and materials. [Rationale: The financing aspect is already encompassed in 1.2 b) and procurement of reagents and materials is too specific]
1.3 Support for personnel capacity	(a) Institutionalize capacity-building processes and ensure continued capacity-building through global, regional and national institutions (e.g. centres of excellence, groups of national experts and public private partnerships); (b) Provide scholarships, internships and mentorships at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels for areas related to research and development in and the assessment of synthetic biology, in particular for developing countries <u>country Parties</u> students <u>indigenous peoples and local communities</u>, and women <u>and youth</u>; from developing countries and indigenous peoples and local communities; [Rationale: To be in line with Target 22] (c) Support the development or use of existing exchange programmes as mechanisms to build capacity, transfer knowledge and promote sustained communication and collaboration across relevant stakeholders; (d) Develop interdisciplinary training programmes for research and development in and the assessment of synthetic biology in national or regional universities and on e-learning platforms, including specialized courses for regulators and decision makers, on advanced science and intellectual property; (e) Foster the training of members of indigenous peoples and local communities in research and development in and the assessment of synthetic biology in locally relevant languages and in line with their self-determined needs <u>and priorities</u>. [Rationale: National priorities and IPLCs' priorities might differ] (e.g. by means of targeted scholarships, professional training programmes, tailored academic programmes located in indigenous and local communities, and grants to encourage projects at the intersection of traditional knowledge and synthetic biology). [Rationale: Other action plans do not use detailed list]
1.4 Development of capacity for local research and development	(a) Develop national or regional road maps for research and development in synthetic biology, including through convening national or regional workshops; (b) Support the international standardization within the field of synthetic biology;³ (c) Support activities that facilitate the transition and scale up from research laboratories to commercial applications; [Rationale: Out of the mandate of the action plan] (d) Establish regional and international centres of excellence, networks of laboratories or research consortiums, in particular in developing countries, for activities conducted in the field of synthetic biology; (e) Strengthen local innovation (e.g. research on endogenous <u>local</u> genetic resources and <u>including through the provision of</u> grants for local research); [Rationale: Improving clarity] (f) Promote the establishment of innovation funds or tax incentives to support synthetic biology start-ups, technology incubators, entrepreneurship programmes and small and medium-sized enterprises; [Rationale: Out of the mandate of the action plan] (g) Develop guidelines on the protection and enforcement of intellectual property rights and licensing agreements for local innovation. [Rationale: Out of the mandate of the action plan]

³ Such as carried out by the International Gene Synthesis Consortium, Synthetic Biology Open Language, the International Biosecurity and Biosafety Initiative for Science, the Synthetic Biology Standards Consortium, the iGEM Registry of Biological Parts and the Engineering Biology Research Consortium.

1.5 Enhanced assessment capacity	(a) For Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, use associated actions under Goals A.5 and A.9 of the capacity-building action plan for the Protocol⁴ for synthetic biology applications considered to be living modified organisms; (b) Introduce appropriate procedures for the environmental impact assessment of components, organisms and products of synthetic biology that are likely to have significant adverse effects on biological diversity, in line with Article 14 of the Convention; (c) Ensure Allow for meaningful public participation and ensure the engagement with of a diverse range of experts, including from indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth, academia, the business sector, civil society and other relevant stakeholders, in the assessment of synthetic biology applications aligned with international standards; [Rationale: Clarification of the sentence] (d) Fund and strengthen research programmes to improve multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary horizon scanning, monitoring and assessment capacity [Rationale: To support the fulfilment of actions taken under 1.5 e)] for future and the most recent technological developments in synthetic biology, [Rationale: Other action plans do not use detailed list] including for purposes of biosafety and biosecurity [Rationale: To ensure consistency with the outputs of the AHTEG Synthetic Biology report item 3 a) 13 and in order to fulfil 1.5 e) and to focus on the most relevant and needed capacities] (e.g. in biology, ecology, monitoring, biosafety, socioeconomics, ethics and traditional knowledge); [Rationale: Other action plans do not use detailed list] (e) Undertake broad and regular horizon scanning and monitoring to identify recent developments in synthetic biology with potential positive and potential negative impacts on the objectives of the Convention; (f) Develop tools to assess the potential positive and potential negative impacts of synthetic biology on the objectives of the Convention and the Framework. (g) Establish a community of practice for dialogues between regulators and scientists in synthetic biology to identify emerging issues for regulatory oversight [Rationale: To allow for bi-directional exchanges between scientists and regulators, rather than limiting activities to uni-directional communication from regulators to scientists] consideration. [Rationale: This indicative strategic action relates to the output “enhanced assessment capacity” and should thus be included here, rather than under output 3.3, “expanded communication and outreach”. Moved from 3.3 to 1.5 because it better fits here]
Outcome area 2: improved access to and transfer of technology relevant to synthetic biology Objective: access to and the transfer of technology are essential for the attainment of the three objectives of the Convention and the Framework. Thus, the objective of outcome area 2 is to ensure access to synthetic biology technology that is relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and does not result in significant damage to the environment, and to create enabling environments that facilitate the transfer of such technology, in line with Articles 16 and 19 of the Convention	
<i>Output</i>	<i>Indicative strategic actions</i>
2.1. Increased access to and transfer of	(a) Establish public-private, public-private-academic and academic-private partnerships on technology relevant to research and development in and the assessment of synthetic biology; (b) Develop and maintain an accessible database of available synthetic biology technology, including tools and methodologies for detection and assessment;

⁴ Goal A.5: Parties carry out scientifically sound risk assessments of living modified organisms and manage and control identified risks to prevent adverse effects of living modified organisms on the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity taking also into account risks to human health; Goal A.9: Parties that choose to do so take into account socioeconomic considerations when making decisions on the import of living modified organisms and cooperate on research and information exchange in accordance with Article 26 of the Cartagena Protocol (decision CP-10/4, annex).

technology	(c) Encourage the development and use of open-source tools, low-cost technology platforms and distributed manufacturing models; (d) Invest in and strengthen supply chains (e.g. cold chain facilities, regional manufacturing and diversified suppliers); [Rationale: Unclear link to the three objectives of the CBD] (e) Promote and facilitate the sharing of facilities (e.g. laboratories, biofoundries and mobile laboratories), [Rationale: Other action plans do not use detailed list] including by identifying standardization frameworks, procedures and conditions for the use of the facilities in line with national needs and priorities; [Rationale: To keep it rather general, instead of listing examples] (f) Organize matchmaking events or technology fairs to support the establishment of links among technology providers, regulators, assessors and potential users; [Rationale: Remove the examples to keep it rather general] (g) Develop tools and guidelines for access to and the transfer of synthetic biology technology and their adaptation to local contexts; (h) Encourage and facilitate equitable licensing access for indigenous peoples and local communities; (i) Encourage reduced licensing rates for use in local innovation and non-commercial research in developing countries.
2.2. Establishment of robust regulatory environments aligned with existing regulation	(a) For Parties to the Cartagena Protocol, establish, maintain and further develop functional biosafety frameworks, in accordance with Goal A.1 of the capacity-building action plan for the Protocol;⁵ (b) Review biosafety systems regulatory frameworks [Rationale: To clarify the subject] to identify any [Rationale: Too high impractical standards] potential gaps related to synthetic biology and update those frameworks accordingly biosafety systems to address such gaps, as necessary; [Rationale: To clarify the subject] (c) Establish national coordination mechanisms for activities related to synthetic biology; (d) Promote the use of guidelines to strengthen the governance of synthetic biology (e.g. on regulatory, ethical, cultural, safety, monitoring and liability and redress aspects) aligned with national needs and priorities; [Rationale: Other action plans do not use such detailed lists] (e) Promote regional regulatory harmonization and standardization approaches, as well as North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, regarding synthetic biology; (f) Promote measures to respect, preserve and maintain the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities relevant to synthetic biology to ensure that their access and use are obtained only with their free, prior and informed consent⁶ and that benefits arising from their utilization are shared in a fair and equitable manner, in accordance with relevant intellectual property frameworks. [Rationale: Moved to 2.3 f), the topic is more appropriate under 2.3]
2.3. Strengthened access and benefit-sharing from synthetic biology technology	(a) For Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization, use the capacity-building and development action plan for the Protocol to strengthen access and benefit-sharing systems; (b) Mobilize financial resources from beneficiaries of synthetic biology technology to enable developing countries to participate in research and development in and the assessment of synthetic biology; (c) Encourage equitable and inclusive non-monetary benefit-sharing, in particular for developing countries and indigenous peoples and local communities (e.g. by means of co-authorship, participatory research, technology transfer, access to scientific data and methods, and scientific, regulatory and local capacity-building); (d) Include reciprocity and co-benefit clauses in public-private, public-academic and other partnership or licensing agreements;

⁵ Goal A.1: Parties have in place functional national biosafety frameworks (decision CP-10/4, annex).

⁶ “Free, prior and informed consent” refers to the tripartite terminology of “prior and informed consent”, “free, prior and informed consent” and “approval and involvement”.

	(e) Develop appropriate tools and mechanisms to promote the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from research and development in and the application of synthetic biology technology. (f) <u>Promote measures to respect, preserve and maintain the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities relevant to synthetic biology to ensure that their access and use are obtained only with their free, prior and informed consent⁷ and that benefits arising from their utilization are shared in a fair and equitable manner, in accordance with relevant intellectual property frameworks. [Rationale: Moved from 2.2 f), the topic is more appropriate under 2.3]</u>
Outcome area 3: enhanced knowledge-sharing on synthetic biology, including its development, assessment, governance and regulation Objective: knowledge relevant to synthetic biology research, development, assessment, governance and regulation is shared widely, in line with Article 17 of the Convention, and made available for use by all actors for research and development in and the assessment, governance and regulation of synthetic biology	
<i>Output</i>	<i>Indicative strategic actions</i>
3.1. Improved access to scientific knowledge	(a) Promote the publication of open access scientific articles in the field of synthetic biology and in areas related to its assessment, governance and regulation; (b) Promote the publication of relevant information in public databases in line with the principles of findability, accessibility, interoperability and reusability (FAIR principles) and of collective benefit, authority to control, responsibility and ethics (CARE principles); (c) Encourage capacity-building on data stewardship, data curation and long-term data management, including or improving transparency, metadata standards and the handling of confidential information; (d) Promote the sharing of scientific and technical knowledge related to synthetic biology and its assessment, including through the clearing-house mechanisms of the Convention and its Protocols; (e) Support facilitated access to scientific journals and technical databases for researchers and students from developing countries (e.g. by means of reduced fees for subscriptions); [Rationale: Other action plans do not use such detailed list] (f) Establish accessible synthetic biology information hubs to centralize <u>for improved access to</u> relevant information [Rationale: Unclear meaning of centralized information] (e.g. gene sequences, strain banks, omics data, experimental results, patent deposits, validated protocols and risk assessment methodologies). [Rationale: Other action plans do not use such detailed list]
3.2. Establishment of knowledge-sharing initiatives and mechanisms	(a) Convene national, regional and international knowledge-sharing events on synthetic biology and related areas, including regulatory aspects, assessment and oversight (e.g. conferences, workshops and webinars), and promote participation in relevant regional and international gatherings, in particular for developing countries; [Rationale: Other action plans do not use such detailed list] (b) Support the participation of researchers and students in dedicated competitions (e.g. the iGEM competition); [Rationale: Other action plans do not use such detailed list] (c) Establish knowledge-sharing and cooperation agreements among institutions and promote participation in international or regional research networks; (d) Provide international scholarships and internships for knowledge-sharing initiatives on synthetic biology (e.g. on research, development, regulation, monitoring and assessment), [Rationale: Other action plans do not use such detailed list] in particular for developing countries <u>country Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities</u>, women and youth; [Rationale: To streamline the text and clarify the categories]

⁷ “Free, prior and informed consent” refers to the tripartite terminology of “prior and informed consent”, “free, prior and informed consent” and “approval and involvement”.

