

## **Draft for consultation**

*Note: this document is an advance review version of a pre-session document for the second meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation under agenda item 6 - preparation for the follow up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020<sup>1</sup>*

### **PROPOSALS FOR A COMPREHENSIVE AND PARTICIPATORY PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE POST 2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK**

#### **I. BACKGROUND**

1. While the current focus of activities under the Convention on Biological Diversity is – and should remain – promoting implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in 2020 is expected to consider and adopt a the post 2020 global biodiversity framework, as a follow-up for the next decade. This would be done in the context of the 2050 Vision of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 as well the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other relevant international processes, and in the light of an assessment of progress in achieving the Strategic Goals and Aichi Biodiversity Targets of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 as well as of future scenarios of change.
2. The thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to prepare, in consultation with the Bureau and for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI) at its second meeting, a proposal for a comprehensive and participatory preparatory process and timetable for the follow-up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 taking into consideration that this work must cover the Convention on Biological Diversity and also consider its Protocols (decision XIII/1, para. 34). As a first step in this process, a notification was issued inviting Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations and indigenous peoples and local communities to provide comments and inputs on the process for developing the post 2020 global biodiversity framework. In particular, Parties and observers were encouraged to propose specific ways to ensure full engagement of various stakeholders and sectors in the development of the strategic plan as well as to suggest options for fostering commitments and strengthened implementation. By 6 November 2017 responses were received from 5 Parties and 15 organisations and one individual<sup>2</sup>.
3. The present note has been prepared by the Executive Secretary to provide the Subsidiary Body on Implementation with proposals concerning the process for the development of a follow to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. It draws on the submissions received in response to the notification noted above as well as experiences in developing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 in the lead-up to the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. It also draws on an earlier note prepared to facilitate the submission of comments in response to the notification noted above<sup>3</sup>.
4. Section II of this note reviews the process that led to the development of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and section III reviews the process that led to the development of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety 2011-2020. Section IV reviews the mandate provided by relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties. Section V considers other relevant issues. Section VI summaries the submissions received in response to the notification noted above. Section VII contains a proposed process for developing the post 2020 global biodiversity framework and section VIII contains a

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<sup>1</sup> Montreal, Canada, 9-13 July 2018. See: CBD/SBI/2/1 available at <https://www.cbd.int/meetings/SBI-02>

<sup>2</sup> Canada, Egypt, European Union, Japan, Norway, Alianza Mexicana por la Biodiversidad, B&L evolution, Biodiversity Indicators Partnership, BirdLife International, CBD Women's Caucus, Conservation International, Forest Peoples Programme, Global Forest Coalition and Community Conservation Resilience Initiative, Global Partnership for Plant Conservation, IUCN, MedPAN, Pro Natura, UN Environment, UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre, WWF and Philip Bubb. All of the submissions are available from <https://www.cbd.int/post2020/submissions.shtml>.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.cbd.int/post2020/doc/Approaches-Post2020Biodiversity.pdf>

draft recommendation for the consideration of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its second meeting.

## **II. THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020 AND ITS PREPARATORY PROCESS**

5. The tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in 2010 adopted the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, including a Vision for 2050 and a mission for 2020. The Plan provides an overarching framework for action on biodiversity. It includes twenty Aichi Biodiversity Targets, mostly for 2020, organized under five Strategic Goals. Parties to the Convention agreed to translate the Plan into revised and updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans and to develop national and regional targets, using the Strategic Plan and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets, as a flexible framework, in accordance with national priorities and capacities with a view to contributing to collective global efforts to reach the global targets. The Plan also identified support mechanisms related to capacity building, the clearing house mechanisms and technology transfer, financial resources, partnerships and initiatives for cooperation, and research, monitoring and assessments, relevant to its implementation.

6. The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 has been endorsed or supported by other conventions and the United Nations General Assembly, and accordingly provides a universal framework for action on biodiversity.

7. The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 includes a target on Access and Benefit-sharing and specifically references the Nagoya Protocol. The Conference of the Parties and the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol decided at the same time that biosafety would be covered by a separate plan (see below). 2020 will provide an opportunity to develop an integrated framework that applies to the Convention and both Protocols and that can serve as a framework for other biodiversity-related Conventions and processes.

8. Similarly in decision X/17 the Conference of the Parties updated the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation for the next decade and decided to pursue it as part of the broader framework of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

9. The 2050 Vision of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 remains relevant for the post 2020 global biodiversity framework. The five goals (which are broad and not necessarily time-limited) may also remain relevant. On the other hand the time-bound Aichi Biodiversity Targets will need to be updated and/or replaced.

10. The major steps in developing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 were:

- a. A decision by the Conference of the Parties at its ninth meeting in 2008 (decision IX/9) which provided guidance on the content for the new plan and on the steps to be undertaken in preparing it, with an indicative timetable involving refinement of proposals through various iterations.
- b. Submission of views by Parties and observers, including scientific and academic bodies, indigenous and local communities and stakeholders. In preparing their submissions Parties and observers were encouraged to facilitate dialogue among different sectors of government and society
- c. Consultations through an electronic forum
- d. Regional workshops among representatives of Parties

