



# Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr.  
GENERAL

CBD/SBI/2/10  
2 June 2018

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

---

## SUBSIDIARY BODY ON IMPLEMENTATION

Second meeting

Montreal, Canada, 9-13 July 2018

Item 11 of the provisional agenda\*

### COOPERATION WITH OTHER CONVENTIONS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS

*Note by the Executive Secretary*

#### I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Conference of the Parties has consistently recognized the importance of cooperation and synergy with other conventions, organizations and partnerships to support the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols. It has requested the Executive Secretary, in numerous decisions on cooperation as well as specific subject-matter areas, to facilitate such cooperation and partnerships.<sup>1</sup>

2. One of the areas of focus of recent meetings of the Conference of the Parties has been on enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions. At its thirteenth meeting, following a formal intersessional process pursuant to decision [XII/6](#), the Conference of the Parties adopted decision [XIII/24](#) that welcomed options for enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions at the national level contained in annex I to the decision, and a road map for enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions at the international level 2017-2020 contained in annex II to the decision. In paragraph 14 of decision XIII/24, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to report to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its second meeting on the implementation of this road map.

3. In addition, in paragraph 18 of the decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to provide information to the Subsidiary Body on progress to enhance coherence and cooperation among the biodiversity-related conventions through the work of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions and its collaboration with other relevant organizations.

4. An addendum to the present document reports on progress in enhancing coherence and cooperation among the biodiversity-related conventions and implementing the road map for enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions at the international level 2017-2020 (CBD/SBI/2/10/Add.1).

---

\* [CBD/SBI/2/1](#).

<sup>1</sup> For example, in decision IV/15, para. 4, it requested the Executive Secretary, on behalf of the Conference of the Parties, to consider matters of liaison, cooperation and collaboration a key responsibility.

5. In decision [XIII/7](#), paragraph 7, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to strengthen collaboration with the members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, to fully respond to the requests of the Conference of the Parties in paragraph 21 of decision XII/6, to support the implementation of the decision XIII/7, and to report on progress to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice or the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, as appropriate, at a meeting prior to the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. A second addendum to the present document responds to this request and provides a progress report on the Collaborative Partnership on Forests with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 (CBD/SBI/2/10/Add.2).

6. At its thirteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties mandated work related to cooperation with other conventions, international organizations and partnerships in several other decisions, including decisions XIII/1, XIII/3, XIII/6, XIII/8, XIII/23 and XIII/27. As such, information on results and achievements of cooperation activities is also contained in other documents presented to the twenty-first and twenty-second meetings of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its second meeting. Cooperation related to the Nagoya Protocol and the Cartagena Protocol will be provided in documents to be prepared for the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocols at their third and ninth meetings, respectively.

7. Section II of the present document provides a summary of the work undertaken by the Executive Secretary in response to decisions XIII/7 and XIII/24. Section III presents an overview of cooperation with other conventions, international organizations and partnerships during the present biennium. Section IV addresses challenges and opportunities for enhancing cooperation in light of the development of the post-2020 biodiversity framework. Section V provides possible recommendations of the Subsidiary Body. Document CBD/SBI/2/INF/12 provides details of other activities and initiatives undertaken in cooperation with other conventions, international organizations and partnerships since the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

## **II. IMPLEMENTING DECISIONS XIII/7 AND XIII/24**

### **A. Enhancing cooperation and synergies among biodiversity-related conventions**

8. During the biennium, and in response to decision XIII/24, the Executive Secretary contributed to and undertook a range of cooperative activities aimed at enhancing coherence, cooperation and synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions at the international level. As a result of work undertaken in cooperation between the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Environment Programme's World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC), and in consultation with secretariats of other biodiversity-related conventions, several key actions of the road map for enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions at the international level 2017-2020 have been undertaken and advanced. In response to the same decision, the Executive Secretary also facilitated the establishment and work of the informal advisory group on synergies, leading to the preparation of advice by the Group regarding the prioritization and implementation of the key actions of the road map for enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions at the international level 2017-2020. This work is reported in CBD/SBI/2/10/Add.1.

9. In line with decision XIII/24, the governing bodies of other biodiversity-related conventions have acted to strengthen cooperation and enhance synergies among the conventions, within their respective mandates. Similarly, the convention secretariats, through the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions and on a bilateral basis, have continued to enhance collaboration among themselves and with the organizations that host the convention secretariats, notably in support of implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and towards developing the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. This work is also reported in CBD/SBI/2/10/Add.1.