	(e) Facilitate Subsidize the participation of researchers and knowledge holders in international knowledge-sharing events on synthetic biology, in particular from developing countries country Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth [Rationale: Harmonize language with 3.2 d)] and representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities in international knowledge-sharing events (e.g. by means of subsidizing their participation and reduced conference fees); [Rationale: Other action plans do not use detailed examples] (f) Encourage regulatory exchanges among engagement between countries with developed regulatory systems and those with developing regulatory systems; [Rationale: To streamline the text] (g) Promote knowledge-sharing activities that are inclusive of all relevant rights holders and stakeholders; (h) Promote regional, North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation on synthetic biology and ecological research relevant for synthetic biology. [Rationale: We cannot promote ecological research per se here without linkage to Synbio]
3.3. Expanded communication and outreach	(a) Encourage the publication of technical materials and scientific publications in local languages; (b) Support the development of outreach materials on [Rationale: To streamline the text] risk communication, biosafety, [Rational: Highly relevant for the Convention and its protocols], biosecurity, ethics and access and benefit-sharing modules [Rational: To streamline the text] in local languages, co-developed with stakeholders; (c) Facilitate public awareness through the use of a variety of media (e.g. ease to understand brochures and short videos) and of local languages; [Rationale: Other action plans do not use such detailed examples] (d) Conduct dialogues and awareness campaigns that are accessible, multilingual and adapted to diverse audiences, including the general public, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth; (e) Hold dedicated forums and public consultations (e.g. information sharing sessions, dialogues on risks and benefits, and input into decision making processes) with the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, civil society organizations, women, youth, regulators and the scientific community; [Rationale: Other action plans do not use such detailed list] (f) Promote the organization of public research discovery days in universities to facilitate the dissemination of knowledge related to synthetic biology and its potential impacts; (g) Establish a community of practice for dialogues between regulators and scientists in synthetic biology to identify emerging issues for regulatory oversight. [Rationale: This better fits under 1.5 g) and was moved there]
3.4. Promotion of inclusive knowledge-sharing	(a) Prioritize intercultural dialogues in knowledge construction through mechanisms that respect and integrate diverse knowledge systems, languages and transmission modes, while ensuring effective participation based on free, prior and informed consent, culturally appropriate engagement and respect for traditional knowledge and gender perspectives;⁸ (b) Foster two-way learning between scientific institutions and indigenous peoples and local communities.

⁸ “Free, prior and informed consent” refers to the tripartite terminology of “prior and informed consent”, “free, prior and informed consent” and “approval and involvement”.

5 Sustainable wildlife management (Item 6)

The topic was presented by Tanja Straka. She provided an overview of the topic and presented the main messages from the Bonn expert meeting on draft global guidance on the sustainable management of wildlife applicable to multiple species and practices (9-11 February 2026).

In the discussion group, the participants of the expert workshop proposed the following general comments:

- The development of the global guidance (contained in the annex of document [CBD/SBSTTA/28/5](#)) was an inclusive process and the current version is considered good. The priority is the adoption of the global guidance as it is, rather than opening the annex for negotiation.
- Although, if opened, minor comments and possible suggestions in the annex can be considered for improvement.
- Annex: Throughout this annex, different terms are used to refer to the integration of science and traditional knowledge; in some cases, these terms deviate from the standard language of the CBD. We recommend that, when referring to integration, the term “multiple systems of knowledge” be used, and that, for knowledge associated with indigenous peoples and local communities, the term “traditional knowledge” be used.
- We commend the CBD Secretariat for creating an inclusive process and commend the Secretariats of the CMS and CITES for their engagement during the development of the global guidance, as well as the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management (CPW), and consider that for strengthening the implementation of the guidance, especially related to international trade and transboundary migratory species, enhanced dialogue should be considered to ensure more policy coherence, avoiding duplication of Parties’ efforts.
- An often overlooked, but important gap that was not sufficiently addressed in the global guidance, is the relevance of the WHO Pandemic Agreement, and the potential consequences of the lack of biodiversity safeguards within it. While this is also addressed in the CBD agenda item on biodiversity and health, it is important to have it cross-linked.
- Increased focus on the private sector is needed to make sure businesses take on their responsibilities regarding the implementation of the global guidance, including by developing risk disclosure frameworks and environmental assessments.

Document [CBD/SBSTTA/28/5](#)

Suggestions on the text

Sustainable wildlife management

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

abridged; continued.

II. Recommendation

10. 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 decision¹ along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decisions 14/7 of 29 November 2018, 15/23 of 10 December 2022 and 16/15 of 25 October 2024,

Recognizing that sustainable wildlife management contributes to the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity² and the implementation ~~of relevant targets~~ of the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework³ and provides important ecological, economic, social and cultural benefits to indigenous peoples and local communities and other people living in close relationship with wildlife, **[Rationale: SWM is relevant to multiple targets and sections of the KM-GBF, so there is no need to specify relevant targets]**

1. *Adopts* the global guidance on the sustainable management of wildlife applicable to multiple species and multiple practices with a focus on: (a) inclusive and participatory decision-making; (b) the inclusion of multiple systems of knowledge and the recognition of rights; and (c) the equitable distribution of costs and benefits, as contained in the annex to the present decision;

2. *Urges* Parties, and invites other Governments, ~~and~~ relevant organizations, **and other relevant actors** to integrate and apply the global guidance, **[Rationale: Other actors, including the private sector are also relevant to implement the global guidance.]** ~~as appropriate and~~ **[Rationale: This specification is not necessary here]** in accordance with national circumstances, priorities and legislation, in national biodiversity strategies and action plans, wildlife policies, legal and institutional frameworks ~~and relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans~~, policies, programmes and other instruments; **and relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, including in private sector operations;** **[Rationale: To add further specificity for the private sector]**

2.bis Urges Parties, and invites other Governments, relevant organisations, and other relevant actors to strengthen regional and transboundary cooperation for shared species and ecosystems, as appropriate; **[Rationale: Need to consider that SWM also includes migratory species, going beyond national boundaries]**

3. ~~Invites~~ **Encourages** Parties to promote the coherent and coordinated implementation of the global guidance across relevant sectors dealing with the management of wildlife; **[Rationale: stronger language commensurate with the importance of the issue]**

3.bis Encourages parties and invites relevant organisations to engage business, and financial institutions and actors in integrating the global guidance into their policies, strategies, and practices, including through the disclosure of risks and impacts on wildlife along supply chains, consistent with emerging biodiversity-related disclosure frameworks and national legislations; **[Rationale: To bring more actors to the implementation of the global guidance]**

4. *Urges* Parties, and invites other Governments and relevant actors in a position to do so, to support the dissemination and implementation of the global guidance, including through capacity-building **and development**, technical cooperation, the mobilization of financial resources and support for community- and rights-based approaches, as appropriate; **[Rationale: To align with agreed CBD language]**

¹ The estimated extrabudgetary resource requirements for the activities outlined in the draft decision are shown in the annex to the present document.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

³ Decision 15/4, annex.

4.bis Encourages Parties when implementing the global guidance and relevant One Health approaches, including in the context of the WHO Pandemic Agreement, to ensure that responses to zoonotic disease risks are informed by the best available scientific evidence, traditional knowledge, taking into account both disease risks and potential impacts on biodiversity, wildlife health and ecosystem integrity, and safeguard wild species populations, while protecting public health, food security, and the rights, knowledge, livelihood of, and customary sustainable use by, indigenous peoples and local communities. [Rationale: Historic responses to zoonotic diseases concerns have sometimes led to culling, persecution or eradication of wildlife populations despite limited evidence of disease risk and sometimes even with adverse effects. Given the absence of specific biodiversity safeguards in the WHO Pandemic Agreement (no explicit inclusion of relevant safeguards in the global guidance), this paragraph encourages Parties to ensure that zoonotic disease responses are evidence-based, proportionate and consider impacts on wildlife, ecosystems, and IPLCs alongside public health objectives.]

5. *Invites* **Encourages** Parties, [Rationale: Stronger language since monitoring and evaluating is important in applying the guidance] **and invites** indigenous peoples and local communities, **women and youth** [Rationale: To align with KM-GBF Target 22 and recognizes the relevance of major groups to sustainable wildlife management] and relevant stakeholders to monitor and evaluate the use and effectiveness of the global guidance and share information on their experiences relating to its implementation before the nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary ~~of the Convention~~ [Rationale: To align with accepted CBD language], subject to the availability of resources and in ~~consultation~~ collaboration [Rationale: To improve language, “collaboration” describes the joint work better] **with members of the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management, in particular the Secretariat of the Convention on Migratory species and the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora,** [Rationale: To better match the importance of CPW in this regard, and to highlight and specify the relevance of the two conventions to sustainable wildlife management] ~~interested Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities,~~ **women and youth, and relevant organisations;** ~~and members of the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management;~~ [Rationale: To align with KM-GBF Target 22 and decision 16/15]

- (a) To promote awareness of, and facilitate the use of, the global guidance;
- (b) To promote the exchange of experiences, tools and lessons learned regarding monitoring, adaptive management, safeguards, participatory governance and equitable benefit-sharing;
- (c) To compile the information referred to in paragraph 5 above and make it available through the clearing-house mechanism and other appropriate means;
- (d) To prepare a report on progress in the implementation of the present decision, **including the uptake and effectiveness of the global guidance,** for the consideration of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting held before the ~~nineteenth~~ **eighteenth** meeting of the Conference of the Parties-, **with a view to enabling an interim review and any necessary adjustments prior to the nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.** [Rationale: To operationalize the document within the global review and to prioritize its use.]

