Statement the Netherlands on agenda item 5 - IPBES

The Netherlands supports a bottom up approach of a global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services, by starting with a number of regional and thematic assessments. This will help to create more direct links with regional and national stakeholders, and enable IPBES to come up with some concrete results in the coming years.

When it comes with respect to a possible GBO 5 and further Outlooks, the Netherlands believes it is too early to take any decision on that at this moment. We will have to see first what decisions will be taken on scope, content and timing of a global assessment by IPBES in upcoming meetings. COP13 is probably the appropriate moment to decide what additional work by CBD is necessary to link the results of a global assessment to the CBD agenda.

The Netherlands supports the list of priorities for the Work Programme of IPBES. We emphasize the importance of keeping a strict priority order, as it may not be possible to fulfill all requests because of financial restrictions. Priorities for the Netherlands include the subjects land use, food security and ecosystem restoration.

With respect to the progress of GBO 4, we would like to thank the presenters for their interesting update. The Netherlands is particularly supportive of the work that is being done on scenario development assessments.

We would like to call for active communication and outreach of the results of GBO-4 to a broad range of stakeholders. Of course important to link to work of IPBES.

Finally, I would like to express our support for the work on ecosystem restoration. We encourage further operationalisation of this broad subject and cooperation with relevant partners.