## **B. Alignment of action from the Collaborative Partnership on Forests with the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020**

10. In response to decision XIII/7, paragraph 7, the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), prepared the report presented in CBD/SBI/2/10/Add.2, drawing on input gathered from member organizations of the CPF<sup>2</sup> through a survey, primarily addressing congruence among the forest-related Aichi Biodiversity Targets and other forest-related multilateral commitments and options for further action to achieve the forest-related Aichi Biodiversity Targets, in a mutually supportive manner. Drawing on input from CPF members, the report provides an analysis of options for further action to achieve the forest-related Aichi Biodiversity Targets, with regards to two elements that are current areas of focus for the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity in advancing its expanded programme of work on forests: (a) the reduction of deforestation and forest degradation and (b) forest restoration. Other elements are addressed in the information document CBD/SBI/2/INF/28 which provides further details on the findings of the survey and reviews joint and individual examples of contribution from CPF members to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

## **III. COOPERATION WITH OTHER CONVENTIONS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS 2017-2018**

11. Cooperation with other entities contributes to all the functions of the Secretariat and cuts across all programmes of work of the Convention and its Protocols.

12. During the past biennium, the Secretariat provided effective effort and resources to priority work streams related to external processes that relate to the objectives of the Convention and its Protocols and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

13. Among activities reported in CBD/SBI/2/INF/12 and other relevant documents, results and achievement of cooperative activities include examples presented below, and organized according to three categories of partnerships, noting that these categories are not exclusive and often overlap: partnerships that contribute to supporting Parties in the development, coordination, review and implementation of policy; partnerships in support of the integration of biodiversity into other international processes; and partnerships in support of outreach to raise the political profile of biodiversity and awareness of its values.

### **A. Partnerships to support Parties in the development, review and implementation of policy**

#### *1. Supporting implementation*

14. A number of partners to the Convention contribute to providing tools and mechanisms that will support Parties in implementing and meeting the obligations of the Convention and the Protocols. This includes efforts to integrate biodiversity, biosafety and access and benefit sharing into national development planning and implementation, and into other national sectoral and cross-sectoral plans. It also includes support related to resource mobilization and financing. Relevant partner institutions have mandates and functions related to capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation, gender mainstreaming, and the integration of knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities into planning, policy and implementation processes. Several partners and partnership initiatives will help share knowledge and information relevant to biodiversity, such as the multilateral

---

<sup>2</sup> The survey was answered by eight members of the CPF: the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) and the United Nations Environment Programme.

environmental agreements information and knowledge management initiative (MEA-IKM) and its InforMEA platform. Some partnerships serve to strengthen support relevant to the Convention provided directly to Parties by the organizations concerned, such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) through numerous initiatives and the biodiversity finance initiative of the United Nations Development Programme. A number of partnerships contribute to promoting coordination and cooperation across related conventions and instruments, including the Convention and its Protocols, and to gaining benefits arising from synergies in their implementation.

15. Partnerships that supported implementation during the current biennium include the following examples:

(a) FAO has been a major partner in the development and implementation of policy since the establishment of the Convention and, latterly, in contributing to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets, including targets 7 and 13. In response to the Cancun Declaration and decision XIII/3, FAO launched the Biodiversity Mainstreaming Platform and held a first Multistakeholder Dialogue on Biodiversity Mainstreaming across Agricultural Sectors in Rome, in May 2018. The mainstreaming of biodiversity across the agricultural sectors will be further considered at the 2018 meetings of the Organization's technical committees. In addition to supporting implementation, work of FAO also contributes to the review and assessment of policy, for example through the first global report on the State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture. FAO also provides an example of the mainstreaming and integration of biodiversity into other international processes and their institutional structures (discussed under section B. below), for example through the attention given to biodiversity by the 40th session of the FAO Conference and the recent establishment of the Climate, Biodiversity, Land and Water Department as one of its six departments. Further information, including a summary of the outcomes of the dialogue on biodiversity mainstreaming will be provided in an information document (CBD/SBI/2/INF/29);

(b) In follow-up to decision XIII/15, support has been provided by FAO to the implementation of the International Initiative on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Pollinators, and to the development of an updated plan of action for the International Initiative (CBD/SBSTTA/22/10). A similar level of renewed attention is being provided to support the implementation of the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity. The work plans for the Global Soil Partnership, hosted by FAO, and its Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils include the development of a global assessment on soil biodiversity and an international symposium on this subject in 2020. A progress report on the implementation of the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity is provided in an information document (CBD/SBI/2/INF/24);

(c) Significant effort has been given to strengthening cooperation and synergies with and among other biodiversity-related conventions in support of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and related global strategies and agreements. This is reported in document CBD/SBI/2/10/Add.1. The complementary attention being given by the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on Migratory Species, the Ramsar Convention and the World Heritage Convention to the conservation, restoration and sustainable management of coastal wetland ecosystems – that contributes to Aichi Biodiversity Targets 5, 11, 12, 14 and 15, among others – serves as one of many practical examples of cooperation among the conventions towards their related objectives;