6.bis Requests the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, in collaboration with the World Health Organization and the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management, and relevant mechanisms established under the World Health Organization Pandemic Agreement, to prepare a synthesis of experiences, lessons learned and good practices on approaches to zoonotic disease preventions and responses that are informed by the available scientific evidence and traditional knowledge, and that safeguard biodiversity, wildlife health, ecosystem integrity, wild species populations, while protecting public health, food security, and the rights, knowledge, livelihoods of, and customary sustainable use by, indigenous peoples and local communities, for consideration by

the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice prior to the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. [Rationale: Historical responses to actual or perceived zoonotic diseases risks have sometimes resulted in culling, persecution, eradication campaigns or other interventions targeting wildlife populations, despite limited evidence of their effectiveness in reducing disease transmission, resulting in adverse impacts on wildlife populations and ecosystem integrity. As implementation of the WHO Pandemic Agreement and related One Health initiatives advances there is no current dedicated mechanism to systematically assess how zoonoses diseases measures can avoid unintended harm to wildlife, biodiversity and the rights and livelihoods of indigenous peoples and local communities. Preparing a synthesis would help ensure that future responses are informed by evidence, draw on diverse knowledge systems and incorporated approaches that safeguard biodiversity and wildlife, while achieving public health objectives.]

Annex

Global guidance on the sustainable management of wildlife applicable to multiple species and multiple practices

I. Context

1. In decision [14/7](#), the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity⁴ recognized sustainable wildlife management as an integrated approach contributing to the objectives of the Convention, namely, the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources. The present guidance builds on that decision and subsequent decisions of the Conference of the Parties and will contribute to the implementation of the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework adopted at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.⁵ In particular, the guidance will contribute to the achievement of Targets 4 to 6, 9, 10, 22 and 23 of the Framework, which provide a basis for advancing species conservation and recovery, ensuring that the use of and trade in wild species are sustainable, safe and legal and enhancing benefits for people.
2. The present guidance uses the definition of the term “sustainable wildlife management” provided in decision [14/7](#), namely “the sound management of wildlife species to sustain their populations and habitat over time, considering the socioeconomic needs of human populations”.
3. Sustainable wildlife management is supported by a broad international normative framework created, inter alia, by the Convention on Biological Diversity (in particular Articles 6 to 8 and 10), the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Union for Conservation of Nature. Also relevant in that regard are the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity⁶ and other decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, including decisions [14/7](#), [15/23](#) and [16/15](#), on sustainable wildlife management. The Framework further reinforces commitments related to halting species extinction, ensuring the sustainable and legal use of wild species, restoring ecosystems and enhancing benefit-sharing.⁵
4. Wildlife continues to provide essential ecological, economic, cultural and social benefits, especially in rural and biodiversity-rich regions, where it supports livelihoods, food systems and cultural continuity. While many wild species are used at unsustainable levels, others are effectively conserved and managed, demonstrating the importance of context-specific approaches. Those dynamics underscore the need for coordinated, risk-informed, transparent, accountable and

⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

⁵ Decision [15/4](#), annex.

⁶ Decision [VII/12](#), annex II.

adaptive management that addresses cumulative pressures and cumulative values, integrates ~~scientific and local~~ **multiple** systems of knowledge and ensures that wildlife management remains ecologically sustainable and aligned with conservation objectives. **[Rationale: To mainstream language throughout the document to make language broader and more inclusive.]**

5. According to *The Thematic Assessment Report on the Sustainable Use of Wild Species*, many wildlife populations and species are declining, in particular where such pressures as land-use and sea use change, direct exploitation, climate change, pollution and invasive alien species are not effectively managed. Those interacting pressures increase extinction risk, erode ecosystem functioning, undermine nature's contributions to people and are intensified by broader indirect socioeconomic drivers, including population growth, increasing per capita consumption and expanding demands for land and sea use. Existing risks, including those caused by the dynamics of wildlife disease, increases in wildlife trade and trafficking and human-wildlife conflict, may further exacerbate vulnerabilities, in particular for species with declining populations or restricted ranges and indigenous peoples and local communities closely linked to wildlife.

II. Mandate

abridged; continued.

III. Purpose and scope

abridged; continued.

IV. Principles

6. The present guidance draws on the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity; decision 14/7; the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including its Targets 4 to 6, 9, 10, 22 and 23, and relevant findings from *The Thematic Assessment Report on the Sustainable Use of Wild Species*. It is underpinned by principles and approaches reflecting the objectives of the Convention (see table 1) that inform the design, interpretation and implementation of sustainable wildlife management in support of biodiversity conservation, human well-being and equitable governance

Table 1

Principles and approaches informing the global guidance on sustainable wildlife management

<i>Principles and approaches</i>	<i>Key considerations</i>	<i>Basis</i>
Ecological sustainability and the precautionary approach	Resource managers and users have the responsibility to ensure that wildlife management is conducted in a manner that maintains ecological processes, species and genetic variability above thresholds needed for long-term viability.	Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines (decision <u>VII/12</u> , annex II)
	Parties should apply the precautionary approach in their management decisions.	Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines
	Where there is a threat of significant reduction or loss of biological diversity, lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing measures to avoid or minimize such a threat.	Convention on Biological Diversity (preamble)
	To be considered sustainable, wildlife management	<i>The Thematic Assessment</i>

<i>Principles and approaches</i>	<i>Key considerations</i>	<i>Basis</i>
	should consider ecological limits, cumulative impacts and uncertainty and avoid actions that risk irreversible biodiversity loss, including through early action when evidence indicates high risk.	<i>Report on the Sustainable Use of Wild Species</i> (Inter-governmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services)
	Ensure that the use and harvesting of and trade in wild species is sustainable, safe and legal, preventing overexploitation, minimizing impacts on non-target species and ecosystems, and reducing the risk of pathogen spillover, applying the ecosystem approach, while respecting and protecting customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities.	Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (Target 5)
Human rights-based approach and inclusive participation	Subject to its national legislation, each Party shall respect, preserve and maintain knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and promote their wider application with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices and encourage the equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of such knowledge, innovations and practices.	Convention on Biological Diversity (Article 8 (j))
	States shall consult and cooperate in good faith with the indigenous peoples and local communities concerned in order to obtain their free, prior and informed consent before adopting and implementing legislative or administrative measures that may affect them.	Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (sect. C)
	Parties must consider women's roles, knowledge and, practices with respect to wildlife management, and apply the gender-responsive approach, while securing their rights and safety.	Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (Target 22)
	<u>Parties must consider the principles of intergenerational equity, including through the meaningful participation of children and youth and considerations of the impacts of decisions on future generations. [Rationale: Inclusion aligned with KM-GBF Section C and Target 22]</u>	<u>Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (sect. C and Target 22)</u>
Equity and fair distribution of	The needs and contributions of indigenous peoples and local communities should be reflected in the	Addis Ababa Principles and

<i>Principles and approaches</i>	<i>Key considerations</i>	<i>Basis</i>
benefits	equitable distribution of the benefits from the management of wildlife.	Guidelines
	The costs of management and conservation of wildlife should be internalized and reflected in the distribution of the benefits from its use.	Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines
Integration of multiple systems of knowledge and adaptive management [Rationale: mainstreaming language throughout the document]	Adaptive wildlife management should be practised, based on scientific, local and traditional multiple systems of knowledge. [Rationale: Mainstreaming language throughout the document]	Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines
	Adaptive management should be practised, on the basis of iterative, timely and transparent feedback derived from monitoring the use, environmental, socio-economic impacts and the status of the resource being used.	Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines
	When using traditional and local knowledge [Rationale: Mainstreaming language throughout the document] , Parties should take appropriate actions to ensure that the free, prior and informed ⁷ consent and approval of the holder of that knowledge has been obtained. [Rationale: Aligned with language from the basis Mo'otz Kuxtal Voluntary Guidelines decision XIII/18, annex)]	Mo'otz Kuxtal Voluntary Guidelines (decision <u>XIII/18</u> , annex)
Policy coherence and institutional alignment	Supportive policies, laws and institutions should be in place at all levels of governance, and there should be effective linkages between these levels.	Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines
	As far as possible and as appropriate, the conservation and sustainable use of wildlife should be integrated into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies.	Convention on Biological Diversity (Article 6 (b))
	In accordance with national capabilities, financial support and incentives should be provided for national activities intended to achieve the objectives of the Convention, in accordance with national plans, priorities and programmes.	Convention on Biological Diversity (Article 20 (1))
	The rights and obligations of Parties deriving from any existing international agreement are not affected	Convention on Biological Diversity (Article 22 (1))

⁷ **Free, prior and informed consent refers to the tripartite terminology of 'prior and informed consent' 'free, prior and informed consent' and 'approval and involvement'.**

<i>Principles and approaches</i>	<i>Key considerations</i>	<i>Basis</i>
	by the provisions of the Convention, except where the exercise of those rights and obligations would cause a serious damage or threat to biological diversity.	

V. Safeguards

abridged; continued.

VI. Key elements for developing and implementing policies on sustainable wildlife management

abridged; continued.

VII. Actions for implementation of sustainable wildlife management

7. The present section comprises a set of four possible actions that Parties may consider in the context of supporting the implementation of sustainable wildlife management: crosscutting elements to support policy coherence and cross-sectoral integration; inclusive and participatory decision-making; C. inclusion of multiple systems of knowledge and the recognition of rights; and the equitable distribution of costs and benefits. Subsections B, C and D reflect the focus of the areas specified in decision 16/15, subsection A was added because its subject matter figured prominently in the submissions received following the issuance of notifications Nos. 2025-014 and 2025-015.

8. Implementation of the present guidance may be adapted to national and local contexts, taking into account ecological conditions, cultural diversity and governance systems. In adapting the guidance, Parties may consider differences among ecological regions, including temperate, tropical, subtropical, arid, polar, mountain, island, coastal and urban contexts, recognizing that implementation needs, pressures, data availability and governance arrangements may vary across regions and practices.