- e. Global consultations among representatives of Parties including a workshop in London<sup>4</sup> and a session of the Trondheim Biodiversity Conference<sup>5</sup>
  - f. Discussions by the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties
  - g. Workshops and expert meetings organized by Parties, partners and stakeholders
  - h. Two iterations of a consultation document prepared by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity
  - i. Preparation of the third edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*
  - j. Formal consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) and the Working Group on Review of Implementation. The fourteenth meeting of SBSTTA considered a draft of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and focused its deliberation of scientific, technical and technological issues related to the targets. The third meeting of the Working Group on Review of Implementation, on the basis of SBSTTA's deliberation, considered the entire plan and developed a recommendation for the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
  - k. A Ministerial meeting of present and former Presidencies of the Conference of the Parties and a High-level retreat among the secretariats of Biodiversity-related Conventions
  - l. A Ministerial meeting on the margins of the United Nations General Assembly
  - m. Consideration and adoption at the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties
11. The preparatory process for developing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 is summarized in the consultation note prepared by the Secretariat at that time.<sup>6</sup> As part of that preparatory process a range of documents and resources were prepared. These include reports from workshops, submissions of views from Parties and observers, results from high level meetings, as well as earlier drafts of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and related discussion documents. Many of the issues identified in these documents and resources remain relevant and provide useful information in developing the post 2020 global biodiversity framework. Further information on these resources is available at the website for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.<sup>7</sup>
12. As part of the preparatory process for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, a synthesis and analysis of inputs from Parties and others was prepared (UNEP/CBD/SP/PREP/1/Rev.1). Many of the considerations raised in this process may still be relevant.

### **III. THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY 2011-2020 AND ITS PREPARATORY PROCESS**

13. At its fifth meeting, in decision BS-V/16, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety adopted the Strategic Plan and the multi-year programme of work, on the basis of the submissions from Parties, the analysis of the first national reports, the successive decisions taken by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its last four meetings, and through general discussions and comments received from Parties, other Governments and stakeholders. The Strategic Plan also takes into account the experience gained through the development, implementation and revision of the Strategic Plan of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.cbd.int/doc/?meeting=EM-StratPlan-01>

<sup>5</sup> [http://www.miljodirektoratet.no/Global/English/Arrangements/TK8/Chairmens-Report\\_final-version-22.04.2010.pdf](http://www.miljodirektoratet.no/Global/English/Arrangements/TK8/Chairmens-Report_final-version-22.04.2010.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/sp/em-stratplan-01/official/em-stratplan-01-sp-prep-01-rev1-en.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.cbd.int/sp/inputs/default.shtml>

14. The preparatory process for developing the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety 2011-2020 is summarized in a note prepared by the Secretariat for the fifth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol.<sup>8</sup>

#### IV. MANDATE AND RELEVANT DECISIONS

15. According to its Multi-year Programme of Work to 2020, the Conference of the Parties will consider at its fifteenth meeting the follow-up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and related means of implementation, including resource mobilization. Of direct relevance to this, the Conference of the Parties will consider at its fourteenth meeting the long-term strategic directions to the 2050 Vision for biodiversity.

16. In accordance with paragraph 34 of decision XIII/1, the Executive Secretary is requested to prepare, in consultation with the Bureau and for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its second meeting, a proposal for a comprehensive and participatory process and timetable for the follow-up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. The proposal should:

- a. Include a timetable,
- b. Take into consideration that the plan must cover the Convention on Biological Diversity and also consider its Protocols, as appropriate,
- c. Include options for fostering commitments and strengthened implementation,
- d. Take into account the preparation of the fifth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*, the final assessment of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020,<sup>9</sup> national reports to the Convention and its Protocols, and the thematic, regional and global assessments of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES),
- e. Provide for consultations among Parties, and with other Rio Conventions, other biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements, and inputs from indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant stakeholders and sectors.

17. In other decisions, the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties:

- a. Decided to initiate the preparation for a fifth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*, which should provide a concise final report on the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the basis for the follow-up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, to be considered by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting (Decision XIII/29).
- b. Decided to initiate the process for preparing a long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020, ensuring its alignment with the follow-up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the work of the Protocols, and ensuring its coordination with the time table for the development of this framework (Decision XIII/23).
- c. Recognized the importance of the strategic plans of the biodiversity-related conventions, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and any follow-up, the 2030 Agenda for

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<sup>8</sup> <http://www.cbd.int/doc/meetings/bs/mop-05/official/mop-05-16-en.pdf>

<sup>9</sup> To be updated in line with the decision adopted during COP 13 in item 19.

Sustainable Development<sup>10</sup> and the Sustainable Development Goals, and related reporting and indicators, and called on the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions to continue to strengthen its work to enhance coherence and cooperation among the biodiversity-related conventions, including in implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and any follow-up to this strategic plan (Decision XIII/24).

- d. Requested the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties, to develop, subject to subsequent endorsement by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meetings of the Parties to the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols, proposals for the alignment of national reporting under the Convention and its Protocols to explore options for enhancing synergy on national reporting among the biodiversity-related conventions and Rio conventions (Decision XIII/27).

#### IV. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

18. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals provide an important enabling framework for the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety 2011-2020 and for the post 2020 global biodiversity framework. The Sustainable Development Goals and related targets comprise an “integrated and indivisible” set and more than half of the targets are cross-cutting, linking different goals. Moreover virtually all of the elements of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets are reflected among the goals and targets of the framework, including two Goals (Goals 14 and 15) focused on biodiversity, and many other Goals that include targets related to biodiversity. The 2030 Agenda will be particularly relevant as the post 2020 global biodiversity framework is being developed under the Convention for the decade 2021-2030<sup>11</sup>. Further many of the targets in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that are derived from the Aichi targets, have a target date of 2020 and may need to be updated in the light of the follow-up plan.