(d) An example of a partnership that contributes to promoting coordination and cooperation across conventions is provided by recent capacity-building activities to help small island developing States of the Caribbean achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 9. A workshop, held in September 2017, received support of UNEP Caribbean Subregional Office in Jamaica, among other partners, and involved national experts on the Convention on Biological Diversity and the International Plant Protection Convention and International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures. It facilitated technical and scientific

cooperation relevant to the two conventions, and provided comprehensive measures that address risks posed by invasive alien species, pests and pathogenic agents;

(e) Another example of cooperation among conventions is provided by the implementation of the Joint Initiative for the Harmonious Implementation of the International Treaty and the Convention and its Nagoya Protocol by the secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity and of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA). The Joint Initiative identifies a number of concrete actions related to access and benefit-sharing; on-farm conservation, and the sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture. The focus of recent cooperative activities has been on projects for mutually supportive implementation of ITPGRFA and the Nagoya Protocol;

(f) The Secretariat also continued its cooperation in the framework of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests towards advancing implementation of forest-related Aichi Biodiversity Targets and other forest-related multilateral commitments (reported in CBD/SBI/2/10/Add.2).

16. In addition, the Secretariat has also continued to support mechanisms designed to foster cooperation *between* Parties and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation in the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans. These include the Bio-Bridge Initiative for Technical and Scientific Cooperation (reported in CBD/SBI/2/9) and the Consortium of Scientific Partners for Biodiversity.

## 2. *Supporting the development of policy*

17. Several partnerships contribute to supporting the development of policy that is relevant to the Convention and its Protocols. Such partners contribute to building and harnessing scientific, technical, cultural, traditional, social and gender-sensitive knowledge to inform policy development and to help produce coherent policy outcomes. They help identify and address new and emerging issues of significance to the work and objectives of the Convention and its Protocols.

18. Examples of partnerships that supported policy development during the biennium include:

(a) The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), through their Joint Programme on the links between Biological and Cultural Diversity, produced an important body of work to help inform Parties on the linkages between biological and cultural diversity, and their relevance to the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement, and to bring attention to biocultural diversity in the context of the Convention and development of the post-2020 global framework on biodiversity. Ongoing work, including the planning of a dialogue on biological and cultural diversity *Exploring Nature and Culture in the North American Context*, to be held in the fall of 2018, builds on previous programme outcomes,<sup>3</sup> such as the declaration *Múuch'tambal Summit on Indigenous Experiences: Traditional Knowledge and Biological and Cultural Diversity*<sup>4</sup> adopted by the *Múuch'tambal Summit* held in December 2016 in Mexico;

(b) The Secretariat has collaborated with United Nations Environment Programme regional office for Asia and the Pacific and other partners to support gender mainstreaming in the implementation and monitoring of national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) in the Asian and Pacific

---

<sup>3</sup> The outcomes also include the [Florence Declaration on the Links Between Biological and Cultural Diversity \(11 April 2014\)](#) (resulting from the European workshop), and the [Ishikawa Declaration on Biocultural Diversity \(29 October 2016\)](#) (resulting from the Asian workshop). All programme outcomes are available at the following link: <https://www.cbd.int/lbcd/resources>.

<sup>4</sup> Available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

region. Among other activities, the Secretariat and the regional office organized an Expert Workshop on Gender and Biodiversity in November 2017, to develop training materials, engaging CBD national focal points and gender experts from across the region. Workshop participants committed to incorporating gender considerations in NBSAP revision and implementation processes. Inputs from the workshop are being incorporated into a set of training materials that will be used in capacity-building initiatives in support of national biodiversity policy, planning and programming, including NBSAP development;

(c) Attention to the emerging issue of biodiversity and human health has been significantly strengthened through partnership with the World Health Organization (WHO). The partnership contributes to the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, in particular Target 14. The Secretariat has continued to strengthen its relationship with WHO in the context of their memorandum of cooperation and joint work programme established in July 2015. In the framework of that partnership, an Interagency Liaison Group on Biodiversity and Health was established in 2017 to share and strengthen knowledge on biodiversity and human health and enhance coherence and cooperation in implementation. The outcomes of the first Meeting of the Group held in May 2017 were presented in document CBD/SBSTTA/21/4. On the recommendation of the WHO Executive Board,<sup>5</sup> the interlinkages between biodiversity and human health recognized by the Conference of the Parties in decision XIII/6 was examined for the first time by the World Health Assembly at its seventy-first session in May 2018.<sup>6</sup> The partnership with WHO also supports integration of biodiversity in relevant international processes, discussed in section B below.