9. Moreover, regional practice-specific and technical tools, **including by sharing experiences, tools and best practices**, may, as appropriate, complement the guidance in areas where more detailed methodologies, indicators, scenario analyses or operational standards are needed. **[Rationale: Improve international cooperation in between countries.]**

A. Cross-cutting elements: policy coherence and cross-sectoral integration

10. Policy coherence and cross-sectoral integration are important because sustainable wildlife management is influenced by interacting drivers across sectors and governance levels and within diverse socioecological contexts. The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services assessment identifies coordinated and aligned policies, robust customary and statutory institutions, monitoring of socioecological conditions and practices and policies tailored to local socioecological contexts as key elements for enhancing sustainability. Those approaches can help to align measures across relevant sectors and scales, strengthen institutional support for implementation, reduce fragmentation and policy inconsistencies and enable adaptive responses to changing socioecological conditions. The following actions should consequently be taken as appropriate and with due consideration given to national circumstances and priorities:

(a) Promoting coherent policy, legal and institutional conditions for the sustainable and inclusive management of wildlife, including sustainable wildlife economies that are consistent with conservation objectives, ecological limits, traceability requirements, equitable benefit-sharing and the rights and livelihoods of indigenous peoples and local communities and other relevant stakeholders;

(b) Enhancing cross-sectoral regulations and coordination to address key pressures by defining lead agencies, coordination and monitoring mechanisms and relevant protocols for:

- (i) Wildlife crime and illegal **and unsustainable** use or trade; **[Rationale: To align with KM-GBF Targets 5 and 9]**
- (ii) Habitat loss, degradation and fragmentation;
- (iii) Climate-related risks;
- (iv) Biosecurity risks, invasive alien species and zoonotic disease risks;
- (v) Pollution;
- (vi) Legal, sustainable and traceable wildlife use and trade;

(c) Promoting the embedding of ecological connectivity and habitat conservation in spatial and development planning by mapping and safeguarding key habitats, corridors and migratory pathways, as well as areas of cultural and socioecological importance, incorporating them into zoning and strategic environmental assessment processes and aligning actions with national land-use or sea use plans and, where relevant, regional and global connectivity initiatives;

(d) Promoting stronger integration of sustainable wildlife management issues into urban planning processes, where appropriate, through the adoption of nature-based solutions **and/or ecosystem-based approaches** and by updating urban wildlife management guidelines, establishing protocols for the prevention of and response to human-wildlife interactions in urban areas and supporting cross-sectoral initiatives that enhance wildlife literacy and encourage urban residents' engagement in the stewardship of neighbourhood wildlife; **[Rationale: To align with agreed CBD language]**

(e) Strengthening regional and transboundary cooperation for shared species and ecosystems by establishing or using existing regional platforms and developing and integrating bilateral or multilateral arrangements for coordinated conservation actions, monitoring, harmonized harvest or trade controls and the joint management of transboundary protected areas and corridors;

(f) Supporting business, private and financial sectors, as appropriate, in undertaking biodiversity mainstreaming within and across all sectors, with a view to ensuring the sustainable management of wild species, including by eliminating wildlife crime, **as well as unsustainable legal trade**, and regulating the disclosure by businesses, companies and financial institutions of risks, dependencies and impacts on wildlife along their supply chains; **[Rationale: Unsustainable legal trade is missing, but also a relevant issue to be addressed. To align language on KM-GBF Target 5]**

(g) Addressing challenges to the sustainable management of wild species, such as landscape and seascape changes, **overexploitation**, climate change, pollution and invasive alien species, and strengthening cooperation and coherence with the secretariats of multilateral environmental agreements addressing common challenges; **[Rationale: To align with IPBES Global Assessment (2019) direct drivers.]**

(h) Promoting more systematic integration of climate-related risks into wildlife management by assessing, where relevant, the effects of climate change on species populations, habitats, ecological connectivity, disease dynamics, human-wildlife interactions and the sustainability of use and by adjusting management responses in the light of those effects;

(i) Strengthening or establishing national wildlife inventories, monitoring systems and adaptive management frameworks to support the periodic review and evidence-informed adjustment of management instruments, including quotas, permits and management plans, in the light of ecological evidence, risks and uncertainty;

(j) Strengthening minimum monitoring and reviewing arrangements, as appropriate, by establishing baseline ecological and social information, the periodic review of management measures, the monitoring of outcomes and cumulative pressures and transparent reporting

mechanisms that support adaptive management and timely adjustment where practices are found to be unsustainable or inequitable;

(k) Advancing targeted **formal, non-formal, and informal** education, **[Rationale: To align with KM-GBF Section K]** awareness-raising and capacity-building initiatives in response to specific implementation needs, through training of trainers and partnerships with academic institutions, indigenous peoples and local communities, **women and youth**, **[Rationale: To align with KM-GBF Section C and Target 22.]** the regional and subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres and community institutions;

(l) Supporting the mobilization of adequate human, technical and financial resources by integrating costs into sectoral budgets, gaining access to biodiversity finance mechanisms and, where appropriate, leveraging sustainable financing instruments consistent with national priorities and safeguards.

B. Inclusive and participatory decision-making

11. Inclusive and participatory decision-making strengthens legitimacy, improves the quality and acceptability of decisions and supports the implementation of sustainable wildlife management that is responsive to socioecological contexts. Consistent with submissions received in response to notifications Nos. 2025-014 and 2025-015, effective wildlife management depends on the transparent, structured and meaningful participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth, civil society organizations, scientists and relevant authorities, and participation should extend beyond consultation to include shared decision-making, co-management and co-design, as appropriate. The following actions should be taken to support sustainable wildlife management, as appropriate and with due consideration given to national circumstances and priorities:

(a) Facilitating fit-for-purpose participatory processes by ensuring early stakeholder mapping, clear roles and responsibilities, accessible information in relevant languages, adequate timelines for participation and documentation on how inputs were considered;

(b) Promoting the early engagement of stakeholders in the design of wildlife management measures and policies, including harvest regimes, **quotas**, spatial planning and restoration initiatives, applying free, prior and informed consent procedures, as applicable; **[Rationale: To align with language used in this document]**

(c) Supporting the participation in decision-making processes, as appropriate, of relevant stakeholders, such as public authorities, indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth, private landowners, wildlife managers, civil society, academia, private sector actors and health and veterinary authorities;

(d) Promoting or strengthening participatory governance mechanisms through clear terms of reference, decision-making procedures and mechanisms for managing interactions where statutory, customary and private systems intersect;

(e) Recognizing and supporting community-based governance instruments, such as bi-cultural community protocols, community forestry arrangements and buffer zone governance systems, and recognizing the contributions of indigenous peoples and local communities and their knowledge systems, including cultural, spiritual and relational values associated with wildlife, through technical assistance, legal support, capacity-building and appropriate funding, consistent with national legislation and relevant international obligations;

(f) Promoting and, where appropriate, strengthening tenure and access arrangements through the recognition of the role of customary wildlife management systems in the development of policy instruments and tools, where applicable, and clarifying how tenure and use rights relate to wildlife governance, benefit-sharing and responsibilities for stewardship;

(g) Facilitating transparent access to relevant socioecological and economic information by publishing management plans, harvest or quota rationales, monitoring summaries, licensing rules and revenue allocation, while protecting sensitive information where disclosure, for example, of poaching hotspots or confidential traditional knowledge, could increase risks;

(h) Promoting balanced representation in wildlife governance bodies through such measures as quotas, the rotation of seats and addressing barriers faced **by indigenous peoples and local communities**, women, youth and underrepresented groups, including those in vulnerable situations and those most dependent on biodiversity; **[Rationale: To align with KM-GBF Target 22]**

(i) Facilitating the establishment of accessible grievance prevention, dispute resolution and conflict management mechanisms and ensuring that outcomes are monitored and used to improve policy and practice;

(j) Applying participatory risk assessments, scenario planning and trade-off analyses where decisions with significant ecological or social implications are being taken. Parties may consider providing, where needed, facilitation, technical support and capacity-building to enable equitable participation;

(k) Promoting inclusive dialogue and joint action in contexts of human-wildlife conflict and zoonotic disease risk by linking wildlife authorities with communities, health and veterinary services and relevant sectors and by using practical measures, such as early warning systems, community response teams and agreed protocols for safe handling and reporting.

C. Inclusion of multiple systems of knowledge and recognition of rights

12. Sustainable wildlife management can be strengthened when it draws on multiple systems of knowledge and is implemented in ways that ensure the recognition of relevant rights, governance systems and responsibilities. Submissions received in response to notifications Nos. 2025-014 and 2025-015 highlighted that scientific knowledge is often more effective when considered alongside traditional knowledge and that respect for the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, including with regard to customary governance systems, tenure arrangements and rights relating to knowledge, is an important condition for effective and equitable implementation. Parties should advance sustainable wildlife management through the following actions, as appropriate and with due consideration given to national circumstances and priorities:

(a) Providing recognition for local and customary governance systems, tenure arrangements and community-defined rules relevant to wildlife management, consistent with national legislation and relevant international obligations, including through legal recognition, support for customary institutions and negotiated agreements where systems overlap;

(b) Encouraging approaches that support the application of appropriate protocols and procedures for seeking the consent and approval of knowledge holders, while respecting intellectual property over traditional knowledge, data sovereignty, culturally appropriate benefit-sharing from knowledge use and community-defined access rules;

(c) Facilitating the establishment of mechanisms for integrating scientific and traditional systems of knowledge as distinct and complementary sources of evidence in wildlife planning, monitoring and review;

(d) Facilitating community-based knowledge documentation systems and locally governed repositories, such as community-managed archives, databases or other systems for storing and transmitting knowledge, where communities agree to them, while respecting community-defined access, use and sharing protocols;

(e) Fostering intergenerational knowledge transfer and adaptive learning processes to allow management systems to respond to socioecological change, through community exchanges, mentorship programmes and learning-by-doing approaches embedded in management cycles;

(f) Enabling, where appropriate, the integration of community-based monitoring into national biodiversity inventories and reporting systems, using standardized yet adaptable methods, training and resourcing for data collection, management and feedback to communities;

(g) Incorporating, where relevant and appropriate, attention to population structure, connectivity and wild genetic diversity, drawing on scientific and traditional systems of knowledge

and applying safeguards relating to consent, culturally appropriate use of knowledge and data governance;

(h) Strengthening capacities for species inventories, population assessments and habitat monitoring by prioritizing risk-based and ecosystem-based approaches in data poor contexts and promoting open and FAIR (findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable) principles, where feasible;

(i) Encouraging transparent access to monitoring and management information, as appropriate, while applying safeguards for sensitive data, for example, the locations of threatened species or confidential traditional knowledge;

(j) Advancing the One Health approach by integrating wildlife health surveillance into sustainable wildlife management frameworks; establishing information-sharing channels among environment, forestry, fisheries, agriculture and health authorities; and incorporating safe handling, biosecurity and risk communication measures into wildlife management plans, as appropriate and consistent with the One Health Joint Plan of Action (2022–2026) of the Quadripartite collaboration on One Health;

(k) Encouraging, where One Health approaches are applied, the monitoring and periodic review of outcomes for wildlife populations, ecosystem integrity, human well-being, domestic animal health and spillover risk reduction, to strengthen evidence-based learning and adaptive management;

(l) Facilitating the use of emerging technologies, such as remote sensing, acoustic monitoring, eDNA, digital permitting and traceability tools, in monitoring and enforcement, ensuring equity, accessibility and cultural appropriateness.