19. Other relevant agreements for the post 2020 global biodiversity framework include the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 adopted under the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Paris Climate Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and the Land Degradation Neutrality Goal adopted under the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, as well as key strategies/agendas adopted by other biodiversity-related conventions such as the Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2015-2023, the Fourth Ramsar Strategic Plan 2016-2024 and the CITES Strategic Vision: 2008-2020. Further the fourth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management, through its resolution IV/4, initiated an intersessional process to prepare recommendations regarding the Strategic Approach and the sound management of chemicals and waste beyond 2020. As part of the discussions surrounding this issue the Aichi Biodiversity Targets were noted as a potentially useful model and therefore there may be possible opportunities for aligning this process with the post 2020 global biodiversity framework

20. As noted above, the 2050 Vision of the Strategic Plan “Living in harmony with nature” where “By 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people” will remain relevant for the Convention and its Protocols after 2020. Work at the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties on the “long-term strategic directions to the 2050 Vision for biodiversity” could help translate this 2050

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<sup>10</sup> [General Assembly resolution 70/1](#) of 25 September 2015 entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, annex.

<sup>11</sup> The relationship between the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has been explored in a number of documents. These documents include “Biodiversity and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” (CBD/SBSTTA/21/2/ADD1), “Links between the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development” (UNEP/CBD/SBSTTA/19/INF/9), “Biodiversity and sustainable development: Technical note” (UNEP/CBD/COP/13/10/Add.1), and Shultz, et al (2017). “The 2030 Agenda and ecosystems – a discussion paper on the links between the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the Sustainable Development Goals”. SwedBio at Stockholm Resilience Centre.

Vision into more tangible terms, and thus help guide, for example, the setting of targets for 2030. It could be informed by views from Parties and observers as well as scientific analysis, including through the use of models and scenarios, of global trends.

21. Ongoing work to strengthen both implementation support mechanisms (resource mobilization, technical and scientific cooperation, capacity building for national biodiversity strategies and action plans, etc.) and review of implementation (biodiversity monitoring and indicators, national reporting, review of implementation by Parties) of the Convention and its Protocols will also be relevant for the post 2020 global biodiversity framework, not just in the context of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols but also in support of all biodiversity-related conventions and processes.

22. There may be useful lessons from the experience under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in developing the Paris Agreement including with respect to inviting, in advance of the final agreement, commitments from Parties (“interim nationally determined contributions”), in developing mechanisms for enhanced multilateral review and transparency, and in securing high-level political engagement.

## **V. VIEWS OF PARTIES, OTHER GOVERNMENTS, INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND RELEVANT ORGANIZATIONS**

23. The submissions received in response to the notification noted above addressed a range of issues related to the process for developing the post 2020 global biodiversity framework as well as its possible scope and content. Generally, the submissions received presented consistent views with no major outliers. Further while most submissions provided general observations several provided specific text suggestions for elements of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework.

24. The submissions received were generally positive in their view of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the role it has played in galvanizing action and raising awareness. Many submissions noted that the post 2020 global biodiversity framework should continue to serve as a framework for universal action on biodiversity. Further many of the submissions noted that the 2050 Vision of the Strategic Plan remains relevant as do most of the issues addressed by the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. A general view expressed is that the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity should server as a form of “baseline” and that the post 2020 global biodiversity framework should not be less ambitious than the current plan. Similarly some felt that the Aichi Biodiversity Targets should be used as a starting point for negotiating the post 2020 global biodiversity framework and that changes to these should be kept to a minimum. However many submissions identified issues not currently covered by the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, such as gender and cultural diversity that should be included in the post 2020 global biodiversity framework. Additional proposed modifications included enhancing the scientific basis for targets, including changes to make the targets easier to assess, and changes to better address issues related to indigenous people and local communities. Further, some submissions noted the need to ensure that the post 2020 global biodiversity framework comprehensively addresses the Protocols in order to improve the integration and coordinated governance, implementation, review, and financing of the Convention and its Protocols.

25. With regards to process, submissions were consistent in their call for an inclusive, transparent and clear process for the development of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework. Most submissions noted the need for meaningful engagement of Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, UN and other intergovernmental organizations (including the Rio Conventions, the biodiversity-related multilateral environmental agreements, IPBES, UNEP, UNDP, GEF and FAO, among others), non-governmental organizations, the business community, faith groups, youth and other stakeholders. Tools identified in the submissions to help foster this engagement included the use on online consultations, surveys, the ability to comment on the post 2020 global biodiversity framework at various stages of its development, and providing regular updates on progress. It was also noted that the identification of

biodiversity champions or ambassadors could help to promote the post 2020 global biodiversity framework at various levels.

26. Generally it was felt that the development of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework should be an iterative process which allows for interested groups, including experts on matters related to the two Protocols, to provide comments and input at various stages. Submissions noted that one of the strengths of the process for developing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 was its inclusiveness and transparency and that for the process for the post 2020 global biodiversity framework this should be built on and further enhanced.

27. The importance of aligning the post 2020 global biodiversity framework with other international frameworks was highlighted in many submissions. In particular most submissions noted the high relevance of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and that the post 2020 global biodiversity framework should be fully aligned with it. In addition the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development should be seen as enhancing the enabling environment for the post 2020 global biodiversity framework. Similarly it was noted that aligning the post 2020 global biodiversity framework with the 2030 Agenda will help to avoid the isolation of biodiversity from other global social and economic goals and allow biodiversity to be better mainstreamed. Some other specific issues highlighted in the 2030 Agenda that were noted as being relevant were peace and food security. It was also felt that, if the 2030 Agenda and the post 2020 global biodiversity framework were appropriately aligned, there could be synergies both in terms of implementation and reporting on progress.

28. Some submissions noted that the strategic plans of other multilateral environmental agreements were also relevant to the post 2020 global biodiversity framework. The Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions was noted as a possible avenue for further advancing the alignment of the respective strategic plans among these various processes.

29. Many of the submissions noted the need to ensure that post 2020 global biodiversity framework is evidence based and makes use of all available information. It should build on the sixth national reports and the fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, the deliverables of the Intergovernmental science-policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services as well as the sixth Global Environment Outlook. Reports by biodiversity-related multilateral agreements and other governmental and nongovernmental organizations on their contribution to the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets were also noted as being important inputs.