### 3. *Supporting review and evaluation of policy*

19. Several partners contribute to providing support to Parties in the review and evaluation of the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols. These include partners who contribute to the preparation of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* and other periodical assessments of progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets on the basis of the analysis of national reports, national biodiversity strategies and action plans and other relevant information. Such partners include the International Union for Conservation of Nature, the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES). Contributions include the following:

(a) IPBES provides support in reviewing progress made in the implementation of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, including through four regional and subregional assessments of biodiversity and ecosystem services for Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific, and Europe and Central Asia. These regional assessments, finalized in 2018, and the global assessment on biodiversity, to be launched in 2019, are part of the global scientific review of the progress made in the implementation of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and will contribute to the preparation of *Global Biodiversity Outlook 5*. Other thematic assessments, such as the land degradation and restoration assessment launched in March 2018, also complements the review of progress made in the implementation of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;

(b) The Global Partnership for Plant Conservation provides support in reviewing progress towards the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011-2020 and relevant Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Based on the mid-term review of progress towards the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011-2020, prepared in 2014,<sup>7</sup> and its 2016 update,<sup>8</sup> progress in implementation has been made towards several

---

<sup>5</sup> [EB142\(5\) Health, environment and climate change.](#)

<sup>6</sup> [A/71/11. World Health Organization. Health, environment and climate change: Human health and biodiversity. Report by the Director-General.](#)

<sup>7</sup> Sharrock, S., Oldfield, S. and Wilson, O. (2014). *Plant Conservation Report 2014: A review of progress in implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation 2011-2020*. Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Montreal, Canada, and Botanic Gardens Conservation International, Richmond, United Kingdom. Technical Series No. 81, 56 pp.

<sup>8</sup> UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/INF/32.

targets through, for example, the development of a World Flora Online<sup>9</sup> and a single ThreatSearch database,<sup>10</sup> and to the continued development of thematic and geographic plant conservation networks, such as the Ecological Restoration Alliance of Botanic Gardens that now includes 35 members and 39 model ecological restoration projects worldwide.

#### **B. Partnerships in support of the integration of biodiversity in other international processes**

20. A number of partners contribute to integrating biodiversity into other relevant international processes related to the sectors most impacting biodiversity. In addition to its bilateral arrangements with other conventions and organizations towards this end, the Secretariat contributes actively within UN-wide and subject specific coordination groups, such as the Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions, the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions and the Environment Management Group (EMG) of the United Nations.

21. During the present biennium, work undertaken in the context of such coordination groups includes the following examples:

(a) As an outcome of the Secretariat's engagement in the EMG and the system-wide cooperation catalysed by the EMG, the 2017 meeting of the Senior Officials decided to renew the attention of the EMG to biodiversity. This included agreement to organize in 2018 an EMG Nexus Dialogue on biodiversity in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that among other things would identify areas for the contribution of EMG members to the biodiversity agenda. It also included agreement to prepare terms of reference for a United Nations system contribution to the post-2020 biodiversity framework. The Nexus Dialogue, Biodiversity Mainstreaming in the context of Human Security and Wellbeing, was held in May 2018 and brought together participants from 55 different entities, including 17 United Nations agencies and representatives from Governments, universities, research institutes, non-governmental organizations and the private sector;

(b) In addition, Parties to the Convention and the Secretariat were effectively represented and involved in meetings of relevant bodies and processes of the United Nations and organized relevant events, in collaboration with a variety of partners, in support of integration of biodiversity into the development agenda and other relevant international processes. These include presence at, inputs to and cooperation in the context of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in July 2017, and the meetings of the governing bodies of relevant organizations and conventions. It also includes active engagement, in collaboration with UNEP regional offices and United Nations Regional Economic Commissions, in the regional preparatory meetings for the 2018 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development at which Goal 15 of the Sustainable Development Goals will be discussed;

(c) The Secretariat and Parties to the Convention also cooperated with a range of partners in the context of the United Nations Ocean Conference in June 2017. As a result, two voluntary commitments were registered on: (i) the Sustainable Ocean Initiative Capacity-Building Platform for the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the Sustainable Development Goals, and (ii) the Sustainable Ocean Initiative Global Dialogues with Regional Seas Organizations and Regional Fisheries Bodies on Accelerating Progress Towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the Sustainable Development Goals. Other activities, such as side events and a high-level reception with the theme "Sustainable Ocean Night: Biodiversity for the Future We Want", also contributed to emphasizing the importance of the Convention and biodiversity to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in marine areas.

