



Convention on Biological Diversity

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Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice

Twenty-fifth meeting

Nairobi, 15–19 October 2023

Agenda items 4 and 6

Findings from the assessments by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and their implications for the work undertaken under the Convention

Sustainable wildlife management

Recommendation adopted by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice on 19 October 2023

25/7. Sustainable wildlife management

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice

1. *Notes* the information prepared by the Secretariat regarding areas beyond the wild meat sector that might require complementary guidance, as contained in document CBD/SBSTTA/25/11;
2. *Also notes* the five thematic objectives included in the workplan of the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management for 2023–2025, including to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;
3. *Further notes* the views expressed by Parties at the twenty-fifth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice regarding additional areas that could benefit from further work under the Convention on Biological Diversity, including on issues addressed in *The Thematic Assessment Report on the Sustainable Use of Wild Species* of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services that were not included in document CBD/SBSTTA/25/11;
4. *Notes* that additional guidance on sustainable wildlife management beyond the wild meat sector should, as its core objectives, contribute to the implementation of the goals and targets of the Framework;
5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to collaborate with the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management to undertake, in line with the mandate of the Convention and the goals and targets of the Framework, a further gap analysis to identify areas that are not adequately covered by existing guidance developed under relevant multilateral environmental agreements and by competent intergovernmental organizations;

6. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary, when undertaking the further gap analysis referred to in paragraph 5 above, to take into consideration, in line with the mandate of the Convention and the goals and targets of the Framework, the seven key elements of effective policy for the sustainable use of wild species identified in *The Thematic Assessment Report on the Sustainable Use of Wild Species*, namely:

- (a) Inclusive and participatory decision-making;
- (b) The inclusion of multiple forms of knowledge and the recognition of rights;
- (c) The equitable distribution of costs and benefits;
- (d) Policies tailored to local, social and ecological contexts;
- (e) The monitoring of social and ecological conditions and practices;
- (f) Coordinated and aligned policies;
- (g) Robust institutions, from customary to statutory;

7. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary, in undertaking the further gap analysis referred to above:

(a) To solicit views and inputs from Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, the secretariats of relevant multilateral environment agreements and competent intergovernmental bodies, in conjunction with the comprehensive review and analysis of existing tools and guidance that can support the implementation of the goals and targets of the Framework, as requested by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice in its recommendation 25/3;

(b) To review the list of areas that might require complementary guidance on the basis of the further gap analysis, taking account the views referred to in paragraph 3 above;

(c) To submit the results of the further gap analysis, including the revised list, to the Conference of the Parties for consideration at its sixteenth meeting;

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

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decisions [14/7](#) of 29 November 2018, [15/19](#) of 19 December 2022 and [15/23 of 10 December 2022](#),

Recognizing that the sustainable use and management of wild species contribute to the achievement of relevant goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,¹ in particular Goals A and B and Targets 4, 5, 9 and 10, as well as to the Sustainable Development Goals,

Welcoming the progress made by the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management,

Recognizing that the overexploitation of species has been identified by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services as one of the main drivers of biodiversity loss,

Recognizing also that the sustainable use of wild species is critical to halting and reversing biodiversity loss and therefore well embedded in the work undertaken under the Convention on Biological Diversity,² including through multiple programmes of work, the

¹ Decision 15/4, annex.

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

Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity³ and the Framework,

Stressing that billions of people around the world rely on the sustainable use of wild species, which are particularly critical to people in vulnerable situations,

Stressing also that the sustainable use of wild species is central to the identity and existence of many indigenous peoples and local communities, and women,

1. *Welcomes The Thematic Assessment Report on the Sustainable Use of Wild Species* of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services,⁴ its summary for policymakers and key messages, and notes their relevance to the work undertaken under the Convention and to the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;

2. *Recognizes* that the monitoring of wild species is resource-intensive and will require more support and investment in all countries to overcome the capacity, financial, technical and institutional challenges that generate strong limitations to the monitoring of wild species, which are more pronounced in developing countries, and stresses that monitoring efforts that are inclusive of indigenous peoples and local communities, women and scientific approaches and facilitate the equitable participation of all key actors can better inform decision-making;

3. *Encourages* Parties, other Governments, subnational governments at all levels and relevant organizations to ensure the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, women, girls and boys, youth and persons with disabilities in the decision-making processes related to wild species, in line with Targets 22 and 23 of the Framework;

4. *Encourages* Parties, and invites other Governments, subnational governments at all levels, indigenous people and local communities, women and relevant organizations, according to their needs, capacities and circumstances, in accordance with relevant international obligations, and as appropriate, to:

(a) Use the information provided in the assessment in implementing the Convention and the goals and targets of the Framework, including when updating national biodiversity strategies and action plans, setting national targets and preparing national reports;