30. Generally it was noted that though the development of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework is a political and aspirational process, there is value in the process being informed by and taking account of relevant scientific understanding relating to targets and target setting, including the understanding of the implications of not reaching particular targets, and the use of models to explore potential impacts of different scenarios. Further it was noted in some submissions that the post 2020 global biodiversity framework should take into account natural or biophysical and social sciences. Given the view that the post 2020 global biodiversity framework should be strongly rooted in science, one submission noted that SBSTTA should have a role in providing advice on the evidence base for a post 2020 global biodiversity framework biodiversity.

31. It was noted in several submissions that the development of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework should be based on the lessons learned from the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 as well as be informed by a review of the national biodiversity strategies and action plans, information on the effectiveness of actions taken by Parties to implement the Strategic Plan as well as be informed by scientific evidence.

32. Many of the submissions highlighted the importance of making use of various meetings between now and 2020 to discuss issues related to the post 2020 global biodiversity framework. Among the

meetings identified were those of the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, the UN Environment Assembly, the Subsidiary Bodies of the Convention, and relevant workshops, conferences and symposiums. Some also felt that the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity should develop and maintain a calendar of relevant events where the post 2020 global biodiversity framework could be discussed between now and 2020.

33. A number of submissions identified the need to establish national processes to facilitate national dialogue and input. The information derived from these national dialogues would help to build awareness and ownership of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework at the national level as well as provide useful information to countries in developing their positions on the scope and focus of the future framework. In addition several submissions noted the need to take steps to encourage better national implementation of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework and that the framework should be linked to capacity building and resource mobilization strategies and other means of implementation.

34. One issue which was noted in several submissions was the need for an effective review process in the post 2020 global biodiversity framework. Various means of reflecting this type of process in the framework were noted. Some submissions noted the use of milestones as a means of gauging progress in implementation, encouraging the enhanced use of existing tools and mechanisms across biodiversity-related conventions, including systems for reporting, indicators and information sharing, the national reports and the national biodiversity strategies and action plans. It was also noted that the initial rounds of Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) considered by the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development could provide useful lessons for a review mechanism. It was further noted that the review mechanisms under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change may also be a useful approach.

35. A further issue identified in the submissions was the possible development of national voluntary commitments related to biodiversity. Several of the submissions noted that developing a process analogous to the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) process under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change could be useful in informing the negotiations surrounding the post 2020 global biodiversity framework for biodiversity as well as in building ownership and implementation of it. Another process noted were the voluntary commitments put forward for achieving Sustainable Development Goal 14 at the Ocean Conference in June 2017<sup>12</sup>. It was noted that national biodiversity commitments could be effective in creating partnerships to implement the plan. In addition the establishment of national biodiversity commitments could help to inform a “gap analysis” of the current status of biodiversity and what is needed and help to develop global targets with realistic levels of ambition. It was also noted that the use of national biodiversity commitments would create flexibility at the national level for Parties to address targets that are relevant to their national circumstances. Other possible advantages of setting national biodiversity commitments that were noted in the submissions include greater stakeholder involvement, creating a bottom-up process for the post 2020 global biodiversity framework, creating a greater sense of responsibility, accountability and country-led action and collaboration for implementation without infringing on national sovereignty. However concerns were also expressed that national biodiversity commitments may merely become a compilation of the national biodiversity strategy and action plans of Parties without global targets.

## **VI. PROPOSED PREPARATORY PROCESS**

36. As noted above, the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the ninth meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the third meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing are expected to adopt the modalities of a preparatory process on the basis of a recommendation from the second meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation. Given that the

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<sup>12</sup> <https://oceanconference.un.org/commitments/>

fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as well as the meetings of the Parties to the Protocols, are expected to update the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity in 2020, the post 2020 global biodiversity framework will need to be developed primarily through an inter-sessional process between the fourteenth and fifteenth meetings of the Conference of the Parties and the respective meetings of the Parties to the Protocols. In addition, based on the experience in developing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, it will be necessary to start collecting submissions from Parties, observers and other information, building on what has already been initiated to gather information on the process for developing the post 2020 global biodiversity framework, prior to COP-14, CP COPMOP-9 and NP COPMOP-3 in order to make the best use of the time available. In light of this the Subsidiary Body on Implementation may wish to consider requesting the Executive Secretary to start collecting and synthesizing, in an open and transparent manner, views from Parties and other information on the focus and scope of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework.

37. A further issue that the Subsidiary Body on Implementation may wish to consider concerns the time lags between the anticipated adoption of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework for biodiversity and the reflection of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework in national biodiversity targets. 69 Parties had submitted an NBSAP that were prepared or revised/updated after the adoption of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 by 2015. In light of this, in decision XIII/1, the Conference of the Parties noted with concern that Aichi Biodiversity Target 17 was not met by the target date of 2015 and urged Parties to pursue efforts to achieve it. In order to avoid a similar lag between the adoption of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework and the establishment of national commitments and/or targets the Subsidiary Body on Implementation may wish to consider recommending that the Conference of the Parties, in line with a number of submissions, invite Parties and other governments to begin considering their national commitments in advance of the formal adoption of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework. These could be considered as preliminary (or “interim”) commitments, pending the adoption of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework. The process of developing the preliminary commitments could also help to build national ownership for such commitments and for the post 2020 global biodiversity framework, and also help to reduce the lag period between adoption of the framework and its national implementation. A summit meeting, at the level of heads of state of government, prior to COP-15 in 2020, could further help to galvanise political support for such commitments and the post 2020 global biodiversity framework.