---

<sup>9</sup> [www.worldfloraonline.org](http://www.worldfloraonline.org)

<sup>10</sup> [www.bgci.org/threat\\_search.php](http://www.bgci.org/threat_search.php)

22. Several organizations and international multi-stakeholder networks, such as the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management, the Inter-agency Liaison Group on Biodiversity and Health, the Sustainable Ocean Initiative, the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Caring for Coasts initiative and the Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration also contribute to integrating concerns of the Convention into the broader development agenda through other relevant international processes.

23. Parties to the Convention and the Secretariat also collaborate with civil society stakeholder groups, including those representing indigenous peoples and local communities, youth, women, academia, and local authorities, in order to include biodiversity in relevant civil society initiatives, as well as to engage these stakeholders in the work of the Convention. Examples of such partnerships include the Global Youth Biodiversity Network and the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity. Parties to the Convention and the Secretariat also engage with international private sector initiatives for the integration of biodiversity for sustainable use and the sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge into business practices, including through the Global Partnership for Business and Biodiversity.

24. Several of the above partnerships also contribute to raising the profile of biodiversity and awareness of its values, as discussed in the next section.

### **C. Partnerships in support of raising the political profile of biodiversity and awareness of its values**

25. Actions to elevate the political attention given by governments to biodiversity at the national level and within relevant international processes are supported by several partners. Many of the organizations and mechanisms that contribute to the areas noted above, in supporting Parties and integration of biodiversity into other processes, also contribute to raising the political profile of the Convention and its Protocols and to raising awareness of the value of biodiversity, including through high level activities and events involving heads of State, ministers, parliamentarians, indigenous peoples and local communities, subnational governments and other stakeholders. Some partners help bring attention to the importance of biodiversity and healthy ecosystems within national government institutions and among decision-makers involved in domains that are directly or indirectly related to biodiversity such as agriculture, fisheries and forestry (FAO), tourism (United Nations World Tourism Organization), trade (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development), health (World Health Organization), economy and finance (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development).

26. Several partners also work at developing the communication strategies and mobilising networks to inspire the wider public. They also track patterns of awareness to better understand the level of understanding of the public on biodiversity issues. These partners also prepare and disseminate communication products in collaboration with the Secretariat and include: the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and its Commission for Education and Communication; the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums; Rare Conservation and the Union for Ethical Biotrading. It also includes the World Wide Fund for Nature, with which the Secretariat has a Memorandum of Understanding on joint activities to help achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 1, including through the Connect2Earth campaign, which seeks to carry out increasing activities over the remaining years of the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity 2011-2020 and beyond. The Secretariat also works with the communications team of the IPBES, to leverage the communications power of science. With the communications officers of the biodiversity-related conventions, the Secretariat seeks to harmonise messages and communications related to the work of biodiversity-related conventions. CBD media partners, such as the United Nations Department of Public Information, the Communications Division of UNEP, InterPress Services, and others also help foster increased recognition of the importance of biodiversity, biosafety and access and benefit sharing related issues among the general public.

27. Partners recognize the importance of coordinating and harmonizing communication and messaging as a means to build a strong, integrated and efficient case for biodiversity among high-level decision-makers and the general public. Several communication and outreach opportunities will help partners coordinate their efforts including: the 25th anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention on Biological Diversity in 2018; the 70th anniversary of IUCN in 2018; the 2018 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development; the IUCN World Conservation Congress in 2020; the 75th anniversary of the United Nations in 2020; meetings of the governing bodies of biodiversity-related conventions to be held between 2018 and 2020; and other important international forums, such as those organized by the World Economic Forum.

28. Examples of partnerships and activities that took place in the biennium include:

(a) The Secretariat continued to support and to engage with multi-stakeholder partnership networks and mechanisms that provide outreach and support engagement in the Convention processes among targeted sectors and stakeholder groups. These include the Global Platform for Business and Biodiversity; the Global Island Partnership; mechanisms that support the engagement of sub-national, local and city authorities; and the Global Youth Biodiversity Network;

(b) Biodiversity and the role of the Convention have been brought to a prominent position in the international environment and sustainable development agenda, for example through the Secretariat's inputs to the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in 2017 and 2018. The work of the Convention was reported to the United Nations General Assembly in 2017 and 2018 and Member States were provided adequate information on the Convention in preparing and negotiating the arising resolutions of the General Assembly. The importance of the Convention and biodiversity were also conveyed by the Executive Secretary to high-level officials of member States and senior officials of the United Nations through her targeted missions to United Nations Headquarters and the meetings of other international organizations and intergovernmental processes;

(c) The Secretariat has taken particular efforts during the present biennium to nurture and establish new strategic partnerships with a view to addressing gaps and promoting the transformational changes that will be required to achieve the objectives of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, its follow-up, and the 2050 Vision. In this regard, particular effort has been given to establishing relationship with the World Economic Forum. For the first time, the Convention was represented at the annual meeting of the World Economic Forum in January 2018 through the participation of the Executive Secretary. Another example has been the strengthening of collaboration with numerous organizations to support the global communication strategy for biodiversity (decision [XIII/22](#)). These will be further built upon to support the implementation of the post-2020 biodiversity framework.