(b) Consider, as appropriate and in accordance with national legislation, the seven suggested policy actions, or “key elements” from the assessment, as referred to in paragraph 6 of recommendation 25/7 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, in developing and implementing policies on sustainable use, namely, inclusive and participatory decision-making; the inclusion of multiple forms of knowledge and the recognition of rights; the equitable distribution of costs and benefits; policies tailored to local social and ecological contexts; the monitoring of social and ecological conditions and practices; coordinated and aligned policies; and robust institutions, from customary to statutory;

(c) Incorporate inclusive and participatory mechanisms for the development of policy instruments and tools, monitoring frameworks and indicators, including for Targets 4, 5, 9, 10, 22 and 23 of the Framework, in line with national legislation and relevant international obligations, ensure that changes in socioeconomic contexts and alignments with sectoral policies are taken into account in such instruments and tools and promote the incorporation of

³ Decision VII/12, annex II.

⁴ Jean-Marc Fromentin and others, eds., *The Thematic Assessment Report on the Sustainable Use of Wild Species* (Bonn, Germany, Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Secretariat, 2022).

multiple knowledge systems to enhance decision-making and strengthen the adaptive capacity of policy instruments concerning the sustainable use of wild species;

(d) Support policies that consider the levels of poverty, inequality and food insecurity across groups in vulnerable situations that rely on the sustainable use of wild species, and support complementary alternatives for people living in poverty to prevent unsustainable practices;

(e) Address the needs and circumstances of people living in vulnerable situations, as well as challenges relating to land tenure, resource use rights and the inequitable distribution of costs and benefits derived from the sustainable use of wild species for the achievement of the objectives of the Convention and goals and targets of the Framework;

(f) Support efforts to incorporate education, communication and awareness-raising concerning the sustainable use of wild species for the achievement of the Framework, in line with its Target 21;

(g) Work together with partners, including the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management, to develop indicators for monitoring the status of and trends in the use of wild species, social, economic and environmental benefits and the implications for groups in vulnerable situations, taking into consideration the indicators of the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;

(h) Address potential challenges for the sustainable use of wild species, including the impacts of climate change and an increase in [demand and technological developments] [unsustainable practices] that have negative impacts on wild species, in an integrated manner to achieve Targets 4, 5, 9 [and 10] of the Framework;

(i) Identify the links and contributions of the sustainable use of wild species to the achievement of broader conservation, restoration and sustainable management goals and the Sustainable Development Goals to ensure policy alignment, and support poverty alleviation and eradication and policies to secure tenure rights and equitable access to land, fisheries and forests as enabling conditions for the sustainable use of wild species;

(j) Address constraints, such as the lack of implementation of international instruments in national policies and the lack of data and indicators to monitor progress in this regard, as well as the loss of languages, that undermine the ability of indigenous peoples and local communities, and women, to maintain and restore practices associated with the sustainable use of wild species for the achievement of targets concerning such use;

(k) Strengthen customary institutions and rules and promote the participation of holders of traditional knowledge in the development of policy instruments and tools;

(l) Enhance the understanding of: (i) the links between the use of wild species and the major drivers of biodiversity loss, in particular pathways for the introduction and spread of invasive alien species; and (ii) tools to prevent such introduction and spread, in support of the achievement of Target 6 of the Framework;

(m) Coordinate efforts to halt the illegal [and unsustainable] harvesting and use of and trade in wild species, while promoting sustainable, safe, legal [and traceable] trade in support of the achievement of Target 5 of the Framework;

(n) Promote further research to better understand the links between the use of wild species and zoonotic diseases, including vector-borne and neglected diseases, taking into account the social, economic and environmental determinants of health and making use of existing knowledge;

(o) Promote further research, co-produced with indigenous peoples and local communities, and women, on scenarios relating to the sustainable use of wild species, including for gathering, terrestrial animal harvesting and non-extractive practices;

[5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary[, subject to the availability of resources,] in collaboration with the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management and with inputs from Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth and relevant organizations, to prepare draft complementary guidance on those areas within the mandate of the Convention, with a view to supporting the effective implementation of the Framework, taking into account the seven key elements referred to in paragraph 4 (b), as well as the further gap analysis and revised list of areas that might require complementary guidance prepared pursuant to recommendation 25/7, and submit such guidance to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice for consideration at a meeting held before the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;]

6. *Invites* Parties, other Governments, subnational governments at all levels, indigenous people and local communities, women and relevant organizations to submit information on best practices for sustainable wildlife management, and requests the Executive Secretary to compile and synthesize the information submitted, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at its twenty-seventh meeting;

[7. *Invites* Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to promote incentives to enhance biodiversity conservation and the sustainable use of wildlife, in particular biodiversity credit schemes, in a way that makes them accessible to indigenous peoples and local communities, and women engaged in conservation and sustainable wildlife management;]

8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary[, subject to the availability of resources,] in consultation with Parties, other Governments, and relevant organizations, including indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, in collaboration with the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management, to facilitate regional dialogues to build common understanding regarding the application of the seven key elements referred to in paragraph 4 (b).