#### *Overarching Principles*

38. In the submissions from Parties and observers noted above there was a general recognition that the process that was followed to develop the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 was effective and led to desirable outcomes. In light of this many submissions noted that the plan for the development of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework should be based on what was done previously and further enhanced.

39. Decision XIII/1 sets out a number of issues or principals which need to be reflected in the plan for the development of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework. Further principles were identified in the submissions which have been received. These principles provide overarching guidance to the process and include:

- a. **Participatory** – The process for developing the post 2020 global biodiversity framework should enable the meaningful participation of all those who desire to engage in the process. This should include the ability to participate in relevant workshops and consultations, participation in relevant formal meetings as well as the ability to provide feedback and comments on any discussion and official documents which are prepared.
- b. **Inclusive** – The process for developing the post 2020 global biodiversity framework should encourage all relevant groups, including experts on matters related to the two Protocols, to provide their views. This includes Parties, other governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, UN organizations, non-governmental organizations,

youth, the private sector, the scientific community, academia and other stakeholders. The process should also be gender sensitive. Efforts should be made to solicit views from a wide range of perspectives, going beyond those traditionally involved in the work of the Convention.

- c. **Comprehensive** – The process for developing the post 2020 global biodiversity framework should enable feedback on all issues relevant to the work of the Convention and its Protocols. It should also make use of all available information (see the section below for further information on possible sources of information). It should also make use of other relevant international frameworks, such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other relevant strategies and plans adopted by the international community.
- d. **Science/Evidence based** – The post 2020 global biodiversity framework should be based on science as well as on the experiences to date in implementing the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols. This is essential in ensuring that the framework effectively responds to current biodiversity challenges and strikes an appropriate balance between the post 2020 global biodiversity framework's level of ambition and realism.
- e. **Transparent** – The process for developing the post 2020 global biodiversity framework should be clearly documented and regular updates of progress should be made to the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties, through the Convention's clearing house mechanism and to meetings of subsidiary bodies so as to better allow interested groups to participate in the development of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework.
- f. **Iterative** – The post 2020 global biodiversity framework should be developed in an iterative manner. There should be ample opportunity for those interested to comment on relevant documentation and/or to participate in relevant consultations. Such an iterative process will help to build consensus on the scope and focus of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework as well as to build ownership for it.

#### *Activities*

40. The process for developing the post 2020 global biodiversity framework will need to be flexible in order to take advantage of opportunities which arise throughout the intersessional period as well as to make the best use of resources. However basic elements of the preparatory process, building on the experience of developing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, will include:

- a. **Providing opportunities for Parties to the Convention and its Protocols, indigenous peoples and local communities and stakeholders to submit their views** - It is envisioned that throughout the process of developing the post 2020 global biodiversity framework there will be multiple opportunities for views to be provided. These opportunities will include the submission of comments on working documents, submissions through online forums, questionnaires as well as well interventions in relevant workshops and meetings;
- b. **Regional and global workshops** – It is envisioned that a series of regional and global workshops will be organized. These workshops will allow for regional and global consultations as well as the sharing of experiences. These workshops would be informal and be open to Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities and stakeholders. An adequate level of participation of experts with experience in matters related to the two Protocols would be actively promoted.
- c. **Consultations at relevant meetings** – Between the fourteenth and fifteenth meetings of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity various meetings will be convened by other biodiversity-related conventions, Rio Conventions and other relevant processes. These meetings represent opportunities for the Secretariat of the

Convention on Biological Diversity to undertake consultations and to raise awareness of the process for developing the post 2020 global biodiversity framework. They also represent opportunities to receive information from sectors on how the framework could facilitate the mainstreaming of biodiversity. Specific actions could include making interventions in formal processes and organizing side events. An indicative list of some of these meetings is included in figure 2 and tables 3 and 4 in the annex to this document.

- d. **An outreach effort to engage public inputs to the process.** The Secretariat will work with partner organizations to undertake communication activities concerning the post 2020 global biodiversity framework with a view to enabling inputs from various perspectives and to mobilize engagement in the resulting framework. Parties will also be encouraged to facilitate corresponding efforts at national level.
  - e. **Encouraging and supporting the organization of meetings by third parties** – The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity will promote the convening of workshops, expert meetings, and other inputs organized by Parties, partners and stakeholders.
  - f. **Encouraging and supporting the organization of high-level meetings** – Such meetings help to foster political support for the development of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework. Examples of these meetings include the African Biodiversity summit being proposed by Egypt in its capacity as host for the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties as well as a possible summit on biodiversity convened in 2020, most likely during the United Nations General Assembly.
  - g. **Formal consideration** by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, the Working Group on Article 8(j) and the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, prior to submission to the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
41. Based on the information generated from the elements above the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity will prepare and update discussion documents which will serve to summarize views and guide further discussion and review by Parties and observers. These discussions documents will be developed on an iterative basis and eventually become the foundation for the documents to be considered formally by SBSTTA, WG8J and SBI and ultimately by the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and meetings of the Parties to the two Protocols. In the annex to this note an indicative chronology of events leading to the consideration of a post 2020 global biodiversity framework by the COP and the meetings of the Parties to the Protocols is presented in table 1 and figure 1 and an indicative budget for these is presented in table 2.
42. In the above activities, and specifically with regards to the engagement of Parties, it will be important to ensure the widest possible engagement. With the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 most of the input came from national focal points to the Convention on Biological Diversity. For the post 2020 global biodiversity framework, given the desire to have a closer alignment between the Convention and the Protocols, Parties may wish to promote the involvement of all relevant focal points.