#### **IV. FURTHER ENHANCING COOPERATION FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY 2011-2020 AND THE POST-2020 BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK**

29. To support the transformational changes needed to halt biodiversity loss and achieve the 2050 vision, Parties will be considering a new global framework for biodiversity, to be adopted in 2020. Any such framework will need to include, as a key element, cooperation and partnerships with other organizations, conventions, and stakeholders. Thus, the process for developing such a new framework could benefit from a consideration of ways and means to enhance strategic coordination and cooperation with relevant partnership.

30. Such consideration might include an analysis of Aichi Biodiversity Targets in which progress has been weak and the reasons for this, and seek to address any gaps in support for their implementation, including through new partnerships. It could also consider actors from sectors not primarily concerned with conservation. In some cases this may involve building new partnerships with organizations,

including programmes, funds and specialized agencies of the United Nations that have not hitherto integrated biodiversity into their work programmes, but with which there are important links in the relationship of biodiversity with the social and economic aspects of human well-being that they address.

31. In addition, consideration could be given to possible options for a global and inclusive mechanism to strengthen cooperation among all organizations and conventions related to biodiversity to provide a common focus around the post-2020 biodiversity framework and the 2050 Vision. In doing so, account could be taken of previous work of the Convention which has considered such options,<sup>11</sup> as well as to the experience of other issue-based inter-agency mechanisms, such as UN-Water.

32. Further consideration could also be given to developing or strengthening mechanisms that would enhance cooperation between Parties in the implementation of the Convention, for example through enhancing the operation and sustainability of the Bio-Bridge Initiative for Technical and Scientific Cooperation and the processes for voluntary peer review for preparation and implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

33. Any strategy for enhanced cooperation will need to allow sufficient human and financial resources for the work of these partnerships. Further attention could be given to these issues during the process for development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting.

## V. SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATIONS

34. The Subsidiary Body on Implementation may wish to adopt recommendations along the following lines:

### *The Subsidiary Body on Implementation,*

*Noting* the report of the Executive Secretary on cooperation with other conventions, international organizations and partnerships,<sup>12</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the progress report on implementation of the options for enhancing synergies at the national level and the road map for enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions at the international level during the period 2017 to 2020;<sup>13</sup>

2. *Takes note also* of the report on the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, addressing congruence among the forest-related Aichi Biodiversity Targets and other forest-related multilateral commitments and an analysis of options for further action to achieve the forest-related Aichi Biodiversity Targets, in a mutually supportive manner, primarily with regard to (a) the reduction of deforestation and forest degradation and (b) forest restoration;<sup>14</sup>

3. *Takes note further* of the information contained in document CBD/SBI/2/INF/28 which provides further details on the findings of the survey and the review of joint and individual examples of the contribution from members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;

---

<sup>11</sup> For example: Global Partnership for Biodiversity (UNEP/CBD/COP/8/25); Options for enhancing synergies at the international level (UNEP/CBD/COP/13/15).

<sup>12</sup> CBD/SBI/2/10.

<sup>13</sup> CBD/SBI/2/10/Add.1.

<sup>14</sup> CBD/SBI/2/10/Add.2.

4. *Welcomes* the report of the informal advisory group on synergies among biodiversity-related conventions and its advice on prioritization and implementation of the desirable key actions in the table contained in annex II to decision [XIII/24](#),<sup>15</sup>

5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to facilitate the presentation of the advice noted in paragraph 4 above to the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions, in view of the importance of the full and equal involvement of all the biodiversity-related conventions in the implementation of the desirable key actions contained in annex II to decision XIII/24;

6. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to present the report of the informal advisory group, including its advice, to the Conference of the Parties for consideration at its fourteenth meeting;

7. *Recommends* that the Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth meeting adopt a decision along the following lines:

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Recalling* its decisions [XIII/1](#), [XIII/3](#), [XIII/4](#), [XIII/5](#), [XIII/7](#), [XIII/23](#), [XIII/24](#), [XIII/27](#) and [XIII/28](#),

*Recognizing* the need to continue to strengthen collaboration and cooperation with other conventions, international organizations and partnerships with a view to expediting efficient and effective actions towards the achievement of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and towards a comprehensive and participatory process to develop proposals for the follow-up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020,