D. Equitable distribution of costs and benefits

13. The equitable distribution of costs and benefits is important for sustainable wildlife management, as it strengthens fairness, legitimacy and long-term effectiveness, in particular where the burdens and benefits associated with wildlife use, conservation and coexistence are unevenly distributed. In the submissions received in response to notifications Nos. [2025-014](#) and [2025-015](#), it was highlighted that wildlife management was more likely to be effective and durable where those who bore the costs of living with wildlife, including indigenous peoples and local communities and other relevant stakeholders, derived tangible and equitable benefits from their stewardship, sustainable use and conservation efforts. Parties should advance sustainable wildlife management through the following actions, as appropriate and with due consideration given to national circumstances and priorities:

(a) Ensuring that benefit-sharing arrangements encompass both monetary and non-monetary benefits, such as capacity-building, equitable access to information and monitoring results, institutional strengthening, the recognition of customary governance systems and support for cultural traditions, knowledge, practices and subsistence use;

(b) Facilitating fair, transparent, participatory and accountable benefit-sharing arrangements on the basis of clear eligibility, governance structures and grievance mechanisms;

(c) Giving due attention to the differentiated costs borne by those living with wildlife, such as human-wildlife conflict, opportunity costs and regulatory burdens, through preventive, mitigative and incentive-based measures, giving particular attention to gender-differentiated impacts, women's participation and leadership and vulnerable groups;

(d) Promoting measures to protect the safety and rights of women and men environmental human rights defenders, with consideration of gender differentiated violence and issues experienced by defenders;

(e) Facilitating, where appropriate, the establishment or strengthening of insurance mechanisms, compensation schemes and other incentive-based instruments to address crop damage, livestock loss and other costs associated with human-wildlife interactions in both terrestrial

and aquatic ecosystems, thereby supporting coexistence and reducing social and economic vulnerability;

(f) Enabling legal and policy frameworks that allow revenues and other benefits from sustainable wildlife use, trade and tourism to reach indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant stakeholders by clarifying revenue-sharing formulas, devolving appropriate fiscal authority and supporting social enterprises and businesses of indigenous peoples and local communities;

(g) Strengthening accountability for benefit-sharing and wildlife revenues through independent oversight, regular financial and performance audits, the disclosure of revenue flows and allocations and accessible grievance and remedy mechanisms, together with protections against retaliation;

(h) Recognizing the roles of small-scale harvesters, processors and social enterprises within wildlife value chains and ensuring that regulatory measures do not disproportionately disadvantage actors operating within local and customary systems;

(i) Promoting diversified and climate resilient livelihood strategies linked to sustainable wildlife management, such as non-extractive uses, and applying sustainability safeguards for tourism such as impact monitoring;

(j) Exploring innovative and sustainable financing mechanisms, such as biodiversity-related levies, payments for ecosystem services and public-private partnerships, with clear socio-ecological safeguards, including additionality, avoidance of perverse incentives, the monitoring of biodiversity outcomes and respect for rights;

(k) Promoting equitable access to markets for sustainably sourced wildlife parts and derivatives, while ensuring that commercialization remains aligned with conservation objectives and within ecological limits and providing incentives for alternative business models with clear socioecological benefits, including those within the social and solidarity economy, while taking into account the precautionary approach;

Supporting restoration and recovery initiatives where wildlife populations, habitats or ecological functions have declined. Such initiatives should take into account the equitable distribution of costs and benefits, including effects on tenure, access, livelihoods and customary sustainable use, and provide for the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities and other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate

Annex

Estimated extrabudgetary resource requirements

abridged.

6 Scientific and technical needs to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework: strategic update to the programme of work on protected areas (Item 7)

The topic was introduced by Joe Appiot, and different participants took turns in facilitating the discussions. The workshop participants focused largely on the annex. They reviewed the proposed activities and reformulated the third column to better reflect the different categories of proposed activities, in terms of how they supplement the existing programme of work (new paragraph 2 in the annex) and to avoid confusion on where activities are considered priorities. A few activities under Targets 9 and 16 were proposed to be deleted as the links to protected or conserved areas were considered weak. Other activities were reformulated to make them more aligned with text of the different targets of the KM-GBF, particularly Target 3. A new paragraph was added in the annex (paragraph 3) to highlight the importance of implementing the programme of work in line with KM-GBF Section C, in particular by following a human rights-based approach. The draft decision text was also updated to ensure clarity on where actions of the Executive Secretary were required to facilitate the activities in the annex. And a reference to the IPBES spatial planning assessment was added to acknowledge the value of that forthcoming publication for implementation of the PoWPA.

Document [CBD/SBSTTA/28/6](#)

Suggestions on the text

Scientific and technical needs to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework: strategic review of and update to the programme of work on protected areas

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

abridged; continued.

II. Background

abridged; continued.

III. Summary of the strategic review and analysis of the programme of work on protected areas

abridged; continued.

IV. Potential approaches for addressing identified gaps

abridged; continued.

V. Activities conducted by the Secretariat in support of Target 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

abridged; continued.

VI. Recommendation

33. 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 decision⁸ along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decisions VII/28 of 20 February 2004, VIII/24 of 31 March 2006, IX/18 of 30 May 2008, X/31 of 29 October 2010, 14/8 of 29 November 2018, **15/4 of 19 December 2022** and 16/12 of 1 November 2024, **[Rationale: To reference the KM-GBF (paragraph 9 of decision 15/4) as the first decision that called for the update of the POWs]**

Acknowledging that the programme of work on protected areas⁹ and related decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity¹⁰ continue to provide a strategic framework for the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,¹¹ in particular Target 3, while noting that **complementary addi-tional** guidance is needed to enhance alignment with the Framework and address identified gaps, **[Rationale: To clarify language as complementary is used elsewhere in the document in a different context]**

Taking into consideration the ongoing work of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services on the methodological assessment on integrated biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning and ecological connectivity to be finalised at its 13th meeting, and its relevance to protected and conserved areas, **[Rationale: To strengthen the scientific basis for integrated planning and management]**

1. *Decides* to revise the name of the programme of work on protected ~~conserved~~ areas to “programme of work on protected and conserved areas” in order to reflect the broader scope of “protected **areas and other effective area based conservation measures, recognising indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable,** and ~~conserved areas~~” in a manner consistent with **Target 3 of** the Framework and enhance clarity and coherence; **[Rationale: To refer to KM-GBF Target 3]**

2. *Endorses* the complementary (~~supplementary~~) activities for further or improved guidance contained in the annex to the present decision, as an update to the programme of work on protected and conserved areas, in order to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, with particular focus on Target 3; **[Rationale: The use of “complementary” to describe both the annex and the activities in the annex is confusing. If “complementary” is retained in column three of the annex table, we suggest to alter the text here to “supplementary activities” for clarity]**

3. *Invites* Parties and other Governments to take into account the updated programme of work on protected and conserved areas in the development and implementation of actions to meet the targets of the Framework, in particular Target 3;

4. *Invites* the secretariats of relevant multilateral environmental agreements, international organizations and United Nations entities, **other intergovernmental agree-ments and processes,** indigenous peoples and local communities, relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, academia, women and youth, to contribute to the implementation of the Framework by supporting the implementation of the updated programme of

⁸ The estimated extrabudgetary resource requirements for the activities outlined in the draft decision are shown in the annex to the present document.

⁹ Decision VII/28, annex.

¹⁰ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

¹¹ Decision 15/4, annex.

work on protected and conserved areas; **[Rationale: Using language aligned with decision 16/35 on cooperation with other conventions and organisations]**

5. *Encourages* Parties to ~~apply~~ **implement the updated Programme of Work on Protected and Conserved areas in line with section C of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, in particular by applying** a human rights-based approach in the implementation of the updated programme of work on protected and conserved areas, ~~including by ensuring the full and effective participation of rights holders~~ **indigenous peoples and local communities and other rights holders**, and the recognition ~~by recognising~~ of diverse governance systems, in a manner consistent with 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;¹² **[Rationale: Ensuring that the PoWPCA is implemented in line with KM-GBF Section C and for clarification of the language]**

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

(a) To further support the Target 3 Community of Practice as a flexible, inclusive and voluntary platform, with a view to facilitating coordination, knowledge exchange and implementation support, and to invite relevant organizations **and initiatives** to participate in the Community; **[Rationale: For wider scope to allow inclusion of other resources, e.g. High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People, etc.]**

(b) To collaborate with the regional and subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres and other relevant partners in order to deliver targeted scientific and technical support to Parties for meeting Target 3 of the Framework;

(c) To compile a synthesis report on best practices to meet Target 3 of the Framework and implement the programme of work on protected and conserved areas, with particular focus on the following areas:

- (i) Human rights-based and equitable governance approaches, including the recognition of **the rights, roles and contributions of** indigenous peoples and local communities ~~as rights holders~~; **[Rationale: To align language with KM-GBF Section C and Target 3 in the annex]**
- (ii) Ecological integrity, ecosystem resilience and ecological connectivity **of protected and conserved areas**, including in the context of climate change across terrestrial, inland water, coastal and marine systems; **[Rationale: Clarification of relevance for PoWPCA]**
- (iii) The **respect and** recognition of indigenous and traditional territories, including by applying differentiated approaches for indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation and initial contact; **[Rationale: To align language with KM-GBF Section C and Target 3 in the annex]**
- (iv) Gender equality and gender-responsive approaches in planning, governance and the management of protected and conserved areas;
- (v) The integration of protected and conserved areas into **broader landscapes and seascapes including through** [Rationale: Aligning text and meaning with the tables in the annex] biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning **and sustainably managed production areas**; ~~and wider landscapes and seascapes~~; **[Rationale: To align text and meaning with the tables in the annex; reference Target 10 in the annex]**

¹² Decision 16/4, annex.

- (vi) The identification and prioritization of areas of particular importance for biodiversity, ecosystem functions and ecosystem services, including underrepresented ecosystems;
- (vii) ~~Standards and best practices for planning, governance and the management of protected and conserved areas,~~ **including the integration of climate change considerations and participatory risk assessment to address human-wildlife conflict;** [Rationale: To align with Targets 3 and 4 in the annex]
- (viii) Ecological networks, climate-informed corridor design, large-scale ecological connectivity and transboundary conservation, including in urban and peri-urban contexts;
- (ix) Monitoring and evaluation **and surveillance** systems for ~~terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems,~~ **protected and conserved areas,** including through the use of new technologies and gender-disaggregated indicators; [Rationale: To align with text of the annex]
- (x) Sustainable finance approaches, innovative financial mechanisms and direct and accessible financing for indigenous peoples and local communities;
- (xi) **Integration of protected and conserved areas into climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies;** [Rationale: To align with Target 11 in the annex]

(d) To report on progress made in the implementation of the present decision to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting held before the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties for the subsequent submission of a recommendation for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its eighteenth meeting.