#### *Key information sources*

43. A number of information sources will be used in developing the discussion documents which feed into the process for the development of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework. These information sources include:
- a. National reports to the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols
  - b. Information made available through the clearing house mechanisms of the Conventions and its Protocols
  - c. National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans

- d. Inputs from Parties and observers
- e. The fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook and related reports
- f. Global and regional assessments of IPBES
- g. Relevant peer reviewed scientific literature
- h. Relevant documentation prepared for meetings of the Convention and its Protocols and for meetings of subsidiary bodies

These information sources will be used to prepare analytic discussion documents which will review experiences in implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. These documents will include both scientific reviews as well as reviews of implementation. It is expected that they would explore several themes including the links between biodiversity and other sustainability goals and the role of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in providing an enabling environment for the post 2020 global biodiversity framework; lessons learned from the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020; lessons from the implementation of strategic plans of related conventions and processes that were aligned with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020; possible reasons for the varying levels of progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets; possible ways in which action under the Convention could leverage the transformational change required to achieve the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity and thereby also contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The discussion documents would also address any implications for needs associated with capacity building beyond 2020, resource mobilization, monitoring and reviewing implementation, promoting gender equality, enhancing coherence and cooperation among the biodiversity-related conventions, the alignment of national reporting under the Convention and its Protocols and options for enhancing synergy on national reporting among the biodiversity-related conventions and Rio conventions.

#### *Oversight and transparency*

44. The progress in implementing the preparatory process for the updated strategic plan will be overseen by the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties. A specific section of the Convention's webpage will be dedicated to the preparatory process and regularly updated. Further progress reports will be made available to relevant meetings of the Convention's subsidiary bodies. All of the documents prepared as part of the development of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework will be made available for review and comment. Further, prior to the post 2020 global biodiversity framework being presented to the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties for possible adoption, it will be reviewed by SBSTTA and SBI.

## **VII. DRAFT RECOMMENDATION**

*To be completed*

*Annex*

<b>Table 1. Indicative chronology of key activities leading to the consideration of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework by COP-15, COPMOP10 and COPMOP4</b>	
<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>
April 2018	The Secretariat issues document for SBI-2 containing the proposed preparatory process for the development of post 2020 global biodiversity framework
<b>9 - 13 July 2018</b>	<b>SBI-2</b> considers the proposed preparatory process for the development of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework, provides a recommendation to COP-14 & requests the Executive Secretary to begin implementing relevant elements.
August-October 2018	Parties and observers submit initial views on the post 2020 global biodiversity framework, including possible voluntary commitments.
October-December 2018	The Secretariat issues a discussion paper on the submissions received and Parties and observers invited to submit views
<b>10 – 22 November 2018</b>	<b>COP-14, COPMOP9 and COPMOP2</b> consider the proposed preparatory process for the development of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework
December-May 2019	Regional Consultation workshops
February-May 2019	Revised discussion paper issued and Parties and observers submit views on the post 2020 global biodiversity framework
July-September 2019	Revised discussion paper issued and Parties and observers submit views on the post 2020 global biodiversity framework
September 2019	Global science consultation workshop
October-December 2019	Revised discussion paper issued and Parties and observers submit views on the post 2020 global biodiversity framework
<b>November 2019</b>	<b>SBSTTA-23</b> reviews the draft of GBO-5 and the IPBES global and regional assessments and prepares a recommendation on the implication of these for the post 2020 global biodiversity framework
<b>November 2019</b>	<b>WG8J-11</b> examines the potential role of traditional knowledge, customary sustainable use and the contribution of the collective actions of indigenous peoples and local communities to the post 2020 global biodiversity framework.
January-March 2020	Draft post 2020 global biodiversity framework made available for peer review
February 2020	Global policy consultation workshop
March 2020	Draft updated the post 2020 global biodiversity framework made available for peer review
<b>May 2020</b>	<b>GBO-5 published</b> on the basis on the 6 <sup>th</sup> national reports, updated NBSAPS the IPBES Assessments & information from the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership
<b>May-June 2020</b>	<b>SBSTTA-24</b> considers the draft the post 2020 global biodiversity framework with a view to providing advice on targets to SBI-3
<b>May-June 2020</b>	<b>SBI-3</b> considers the post 2020 global biodiversity framework with a view to developing a recommendation for COP-15
<b>September 2020</b>	<b>Leaders' summit meeting on the margins of the opening of the UN General Assembly</b> to give political direction and momentum to the development of the

	post 2020 global biodiversity framework
<b>October 2020</b>	<b>COP-15, COPMOP10 and COPMOP3</b> consider the final draft of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework with a view to adoption

**Table 2. Indicative budget for key activities leading to the consideration of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework by COP-15, COPMOP10 and COPMOP4**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Assumptions</b>	<b>Cost (USD)</b>
Regional Consultation workshops	It is assumed that 10 regional consultation workshops (2 per region) will be held. These workshops would be open to Parties, other governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, relevant organisations and stakeholders from the relevant regions.	500,000
First global consultation workshop	It is assumed that the first global consultation workshop would focus on scientific issues related to the post 2020 global biodiversity framework and that an event such as the Trondheim Biodiversity Conference could be used to convene the consultation.	In kind contribution
Second global consultation workshop	It is assumed that the first global consultation workshop would focus on issues related to policy and would have approximately 100 participants representing Parties, other governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, relevant organisations and stakeholders from all regions	200,000
Staff travel to relevant events	It is assumed that one or two staff members would travel to relevant meetings in order to raise awareness of the process for developing the post 2020 global biodiversity framework and to undertake consultations with relevant actors.	50,000
Communication and outreach activities	It is assumed that the Secretariat will work closely with partner organizations on communication activities. In addition, limited resources would be needed to support such efforts through consultants.	50,000
Sub Total		800,000
Programme support costs (13%)		104,000
Total <sup>13</sup>		904,000

<sup>13</sup> These figures are indicative. Also these figures do not include the costs associated with preparing the fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook which have been budgeted as part of the production plan for the report outlined in document CBD/SBSTTA/21/6.