1. *Invites* Parties and other Governments, other organizations, conventions and stakeholders, to consider possible new areas and approaches to advance the implementation of biodiversity commitments through enhanced cooperation as part of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources and in the context of the preparation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, to review existing cooperation, partnerships and their modalities with a view to identifying lessons learned, gaps and potential areas for enhanced cooperation in support of the implementation of the Convention and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and to make this analysis available to Parties and stakeholders through the clearing-house mechanism so that it can be taken into account in the consultations for the post-2020 global framework;

#### **A. Cooperation with other conventions**

3. *Welcomes* the work of other biodiversity-related conventions to enhance cooperation and synergies among the conventions in line with its decision XIII/24, including the relevant decisions of their governing bodies;<sup>16</sup>

---

<sup>15</sup> See CBD/SBI/2/10/Add.1 and CBD/SBI/2/10/INF/14.

<sup>16</sup> Resolution 11.10 (Rev.COP12) of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, adopted at its twelfth meeting; and resolutions 9/2017 and 12/2017 of the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, adopted at its seventh session; and decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, Especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention), adopted at its thirteenth meeting, held in October 2018.

4. *Recognizes* the importance of collaboration and cooperation among biodiversity-related conventions in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals;<sup>17</sup>

5. *Stresses* that actions for enhanced synergies among biodiversity-related conventions should be considered in the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, in particular as they are essential for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work of the informal advisory group on synergies, which has contributed to the process of enhancing synergies among biodiversity-related conventions at the international level;

7. *Welcomes* the advice provided by the informal advisory group on synergies to the Executive Secretary, the Bureau and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions on prioritization and implementation of desirable key actions in the road map for enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions at the international level 2017-2020;

8. *Invites* the governing bodies and the secretariats of the other biodiversity-related conventions, as well as other relevant organizations, to consider this advice, as appropriate and within their respective mandates, to continue undertaking desirable key actions on synergies and to be actively involved in the process of developing the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

9. *Recognizes* the importance of enhancing synergies at the national level, and *invites* Parties and other Governments, as appropriate to their national circumstances, as well as indigenous peoples and local communities, non-governmental organizations and other relevant organizations to continue to take action from among the options for enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions at the national level contained in annex I of decision XIII/24;

10. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to share the results of the work of the informal advisory group with organizations for which the implementation of the road map for enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions at the international level 2017-2020 is relevant;

11. *Requests* the informal advisory group on synergies to continue to work during the forthcoming intersessional period, in close consultation with the Executive Secretary and the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties, to (a) monitor the implementation of the road map until the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, and (b) to provide the Secretariat and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions with advice on ways to optimize synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions in the development of the post-2020 biodiversity framework, and to report to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its third meeting for subsequent consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting;

12. *Requests* the Executive Secretary and Parties, subject to the availability of resources, to continue to support the work of the informal advisory group on synergies for the purposes outlined in paragraph 11 above;

13. *Acknowledges* the collaborative work done by the Executive Secretary, the United Nations Environment Programme and its World Conservation Monitoring Centre to implement key actions to enhance synergies at the international level, and *requests* the Executive

---

<sup>17</sup> General Assembly resolution [70/1](#), entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, annex.

Secretary, subject to availability of resources, and *invites* the United Nations Environment Programme and other relevant international organizations, to continue to undertake such initiatives and activities in implementing the road map, taking into account the advice of the informal advisory group, as appropriate;

14. *Calls upon* Parties, in the light of the results of the consultation process conducted under the “Caring for Coasts” initiative, the resulting work plan presented in the information document issued by the Executive Secretary<sup>18</sup> and the related resolutions adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals at its twelfth meeting<sup>19</sup> and the Conference of the Contracting Parties to the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, Especially as Waterfowl Habitat at its thirteenth meeting,<sup>20</sup> to provide further support for implementation of the activities of the proposed work plan through, among other things, the establishment of a global “Coastal Forum” focused on coastal wetland conservation;

15. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to further coordinate the “Caring for Coasts” initiative with the secretariats of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals and the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, Especially as Waterfowl Habitat and other relevant partners, in order to advance synergies in their work on the management and restoration of coastal ecosystems worldwide;

16. *Invites* Parties to the Convention that are also Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to consider the relevance of their national biodiversity strategies and action plans for the design of ecosystem-based actions as part of their nationally determined contributions to the Paris Agreement;<sup>21</sup>

17. *Invites* Parties to the Convention that are also Parties to the United Nations Forum on Forests to consider the relevance of actions under their national biodiversity strategies and action plans in the design of their voluntary national contributions towards achieving one or more global forest goals and targets of the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017-2030;

#### **B. Cooperation with international organizations**

18. *Welcomes* the consideration of the interlinkages between human health and biodiversity by the World Health Assembly at its seventy-first session;<sup>22</sup>

