Template for the review of the draft information document CBD/SBSTTA/24/INF/21 on detailed scientific and technical information to support the review of the proposed goals and targets in the updated zero draft of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

TEMPLATE FOR COMMENTS

Contact information	
Surname:	Lanna
Given Name:	Zaira
Government (if applicable)**:**	
Organization:	Outreach Network for Gene Drive Research
Address:	
City:	
Country:	
E-mail:	zaira@emergingag.com

General comments

Specific comments		
Page	**Paragraph**	**Comment**
8	22, 23, 24	The document acknowledges that invasive alien species (IAS) are one of the drivers of biodiversity loss but fails to recognise that novel tools for IAS management are essential in order to reach Goal A.
36	128	This paragraph should emphasise that islands are biodiversity hot spots and their ecosystems are particularly fragile. IAS are implicated in 86% of all recorded extinctions on islands (Bellard et al., 2016).
37	130	The Network's members agree that preventing the introduction of invasive alien species in the first place is a priority as it is far more cost effective than attempting to eradicate IAS once they become established. Yet, although there are numerous measures in place to avoid IAS introductions, these have not been enough. This paragraph should highlight that active IAS management measures are also crucial to prevent species extinction. Moreover, it should recognise the limitations of current tools for IAS control. The removal of rodents as IAS, for example, have social, ethical, ecological, geographical and financial constraints. To meet Target 5, and the related goals and targets, it is necessary to develop novel tools to complement existing ones. Therefore, this target and its indicators should reflect the importance of scientific research and innovation.

75	251	As mentioned in this paragraph, the Network's members welcome the recognition that biotechnology can be a useful tool for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.
76	254	The paragraph should emphasise the need to prioritise the full implementation of the Cartagena Protocol by Parties to enable appropriate assessment and management of the potential risks associated with the release of living modified organisms. It should also emphasise the importance of capacity building to support the implementation of the Protocol.
76	255	The Network's member agree that "biotechnology has potential positive, neutral or negative impacts on biodiversity depending on the products that are developed and/or how they are used", as mentioned in this paragraph. However, this information should not be limited to the "considerations" section but stressed in the description of Target 16 itself. As acknowledged in para 255, Target 16 is currently negatively framed and fails to recognise that biotechnologies can contribute to environmental conservation and protection. This is important as Target 16 should be coherent with the Convention, and aligned with the recognised need to identify new tools to support conservation, including tools derived from biotechnology. Acknowledging biotechnologies' potential positive impact would be consistent with the principle of a case-by-case risk assessment, given that different biotechnologies' impacts would vary according to the products developed and their implementation.
84	286	Progress towards Target 18 should not be restricted to greater support for data acquisition, management and sharing. It should also include greater support to scientific research and innovation.
		Additional rows can be added to this table by selecting "Table" followed by "insert" and "rows below"

Comments should be sent by e-mail to secretariat@cbd.int by 23 April 2021. Please note that review comments previously sent on document CBD/SBSTTA/24/3/Add.2 will be considered in the revision of this document and there is no need to resend comments already submitted.