**Table 3. Indicative list of other events that may provide opportunities for consultations on the development of the post 2020 global biodiversity framework**

Event	Dates	Venue
<b>2018</b>		
47th session of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC 47)	31 January- 4 February 2018,	TBD
International Water Summit	15-18 January 2018	Abu Dhabi, UAE
Ninth World Urban Forum	7-13 February 2018	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Eight World Water Forum	18-23 March 2018	Brasilia, Brazil
6th plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES-6)	17-24 March 2018	Medellin, Colombia
Pacific Regional Capacity Development Programme on national arrangements for achieving traditional knowledge elements of targets 18 and 16 of Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020	March 2018 (TBD)	New Zealand (TBC)
LAC Regional Capacity Development Programme on national arrangements for achieving traditional knowledge elements of targets 18 and 16 of Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020	April 2018 (TBD)	Oaxaca, Mexico (TBD)
17th Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues	16-27 April 2018	New York, USA
1 <sup>st</sup> International Dialogue on Biological and Cultural Diversity	April 2018 (TBD)	New York, USA
Bogis-Bossey Dialogues for Biodiversity	TBD	Bogis-Bossey, Switzerland
Food and Agriculture Organization Committee on Fisheries (COFI 33)	9-13 July 2018 (TBC)	Rome, Italy
High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development	9-18 July 2018	New York, USA
Food and Agriculture Organization Committee on Forests (COFO 24)	16-20 July 2018 (TBC)	Rome, Italy
Asian Capacity Development Programme on national arrangements for achieving traditional knowledge elements of targets 18 and 16 of Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020	July 2018 (TBD)	Kandy, Sri Lanka (TBD)
International Plan Conference (title to be confirmed)	August 2018	TBD
UN 73 General Assembly	18-30 September 2018	New York, USA
70 <sup>th</sup> meeting of the CITES Standing Committee	1-5 October 2018	Socchi, Russian Federation
Food and Agriculture Organization Committee on Agriculture (COAG-26)	1-5 October, 2018	Rome, Italy

1 <sup>st</sup> North American Regional Dialogue on Biocultural Diversity	October 2018 (TBD)	Montreal, Canada.
Committee on World Food Security (CFS-46)	14-18 October, 2018	Rome, Italy
Ramsar Convention, COP 13	21-29 October 2018	Dubai, UAE
African Capacity Development Programme on national arrangements for achieving traditional knowledge elements of targets 18 and 16 of Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020	9 November 2018 (TBD)	Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt (TBD)
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, COP24	3-14 December 2018	TBD
<b>2019</b>		
7th plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services	April 2018	Bonn, Germany
High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development	July 2019	New York, USA
UN 74 General Assembly	September 2018	New York, USA
IUCN Regional Conservation Forums	2019 (TBD)	TBD
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, COP25	November 2018	TBD
<b>2020</b>		
IUCN World Conservation Congress	2020 (TBD)	TBD
UN 75 General Assembly	TBD	New York, USA

**Table 4. Indicative list of key meetings organized by other bodies focusing specifically on the post 2020 global biodiversity framework**

Event/organizer	Dates	Venue
<b>2018</b>		
Zoological Society of London	February 2018 (TBC)	London, United Kingdom
Cambridge Conservation Initiative	Mid 2018 (TBC)	Cambridge, United Kingdom
Global Partnership for Plan Conservation meeting	August-September 2018 (TBC)	South Africa (TBC)
<b>2019</b>		
<b>2020</b>		

