



United States Department of State

*Bureau of Oceans and International
Environmental and Scientific Affairs*

Washington, D.C. 20520

29 July 2020

Ms. Elizabeth Maruma Mrema
Executive Secretary
Convention on Biological Diversity
413 Saint-Jacques Street, Suite 800
Montreal, Quebec, Canada H2Y 1N9

Dear Ms. Mrema:

The United States appreciates the invitation to provide input in response to the Secretariat's 25 June 2020 Notification No. 2020-0045 regarding peer review of draft documents for the twenty-fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA 24).

We are pleased to have the opportunity to share the attached information, and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara M. De Rosa-Joynt".

Barbara M. De Rosa-Joynt
Division Chief for Biodiversity
U.S. National Focal Point for the
Convention on Biological Diversity

Attachment: U.S. comments on the information document on linkages between the Sustainable Development Goals and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

Review comments on the document on linkages between the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and the 2030 agenda for sustainable development		
<i>Contact information</i>		
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<i>General comments</i>		
<p>We found this document to be an improvement over the earlier iterations of this analysis. However in our view there are some gaps in the availability of data needed for robust analysis related to many of the Sustainable Development Goal's Indicators listed in the 3rd column of the main table beginning on page 4.</p>		
<i>Specific comments</i>		
Page	Paragraph	Comment
3	Goal C	We consider that the connection between this Goal and the SDGs linked seems more tenuous here than in other places, and the supporting language remains vague.
26	7	We suggest changing "implementation and achievement of the SDGs" to "national implementation and global achievement of the SDGs". The change would emphasize the national-level implementation of the SDGs.
27	11	We recommend replacing "equitable sharing of natural resources with all people" to "sustainable management of natural resources." In our view this would more accurately reflect the text of the 2030 Agenda.

28	14	<p>The text states: “<i>Specifically, SDGs 6.4⁶, 8.4, 9.1, 9.4, 9.a, 12.6⁷, and 14.1 all incorporate economic sectors and demonstrate the correlation between business actions.</i>”</p> <p>However, SDG 14.1 does not specifically mention any economic sector in quite the same way the others listed do, and it is claiming a link that is not explicitly stated.</p> <p>For reference, the SDGs are included below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6.4 By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity. • 8.4 Improve progressively, through 2030, global resource efficiency in consumption and production and endeavour to decouple economic growth from environmental degradation, in accordance with the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production, with developed countries taking the lead. • 9.1 Develop quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, including regional and transborder infrastructure, to support economic development and human well-being, with a focus on affordable and equitable access for all • 9.4 By 2030, upgrade infrastructure and retrofit industries to make them sustainable, with increased resource-use efficiency and greater adoption of clean and environmentally sound technologies and industrial processes, with all countries taking action in accordance with their respective capabilities • 9.A Facilitate sustainable and resilient infrastructure development in developing countries through enhanced financial, technological and technical support to African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States 18 • 12.6 Encourage companies, especially large and transnational companies, to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle • 14.1 By 2025, prevent and significantly reduce marine pollution of all kinds, in particular from land-based activities, including marine debris and nutrient pollution
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