Annex

Update Supplement to the programme of work on protected and conserved areas

[Rationale: To reflect that this is a partial update, taking the example of the forest POW]

- 1) The table below shows the mapping of the targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework¹³ against ~~complementary~~ **supplementary** activities that could support the implementation of the programme of work on protected and conserved areas.¹⁴ It highlights areas of strong alignment, opportunities to strengthen existing provisions and gaps where further development is needed. It is based on the findings of a strategic review of the programme **of work**, related submissions and a peer review analysis. **[Rationale: For consistent language and clarity]**
- 2) The activities are divided into three categories: (a) ~~priority actions,~~ **actions** focused on strengthening alignment with Target 3 of the Framework and its interlinkages with other targets; (b) ~~complementary~~ actions, which address targets that are partially covered **by the programme of work** and where implementation can be strengthened; **[Rationale: It is confusing to use the term “priority” and “complementary” because the activities are categorised on the basis of the degree of coverage rather than their importance]** and (c) areas for further development that the programme **of work** does not cover or only covers in a limited manner and where additional guidance is needed. **[Rationale: For consistent language and clarity]** For **five** targets (**Targets**

¹³ Decision 15/4, annex.

¹⁴ Decision VII/28, annex.

9, 13, 16, 17 and 18), [Rationale: This reflects the content of the Table where no specific activities are proposed but Targets have differing levels of alignment] where no significant alignment was identified through the gap analysis and relevant guidance or activities were not identified in submissions (notably Targets 13, 17 and 18), no specific actions relevant to protected and conserved areas are proposed. [Rationale: To make it clear that no specific activities have been proposed in the context of this PoWPCA]

- 3) **The implementation of the programme of work should be conducted in line with section C of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, in particular following a human rights-based approach.** [Rationale: Inserted as it applies to many Targets and activities and is particularly relevant in the context of protected and conserved areas]

~~Complementary~~ Supplementary activities to strengthen the programme of work on protected and conserved areas and its alignment with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

[Rationale: The use of “complementary” to describe both the annex and the activities in the annex is confusing. If complementary is retained in column three of the annex table, we suggest to alter the text here to “supplementary activities” for clarity]

General comment on table: It is suggested to change categories (column 3) as per point 2) above

<i>Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</i>	<i>Complementary <u>Supplementary</u> activities</i> [Rationale: The use of “complementary” to describe both the annex and the activities in the annex is confusing. If complementary is retained in column three of the annex table, we suggest to alter the text here to “supplementary activities” for clarity]	<i>Category</i>
Target 1	1. Integrate protected and conserved areas into broader landscape and seascape planning to improve ecological connectivity, through participatory, and biodiversity human rights based and inclusive spatial planning [Rationale: Captured in the chapeau] and/or effective management processes that ensure the full and effective participation while respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities [Rationale: To aligning text with Target 1 language] <u>and following a human rights-based approach.</u> [Rationale: Moved for clarity]	Priority actions a
Target 2	2. Promote the restoration of degraded ecosystems within and beyond protected and conserved areas, including and beyond, in particular buffer zones and ecological corridors [Rationale: To focus more on areas of relevance to nature conservation outside of protected areas], including through the development of criteria for identifying priority restoration areas and approaches for measuring restoration success, ensuring an <u>socially</u> inclusive and gender-responsive implementation of the restoration efforts, as appropriate [Rationale: Broadening the scope of this statement].	Complementary actions (target partially addressed) b
Target 3	3. Incorporate the language, scope and timelines of Target 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework across the implementation of the programme of work on protected and conserved areas, including by reflecting the concept of protected and conserved areas as an umbrella term encompassing protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures and, where applicable, indigenous and traditional territories, updating relevant timelines and terminology,	Priority actions a

Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework	Complementary <u>Supplementary</u> activities [Rationale: The use of “complementary” to describe both the annex and the activities in the annex is confusing. If complementary is retained in column three of the annex table, we suggest to alter the text here to “supplementary activities” for clarity]	Category
	and ensuring coherence with related processes under the Convention on Biological Diversity, including the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention related to indigenous peoples and local communities to 2030. [Rationale: To clarify the aim to focus on the forward-looking implementation of the PoWPCA rather than a revision of the previous documentation] 4. Enhance guidance related to the recognition and respect of indigenous and traditional territories in the context of Target 3, in a manner consistent with the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention related to indigenous peoples and local communities. This encompasses differentiated approaches to ensure comprehensive protection, including for indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation and initial contact. [Rationale: To align with Target 3 language; edit required to highlight the specific link with Target 3 and the Art8j PoW] 5. Facilitate the compilation and dissemination, through the clearing house mechanism and relevant platforms, including the Target 3 Community of Practice and the Peace and Biodiversity Dialogue Initiative, Increase the uptake of practical frameworks, guidance, tools, case studies and best practices to support the implementation of Target 3 of the Framework, including the definition and prioritization of areas of particular importance for biodiversity, ecological networks, climate-informed corridor design, large-scale ecological connectivity, other effective area-based conservation measures and trans-boundary conservation. [Rationale: Make it more relevant to anyone implementing the PoWPCA] 6. Strengthen the operationalization of equitable governance and a human rights-based approach in the planning, governance and management of protected and conserved areas [Rationale: To remove duplication], including by: shifting from beneficiary-based approaches to the respect and recognition of the rights, roles and contribution of indigenous peoples and local communities as rights holders; [Rationale: To align the text with section C] promoting standards and good practices for participation, shared governance and co-management arrangements; ensuring culturally appropriate access to information; strengthening free, prior and informed consent¹⁵, while applying differentiated approaches to ensure comprehensive protection, including for indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation and initial contact. [Rationale: To align with paragraph 4 and clarify the specific reference for differentiated approaches] 7. Strengthen inclusive monitoring and evaluation systems [Rationale: To encompass monitoring and evaluation by actors other than government] for protected and conserved areas terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems, [Rationale: To align with Target 3] including by identifying	

¹⁵ Free, prior and informed consent refers to the tripartite terminology of ‘prior and informed consent’ ‘free, prior and informed consent’ and ‘approval and involvement’

Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework	Complementary <u>Supplementary</u> activities [Rationale: The use of “complementary” to describe both the annex and the activities in the annex is confusing. If complementary is retained in column three of the annex table, we suggest to alter the text here to “supplementary activities” for clarity]	Category
	available tools, and facilitate the use of new technologies to better assess management effectiveness, biodiversity outcomes, governance quality, socioeconomic outcomes, and equity considerations and biodiversity outcomes, including through the integration of gender-disaggregated indicators. [Rationale: For clarity and flow] 8. Promote the use of approaches such as Strengthen the application of contemporary approaches to ecological integrity and ecological connectivity in the planning and management of protected and conserved areas, including through the development and implementation of [Rationale: Simplify the language to focus on ecological networks etc. and avoid the unclear term “contemporary approaches”] ecological networks, climate-informed corridor design, and connectivity across landscapes and seascapes large-scale terrestrial, freshwater and marine systems. [Rationale: Language from Target 1, also more concise] to strengthen the ecological integrity and connectivity within protected and conserved areas. [Rationale: To avoid duplication of Target 1 and focus on methods] 9. Strengthen the integration of climate change considerations into the planning and adaptive management of protected and conserved areas, to: (a) minimize the impacts of climate change and climate response measures and to anticipate future range shifts, by identifying climate refugia, connectivity corridors and areas of future biodiversity importance; including through adaptive management and resilience building approaches; and (b) integrate protected and conserved areas as part of nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches to contribute to climate change mitigation, adaptation and disaster risk reduction. [Rationale: Bringing Target 8 paragraph 16 to a more appropriate location and combining the text here; to focus on climate-smart planning and management]	
Target 4	10. Integrate systematic human-wildlife conflict risk assessment into the establishment, expansion and zoning of protected and conserved areas, including through the application of strategic environmental assessment and environmental and social impact assessment processes, in order to anticipate, prevent and mitigate human-wildlife conflict. [Rationale: clarification] 11. Strengthen capacities for planning and management in protected and conserved areas, including through participatory risk assessment, rapid response mechanisms and inclusive community engagement approaches to address human-wildlife conflict in protected and conserved areas. [Rationale: To show relevance to the program of work]	Complementary actions (target partially addressed) b
Target 5	12. Provide guidance on addressing and managing Manage the use of wild species within protected and conserved areas, where such use occurs [Rationale: It's not clear what the source of the guidance is or who is responsible for its provision], in a manner that mitigates risks to biodiversity and human health, is consistent with site-specific conservation objectives and zoning and contributes to addressing ensuring the sustainable, safe and legal legality, sustainability and safety	Complementary actions (target partially addressed) b

<i>Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</i>	Complementary <u>Supplementary</u> activities [Rationale: The use of “complementary” to describe both the annex and the activities in the annex is confusing. If complementary is retained in column three of the annex table, we suggest to alter the text here to “supplementary activities” for clarity]	Category
	of [Rationale: To strengthen the language; to align with Target 5] use across relevant stages of the use chain, including through the application of One Health risk assessment frameworks, as appropriate, <u>while respecting and protecting customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities</u> . [Rationale: To reflect the text on IPLCs from Target 5]	
Target 6	13. Strengthen prevention, early detection and rapid response to invasive alien species in <u>protected and conserved areas</u> , including through community-based monitoring and surveillance systems, and biosecurity and trade-related measures. [Rationale: To show relevance to the program of work]	Complementary actions (target partially addressed) <u>b</u>
Target 7	14. Address pollution pressures affecting protected and conserved areas across terrestrial, freshwater and marine systems [Rationale: To streamline the text; the specification is not necessary here], including erosion and sedimentation processes, plastic pollution, pesticide use and run-off, <u>noise and light pollution</u> , cumulative impacts and land-sea interactions. [Rationale: Reflecting newly recognised pollutants]	Complementary actions (target partially addressed) <u>b</u>
Target 8	15. Strengthen the <u>use of protected and conserved areas as nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches for climate change mitigation, adaptation and disaster risk reduction</u> the integration of climate change considerations into planning and management, including through nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches for mitigation, adaptation and disaster risk reduction. [Rationale: Clarification and increased relevance to Target 8 (compared with paragraph 9 under Target 3)] 16. Promote climate-informed system design that anticipates future range shifts, including by identifying climate refugia, connectivity corridors and areas of future biodiversity importance. [Rationale: Activity 16 has been deleted here and integrated into target 3 activity 9, where it is better located as rationale for climate adaptive management of PCAs]	Areas for further development (limited or not covered) <u>c</u>
Target 9	17. Consolidate best practices for sustainable biodiversity-based products, services, trade regulation and participatory governance. [Rationale: Unclear how this relates to the PoWPCA and target not applicable]	Complementary actions (target partially addressed)
Target 10	18. Strengthen guidance on <u>understanding of</u> [Rationale: Because this is a task for Parties individually] how sustainably managed production landscapes <u>areas</u> [Rationale: To align with Target 10 areas] can contribute to <u>complement protected and conserved areas in improving</u> ecological connectivity, ecosystem functions and resilience across landscapes and seascapes between protected and conserved areas. [Rationale: Clarify the relationship between Target 3 and Target 10 in area-based management]	Areas for further development (limited or not covered) <u>c</u>
Target 11	19. Compile and disseminate case studies highlighting <u>High-light</u> the contributions <u>role</u> of protected and conserved areas to <u>restore, maintain and enhance</u> climate resilience, ecosystem functions and services and human well-being, and promote their integration into climate mitigation and adaptation	Complementary actions (target partially addressed) <u>b</u>

