



Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions

Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage
 Convention on Biological Diversity
 Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
 Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals
 Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat
 International Plant Protection Convention
 International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture
 International Whaling Commission

Report of the Meeting of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG) of 2 September 2026

Purpose and overall direction. The Biodiversity Liaison Group (BLG) reviewed progress across biodiversity-related conventions and instruments, with a strong emphasis on practical cooperation, better use of existing tools, and more efficient working methods. Members highlighted the value of advance written updates, mutual learning, and coordinated approaches that reduce duplication and strengthen collective implementation.

Cross-cutting themes. Several common priorities emerged: aligning convention-level work with the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework; improving national reporting and addressing information and capacity gaps; increasing meeting efficiency through advance submissions and digital solutions; and exploring responsible uses of artificial intelligence, citizen science, and knowledge-management tools. Members also noted opportunities for closer cooperation on invasive alien species, wildlife management, marine and timber-related issues, urban ecosystems, wetlands, climate change, and engagement with Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

Updates from conventions and instruments. The CBD reported constructive progress in preparations for COP 17 and in recent subsidiary-body discussions. CMS emphasized opportunities to deepen collaboration and highlighted citizen science. The Plant Treaty underscored the importance of safeguarding crop diversity. The IWC described the use of artificial intelligence and citizen science in scientific data collection. The Convention on Wetlands reported work to align its strategic planning and reporting with the global biodiversity framework and stressed cooperation on water, cities, and practical implementation tools. The World Heritage Convention highlighted recent conservation decisions, capacity-building support, and links among biodiversity, climate change, and local communities. CITES reported ongoing work on sustainable trade, marine species, timber, wildlife management, and institutional efficiency. IPPC highlighted newly endorsed standards and provisions relevant to invasive alien species.

Looking ahead to COP 17. Members discussed how the BLG could present a coherent contribution at COP 17 in Yerevan, centred on implementation of the KMGBF and the BLG's role in wider United Nations system. The group supported the delivery of a joint statement, the organization of a side event and the convening of a BLG meeting in the margins of COP17. Overall, the discussion reflected broad commitment to stronger collaboration, clearer communication, and practical synergies across biodiversity-related agreements.