19. *Expresses its appreciation* for the effective cooperation of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations with the Convention, and, in this regard, *welcomes* (a) the operationalization of the Biodiversity Platform referred to in decision XIII/3, paragraph 6, (b) the completion and publication of the report on the *State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture* referred to in decision XIII/3, paragraph 40, (c) the *Global Soil Biodiversity Atlas* prepared by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre and the Global Soil Biodiversity Initiative, (d) the commitments of the Global Soil Partnership and its Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils to promoting soil biodiversity, as evidenced by their work plans and awareness-raising efforts, including a planned international symposium in 2020, (e) the initiative of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture to develop a

---

<sup>18</sup> CBD/SBI/2/INF/20.

<sup>19</sup> CMS [Resolution 12.25](#) on promoting conservation of critical intertidal and other coastal habitats for migratory species.

<sup>20</sup> Ramsar resolution XIII [tbd]

<sup>21</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Registration No. I-54113.

<sup>22</sup> The relevant resolution/decision will be provided when it becomes available at: [http://apps.who.int/gb/e/e\\_wha71.html](http://apps.who.int/gb/e/e_wha71.html)

work plan on microbes and invertebrates, including those relevant for soil biodiversity and the sustained provision of soil-mediated ecosystem services essential for sustainable agriculture, and (f) the efforts made to improve the consistency of reporting on national data on primary forest area reported under the forest resources assessments;

20. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in collaboration with other organizations and subject to the availability of resources, to consider the preparation of a report on the state of knowledge on soil biodiversity covering current status, challenges and potentialities and to make it available for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting held prior to the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

21. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to undertake the following actions:

(a) Review the implementation of the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity, in consultation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations under the framework of the Global Soil Partnership as well as other interested partners, and prepare a draft plan of action for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting held prior to the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

(b) Continue to work with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on forest resources assessments towards improved monitoring of progress under Aichi Biodiversity Target 5;

(c) Transmit the text of the present decision to the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations;

22. *Recognizes* that the Joint Programme of Work on the links between biological and cultural diversity has been a useful platform for collaboration between the Secretariat and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in pursuit of common objectives with respect to nature and culture;

23. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to consult with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization with a view to the establishment of an international alliance for nature and culture comprising the biocultural diversity focal points of relevant international agencies, programmes and funds, involving the effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, and aimed at efficiencies, increased collaboration and the avoidance of overlap and duplication, to develop and provide proposals on possible elements of work aimed at a rapprochement of nature and culture in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, for consideration by the Working Group on Article 8(j) at its eleventh meeting and the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its third meeting, so that possible elements of work are considered along with other proposals in order to develop a fully integrated programme of work for Article 8(j) and related provisions in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

24. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to contribute to the work described in paragraph 23 above;

25. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue liaising with the World Trade Organization, undertaking technical collaboration on issues of joint interest, and following up on pending requests for observer status in relevant committees of the World Trade Organization;

26. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to further strengthen the collaboration of the Secretariat with the International Tropical Timber Organization under the Collaborative Initiative for Tropical Forest Biodiversity, which promotes the conservation and sustainable management of tropical forests, including through the development of a communication strategy on the outcomes generated by the Initiative and how they support the achievement of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and to report to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its third meeting;

### **C. Cooperation with inter-agency and coordination networks**

27. *Welcomes* the analysis on the congruence among the forest-related Aichi Biodiversity Targets and other forest-related multilateral commitments and on options for further action to achieve the forest-related Aichi Biodiversity Targets, in a mutually supportive manner, primarily with regard to (a) the reduction of deforestation and forest degradation and (b) forest restoration, and *encourages* member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests to further coordinate on biodiversity-relevant data and methodologies for the development of spatial assessments of opportunities to advance on biodiversity commitment through the work of the Global Forest Goals, REDD+ and the Global Partnership on Forest and Landscape Restoration;

28. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to provide further guidance on the type of support that may be available to Parties from members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests with regard to specific areas of implementation of the Convention, such as the Short-Term Action Plan on Ecosystem Restoration;<sup>23</sup>

29. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts by members of the Global Partnership on Forest Landscape Restoration to establish clear principles for the implementation of Forest Landscape Restoration and to develop monitoring tools and protocols that account for the multiple dimensions of forest landscape restoration, including biodiversity, both as a means and an outcome of restoration interventions;

30. *Invites* Parties, in the implementation of their national strategies for forest landscape restoration, to fully use the guidance provided in decision XIII/5 on ecosystem restoration: short-term action plan, especially its section on biodiversity considerations.

---

<sup>23</sup> Decision XIII/5, annex.