<i>Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</i>	<i>Complementary <u>Supplementary</u> activities</i> [Rationale: The use of “complementary” to describe both the annex and the activities in the annex is confusing. If complementary is retained in column three of the annex table, we suggest to alter the text here to “supplementary activities” for clarity]	<i>Category</i>
	strategies, including through nature based solutions and/or ecosystem based approaches, and improved risk assessment and early warning for environmental, including as protection from natural hazards and disasters. [Rationale: Distinguish this from Target 8 and increase relevance to Target 11]	
Target 12	20. Integrate protected and conserved areas into urban and peri-urban planning, including through green and blue infrastructure, to enhance ecological connectivity and equitable access to nature and to support physical and mental health and well-being.	Areas for further development (limited or not covered) c
Target 13	21. No specific actions identified (limited or no alignment). [Rationale: Misleading as there is alignment]	n/a
Target 14	22. <u>Enhance the engagement of the relevant sectors in the planning and management of</u> Integrate protected and conserved areas into cross-sectoral policies, legislation, planning and development processes at all levels. [Rationale: To make the action more concrete]	Complementary actions (target partially addressed) b
Target 15	23. Support and promote the implementation of legal, administrative or policy measures that encourage and enable businesses and financial institutions to assess, disclose and progressively reduce biodiversity-related risks, dependencies and impacts affecting protected and conserved areas, including across their operations, supply and value chains and portfolios. 24. Facilitate clearer direction on engaging financial actors and private sector in protected and conserved areas on a voluntary basis. [Rationale: Deletion of point 24 due to coverage under Target 19]	Complementary actions (target partially addressed) b
Target 16	25. Promote synergies between the policies and actions taken to protect and conserve biodiversity and policies and actions that enable sustainable consumption choices, including through coherent policy frameworks, education, access to reliable information and sector specific approaches, such as sustainable tourism management, contributing to the reduction of consumption footprints and waste generation. <u>No specific actions identified.</u> [Rationale: This action is not directly relevant to PCAs]	Areas for further development (limited or not covered) c
Target 17	26. No specific actions identified (limited or no alignment). [Rationale: Misleading as there is alignment]	n/a
Target 18	27. No specific actions identified (limited or no alignment). [Rationale: Misleading as there is alignment]	n/a
Target 19	28. Promote the identification of: (a) financial resources for protected and conserved areas, including through sustainable finance approaches, to mobilize private and other non-public funding; and (b) innovative mechanisms in support of effective implementation <u>with environmental and social safeguards</u> . [Rationale: Aligning with Target 19(d) to include text on safeguards] 29. Promote direct and accessible financing for indigenous peoples and local communities.	Priority actions a
Target 20	30. Strengthen capacity-building, technical and scientific	Priority actions

<i>Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework</i>	<i>Complementary <u>Supplementary</u> activities</i> [Rationale: The use of “complementary” to describe both the annex and the activities in the annex is confusing. If complementary is retained in column three of the annex table, we suggest to alter the text here to “supplementary activities” for clarity]	<i>Category</i>
	cooperation and technology transfer for protected and conserved areas <u>implementation</u> , including with respect to new technologies <u>for assessing effective conservation and management and achieving conservation outcomes</u> and institutional support for the conservation workforce, including rangers and other relevant personnel. [Rationale: Aligns with the PoWPCA decision text of paragraph 6c(ix)]	<u>a</u>
Target 21	31. Strengthen the application of advances in biodiversity monitoring, data management and knowledge-sharing through targeted capacity-building on reporting and the use of technology, including remote sensing, to improve monitoring, evaluation and decision-making <u>relating to protected and conserved areas</u> . [Rationale: Improve relevance to PoWPCA]	Complementary actions (target partially addressed) <u>b</u>
Target 22	32. Strengthen access to information and participation in decision-making related to protected and conserved areas, including by promoting a human rights-based approach, and the effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities. <u>Strengthen access to information and the full, equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive representation and participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in decision-making, related to protected and conserved areas, in accordance with a human rights-based approach.</u> <u>32.bis Ensure access to justice by indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, and persons with disabilities, including through the establishment of effective and accessible grievance mechanisms to address issues related to the establishment, management and governance of protected and conserved areas.</u> <u>32.ter Ensure the full protection of environmental human rights defenders engaged in activities related to protected and conserved areas.</u> [Rationale: Capture all of the text of Target 22, which are elements new to the PoWPCA]	Complementary actions (target partially addressed) <u>a</u>
Target 23	33. Promote gender equality and integrate a gender-responsive approach across the programme of work on protected and conserved areas.	Priority actions <u>b</u>

Annex

Estimated extrabudgetary resource requirements

abridged.

7 Marine and costal biodiversity (Item 8)

The topic was introduced by Konstantin Wußmann. The discussions focused on the importance of the EBSA process and the contribution of the work under the CBD to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction.

Document CBD/SBSTTA/28/7

Suggestions on the text:

Marine and costal biodiversity

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

abridged; continued.

V. Recommendations

19. The Subsidiary Body may wish to recommend that, at its seventeenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopt a decision¹⁶ along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties,

Reaffirming Articles 3, 4, 5 and 22 of the Convention on Biological Diversity,¹⁷ as well as its decisions VIII/24 of 31 March 2006, IX/20 of 30 May 2008, X/29 of 29 October 2010, XI/17 of 19 October 2012, XII/22 of 17 October 2014, XIII/12 of 17 December 2016, in particular its paragraph 3, 14/9 of 29 November 2018, 15/26 of 19 December 2022 and 16/16 of 30 October 2024,

Recalling resolution 80/110 of 9 December 2025 of the General Assembly of the United Nations on oceans and the law of the sea, including its preambular paragraphs on the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,¹⁸

Recognizing that the description of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas is an important scientific and technical process that contributes to the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework¹⁹ and the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction,²⁰

I

Ecologically or biologically significant marine areas

1. *Decides* to extend the term of the Informal Advisory Group on Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Areas, and requests the Executive Secretary to continue to facilitate the work of the Group in line with its terms of reference;

2. *Welcomes* the submissions related to the description of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas and the modification of existing descriptions, as contained

¹⁶ The estimated extrabudgetary resource requirements for the activities outlined in the draft decision are shown in the annex to the present document.

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

¹⁸ Ibid., vol. 1833, No. 31363.

¹⁹ Decision 15/4, annex.

²⁰ A/CONF.232/2023/4.

in document CBD/SBSTTA/28/INF/2 and summarized in document CBD/SBSTTA/28/7/Add.1;

3. *Encourages* Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth and other stakeholders to contribute to the work on ecologically or biologically significant marine areas under the Convention using the best available scientific information **as well as traditional knowledge, in line with decision 16/16,** in order to increase the number and coverage of such areas around the world; **[Rationale: CBD considers knowledge in a broad sense including relevant traditional knowledge. Therefore, it should be included as a valuable contribution to this process.]**

4. *Adopts* the voluntary guidelines on peer-review processes for the description of areas meeting the criteria for ecologically or biologically significant marine areas and other relevant compatible and complementary scientific criteria, as contained in annex I to the present decision, and encourages Parties and invites other Governments and competent intergovernmental organizations to make use of the guidelines;

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to include the submissions referred to in paragraph 2 above in the repository for ecologically or biologically significant marine areas and to transmit them to the General Assembly of the United Nations, with a view to informing work under its relevant processes, as well as Parties, other Governments and relevant international organizations;

6. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to facilitate and support, as appropriate, efforts to develop submissions for the modification of descriptions of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas and the description of new areas, and, subject to the availability of resources, to convene a global expert workshop to synthesize, **collate and review** the best available scientific information on such areas beyond national jurisdiction in support of the potential development of future submissions; **[Rationale: To broaden the issue that should be that should be tackled by the workshop to increase its contribution for the future development of proposals.]**

6.bis Requests the Executive Secretary to compile experiences in the use of the information contained in the descriptions of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas, including efforts to implement relevant targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction and other relevant international agreements and frameworks, and make this information available for a future meeting of the Subsidiary Body. [Rationale: Strengthening the understanding of the utilization and relevance of the EBSA descriptions and the range of their application, to reinforce the value of the EBSA process and the information contained within the descriptions.]

II

Conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity

7. *Welcomes **with appreciation*** the entry into force of the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction; **[Rationale: To better reflect the historic achievement of the BBNJ Agreement's entry into force and its value for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity.]**

8. *Expresses* its appreciation to the Governments of Germany, Ireland, Norway and Sweden for their financial support for the organization of the expert workshop on scientific and technical work conducted under the Convention on Biological Diversity relevant to marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction in Bergen, Norway, from 2 to 5 December 2025; **and takes note of the outcomes of the expert workshop;**

[Rationale: To take note of the outcomes of the COP mandated workshop, as presented in the workshop report.]

9. *Encourages* Parties and other Governments to strengthen coordination **and cooperation** **[Rationale: To recognise the extension of this paragraph beyond coordination with governmental bodies (ministries, agencies)]** at the national **and regional** level **[Rationale: To maintain and strengthen the regional coordination for example through regional seas conventions], with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth and other stakeholders, [Rationale: To recognise that indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth and other stakeholders may have a role to play in the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in ABNJ. Uses language from paragraph 12 of decision 16/17 and to consider the gaps expressed in the annex paragraph 1, r],** on issues related to marine biodiversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction;

10. *Also encourages* Parties and other Governments, and invites organizations with competence in areas beyond national jurisdiction, to **utilise** ~~take into consideration~~ **[Rationale: To have stronger language to encourage uptake of these tools and guidance]** the wide range of tools, guidance and experiences developed under the Convention in their work to conserve and use sustainably **use** **[Rationale: editorial]** marine biodiversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, including in the implementation of the Agreement **under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction**, ~~on Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction;~~ **[Rationale: To use the full name of the agreement]**

11. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to further cooperate with the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat **(or the future secretariat of the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction)** and organizations with competence in marine areas beyond national jurisdiction, in particular with a view to sharing tools, guidance and experiences developed under the Convention relevant to marine biodiversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, as appropriate and within the mandates of the respective organizations; **[Rationale: To ensure that this cooperation continue once the BBNJ Secretariat is in place]**

12. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare updates to the following documents, as appropriate and subject to the availability of resources, for consideration by 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 enable feasibility and prioritisation of the actions and to ensure sufficient capacities to carry out the actions.]**

(a) The scientific guidance for selecting areas to establish a representative network of marine protected areas, including in open ocean waters and deep-sea habitats;²¹

(b) The voluntary specific workplan on biodiversity in cold-water areas within the jurisdictional scope of the Convention;²²

(c) The voluntary guidelines for the consideration of biodiversity in environmental impact assessments in marine and coastal areas and the draft guidance on biodiversity-inclusive strategic environmental assessment in marine and coastal areas;²³

²¹ Decision IX/20, annex II.