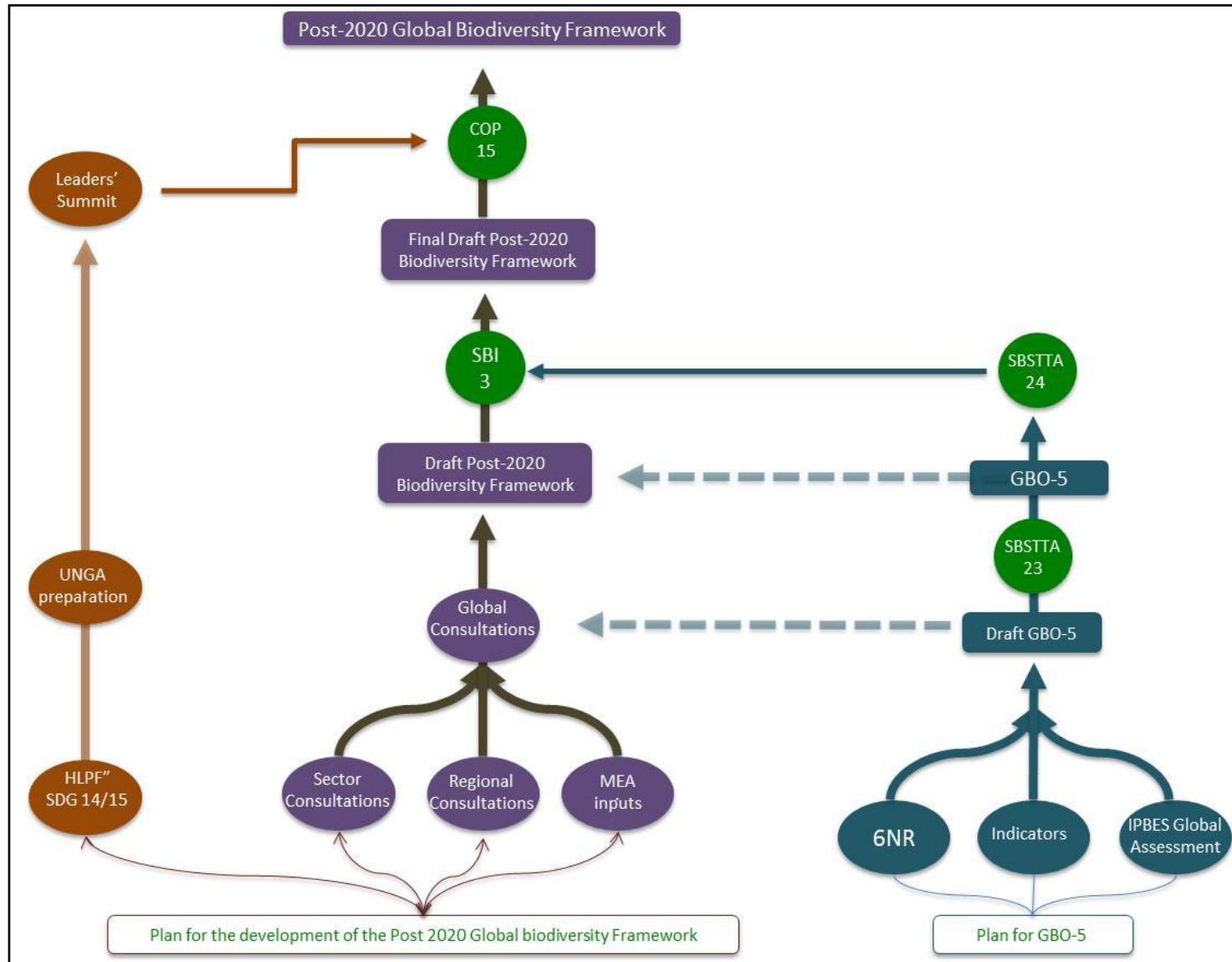


Figure 1: Schematic Overview of the Preparatory process for the post 2020 global biodiversity framework

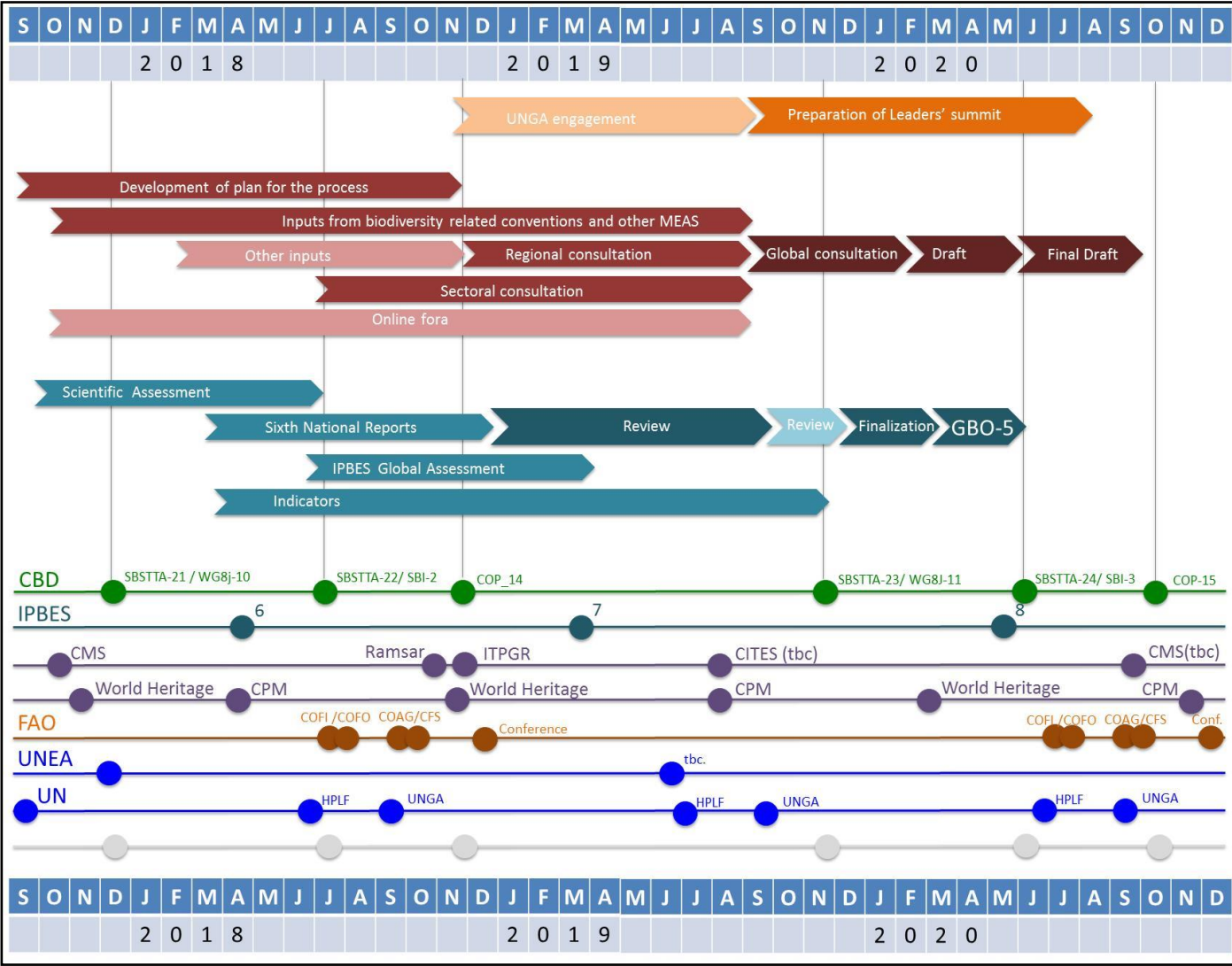


Figure 2: Indicative timeline of main steps in the preparatory process and key meetings for the post 2020 global biodiversity framework