²² Decision XIII/11, annex II.

²³ UNEP/CBD/COP/11/23, annex.

12.bis. Also requests the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to synthesise, in collaboration with relevant organisations, scientific and technical information on marine biological and ecological connectivity, including in open-ocean and deep-sea ecosystems, and including vertical connectivity from the seabed throughout the water column, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body, also taking into consideration the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services methodological assessment on integrated biodiversity inclusive spatial planning and ecological connectivity to be finalized at IPBES 13. [Rationale: Marine biological and ecological connectivity is an important element for several targets in the KM-GBF, is poorly understood, and has been noted by the expert workshop as an opportunity for further work under the CBD.]

13. *Decides* to establish an informal advisory group on work conducted under the Convention in relation to marine biodiversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction in accordance with the terms of reference provided in annex II to the present decision, and requests the Group to provide a report on its progress for consideration at a meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice before the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Annex I

Voluntary guidelines on peer-review processes for the description of areas meeting the criteria for ecologically or biologically significant marine areas and other relevant compatible and complementary scientific criteria

I. Introduction

abridged; continued.

II. Purpose of the voluntary guidelines

abridged; continued

III. Voluntary guidelines

A. Information regarding the criteria for which the area is being proposed

abridged; continued.

B. Clear justification of why the area meets the criteria

9. Given that the expert review process is focused on ensuring that the proposal is of a high quality, sufficient information should be provided to those involved in the review demonstrating that the area in question meets the criteria, including the following:

(a) A clear geographical delineation of the area, using appropriate formats, such as geographic information system files or geographical coordinates, and the rationale for the delineation;

(b) The geographical scope of the exercise or analysis that led to the proposal to describe the area in question as significant;

(c) An indication of whether the process that led to the proposal was limited to or specifically focused on certain types of features, habitats, species or ecosystem services;

(d) A clear explanation of the features of the area that contribute to the fulfilment of the relevant criteria, using the best available information and knowledge, including data or data-driven analyses;

(e) The gaps or uncertainties that may exist in the information or knowledge used, including a description of confidence levels, where appropriate, and an explanation of the ways in which the gaps are addressed, where applicable, such as through assumptions,

extrapolation, modelling or the use of complementary knowledge sources, including an indication of the associated uncertainty to ensure scientific transparency and robustness;

(f) Full references or citations for all information and knowledge used, including statements on the availability or reproducibility of data, where needed;

(g) Applicable permissions for all information and knowledge used, including the best available science and traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities, respecting their free, prior and informed consent.²⁴ **[Rationale: To be consistent with prior COP decisions]**

C. Experts engaged in the peer-review process

abridged; continued.

D. Establishing and conducting the peer-review process

abridged; continued.

Annex II

Terms of reference for an informal advisory group on work conducted under the Convention in relation to marine biodiversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction

1. The Informal Advisory Group on Work Conducted under the Convention in relation to Marine Biodiversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction shall:

(a) Provide advice to the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity²⁵ on ~~it's~~ **the work of the Secretariat** **[Rationale: To clarify what is meant by "its"]** relevant to marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction, in particular on the prioritization of and approaches for possible activities, ~~drawing on~~ **including but not limited to** opportunities identified during the expert workshop on scientific and technical work conducted under the Convention on Biological Diversity relevant to marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction held in Bergen, Norway, from 2 to 5 December 2025;²⁶ **[Rationale: So that the activities/the scope of the IAG are not limited to areas identified in the workshop]**

(b) Identify timely opportunities for specific areas of cooperation and synergy with the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (or the future secretariat of the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction)²⁷ and other competent international bodies with respect to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, drawing on cooperation opportunities identified at the expert workshop noted above;

(c) **Identify** ~~Provide advice on~~ **[Rationale: To be consistent with 1(b)]** areas of potential synergy and collaboration with respect to work under the Convention on Biological Diversity and work under the Agreement **under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction** **[Rationale: To use the full name of the agreement]** ~~on Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction~~, including with respect to potential means and opportunities for the Conference of the

²⁴ **Free, prior and informed consent refers to the tripartite terminology of ‘prior and informed consent’ ‘free, prior and informed consent’ and ‘approval and involvement’.**

²⁵ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

²⁶ See [CBD/MCB/WS/2025/1/2](#).

²⁷ [A/CONF.232/2023/4](#).

Parties of the Convention and its subsidiary bodies to provide the input necessary ~~to~~ **for the** work under the Agreement, **[Rationale: Clarification that this refers to the work of the BBNJ Agreement]** as appropriate and in line with the mandate and jurisdictional scope of the Convention.

2. The Informal Advisory Group will take into account the mandates and work of other competent intergovernmental organizations with respect to marine biodiversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, as well as previous guidance by the Conference of the Parties regarding the role of the Convention with respect to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction.
3. The Informal Advisory Group will be composed of up to 20 experts nominated by Parties, up to 10 experts nominated by intergovernmental organizations with competence in biodiversity of marine areas beyond national jurisdiction and up to 5 experts nominated by other relevant organizations. The Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, will select experts from the nominations with due regard to a diversity of relevant technical expertise, geographical representation, gender balance and the representation of indigenous peoples and local communities, women's and youth groups, and major stakeholders.
4. The Informal Advisory Group is established for a two-year period that may be renewed by a decision of the Conference of the Parties. The members of the Group shall be selected for a two-year period. The work of the Group should continue regardless of any changes in membership.
5. The Informal Advisory Group may invite experts from outside the Group, as appropriate, to contribute to discussions on specific issues considered by the Group.
6. The Informal Advisory Group will primarily conduct its work online and, subject to the availability of resources, will also meet in person.
7. The Informal Advisory Group is to 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.

Annex

Estimated extrabudgetary resource requirements

abridged;

A Appendix

A.1 Participants of the European expert meeting in preparation of SBSTTA-28, 15-19 June 2026, INA Vilm, Germany

Participants

Nr.	Name	Institution	Country	E-Mail
1	Appelgren, Linn	Swedish Environmental Protection Agency	Sweden	linn.appelgren@swe-dishepa.se
2	Dr. Appiot, Joseph	Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity		joseph.appiott@un.org
3	Chaudry, Farah	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)	United-Kingdom	farah.chaudry@defra.gov.uk
4	Dr. Cooper, Claire	National Parks and Wildlife Service	Republic of Ireland	claire.cooper@npws.gov.ie
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A.2 Programme of the European expert meeting in preparation of SBSTTA-28, 15-19 June 2026, INA Vilm, Germany

Background and objectives

The 28th meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) will take place in July-August 2026. in Nairobi, Kenya. 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-28.

In preparation for SBSTTA-28, 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 15-19 June 2026.

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-28. The aim is to work on the text and to have participants jointly develop text suggestions in a unique atmosphere.

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-28.

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](#).

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Programme

Monday, 15.06.2026

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	Dinner
07:30 pm	Welcome and Introduction Barbara Engels & Birthe Thormann (BfN)
08:30 pm	Informal get-together

Tuesday, 16.06.2026

From 07:30 Breakfast

Plenary: Introductory Presentations and Discussions

09:00 am	Marine and coastal biodiversity (Item 8) Konstantin Wußmann (Environment Ministry, Germany)
09:45 am	Synthetic biology (Item 5) Florian Rabitz (Ministry of Environment, Lithuania)

10:30 am Break

Parallel Drafting/Discussion Groups

11:00 am	Drafting/Discussion Group Contribution to the workshop report
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12:30 pm Lunch

Plenary: Introductory Presentations and Discussions

01:45 pm	Matters related to the work programme of IPBES (Item 4) Eliška Rolfova (European Commission)
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Parallel Drafting/Discussion Groups

02:30 pm	Drafting/Discussion Group Contribution to the workshop report
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03:30 pm Break

04:00 pm	Drafting/Discussion Group Contribution to the workshop report, including online Q&A session
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for item 5 with Wadzanayi Mandivenyi and Austein McLoughlin (CBD Secretariat) at 4:00 pm

06:00 pm Dinner

07:30 pm **Drafting/Discussion Group**
Contribution to the workshop report

09:00 pm Informal get-together/Preparation of working group results (as needed)

Wednesday, 17.06.2026

From 07:30 Breakfast

Plenary: Reporting back

08:30 am **Presentation and Discussion of working group results**

09:45 am **Scientific and technical needs to support the implementation of the KM-GBF: strategic review of and update to the programme of work on protected areas (Item 7)**
tba

10:30 am Break

Plenary: Introductory Presentations and Discussions

11:00 am **Planning, monitoring, reporting and review: Global review of collective progress in the implementation of the KM-GBF (Item 3a)**
Marcel Kok (Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency, PBL)

11:45 am **Planning, monitoring, reporting and review: Monitoring framework for the KM-GBF (Item 3b)**
Barbara Engels (BfN, Germany)

12:30 pm Lunch

Plenary: Introductory Presentations and Discussions

01:30 pm ***Guided tour through the nature reserve of the Isle of Vilm***
(Jutta Stadler)

03:00 pm Break

Parallel Drafting/Discussion Groups

03:30 pm **Drafting/Discussion Group**
Contribution to the workshop report

06:00 pm Dinner

Parallel Drafting/Discussion Groups

07:00 pm **Drafting/Discussion Group**
Contribution to the workshop report

9:00 pm Informal get-together/Preparation of working group results

Thursday, 18.06.2026

From 07:30 Breakfast

Plenary

09:00 am **Sustainable wildlife management (Item 6)**
Tanja Straka (Natural Resource and Wildlife Management,
University of Applied Sciences Weihenstephan-Triesdorf)

09:45 Presentation and Discussion of working group results

10:30 am Break

Parallel Drafting/Discussion Groups

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

12:30 pm Lunch

Parallel Drafting/Discussion Groups

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

03:00 pm Break

Plenary: Reporting back

03:30 pm **Presentation and Discussion of working group results**

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**
Final contributions to the workshop report

Friday, 19.06.2026

07:25 am **Departure boat 1 (from Vilm)**
Packed breakfast will be provided
Departure of train at 08:00 from Lauterbach Mole to Bergen. From there various connections to Berlin and Hamburg.

08:25 am **Departure boat 2**
Departure 09:00 from Lauterbach Mole to Bergen. From there various connections to Berlin and Hamburg

09:20 am **Departure boat 3**
Departure 11:00 from Lauterbach Mole to Bergen. From there various connections to Berlin and Hamburg. Or taxi from Lauterbach to Bergen for earlier connecting trains (from approx. 10:15 from Bergen)

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