



Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr.: Limited
30 October 2024

Original: English

Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity Sixteenth meeting

Cali, Colombia, 21 October–1 November 2024

Agenda item 17

Mainstreaming of biodiversity within and across sectors

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Draft decision submitted by the Chair of Working Group II

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decision 14/3 of 29 November 2018, by which it established a long-term strategic approach for mainstreaming biodiversity in relevant sectors and between sectors,

Recalling also Article 6 (b) of the Convention on Biological Diversity,¹ under which Parties are required to integrate, as far as possible and as appropriate, the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies,

Reiterating the critical importance of mainstreaming biodiversity across the whole of government and the whole of society to achieve the objectives of the Convention and its Protocols and the urgent need to mainstream biodiversity in line with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,²

Noting the submissions provided by Parties, international organizations and initiatives, as well as stakeholder organizations, including during the online forum on mainstreaming held from 12 December 2023 to 10 January 2024,

Taking note of the analysis conducted by the Secretariat, which demonstrates an alignment of the long-term strategic approach for mainstreaming with certain goals and targets of the Framework,³

Recalling its decision that the Framework should be used as a strategic plan for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols, its bodies and its Secretariat over the period 2022–2030 and that, in that regard, the Framework should be used to better align and direct the work of the various bodies of the Convention and its Protocols, its Secretariat and its budget, according to the goals and targets of the Framework,⁴

Emphasizing the importance of ensuring that the processes under the Convention and its Protocols remain inclusive and regionally balanced,

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

² Decision 15/4, annex.

³ See CBD/SBI/4/13.

⁴ Decision 15/4, para. 8.

Recognizing that actions related to biodiversity mainstreaming should be implemented on a balanced and flexible basis, taking into consideration national circumstances and capabilities, and that there is not a one-size-fits-all approach to biodiversity mainstreaming,

1. *Recognizes* that the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework captures biodiversity mainstreaming and provides a wide range of options for mainstreaming biodiversity, and considers that the provisions of paragraphs 17 and 18 of decision 14/3 have been implemented;

2. *Urges* Parties, and invites other Governments and subnational and local governments, with the support of international and other relevant organizations, as well as the business and financial sectors, as appropriate, to undertake biodiversity mainstreaming, as reflected in the Framework, in a manner supportive of the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, in particular to enable mainstreaming at all levels of government and society, with a view to fostering the full and effective contributions of women, youth, indigenous peoples and local communities, civil society organizations and stakeholders, within and across all sectors,⁵ in an inclusive manner, as appropriate, and in accordance with relevant national and international regulations;

3. *Invites* Parties, as well as relevant organizations, initiatives and stakeholders, to provide relevant information, including on good practices, new and innovative tools, mechanisms, challenges and lessons learned with regard to biodiversity mainstreaming, through their seventh national reports, in line with decision 15/6 of 19 December 2022 of the Conference of the Parties, or [through the reporting of commitments by non-State actors and subnational and local governments, in accordance with decision 16/--];

4. *Encourages* Parties, in line with national circumstances and priorities, to promote and support the private sector in its contributions to the three objectives of the Convention;

5. *Also encourages* Parties, and invites other Governments, subnational and local governments, the secretariats of multilateral environmental agreements, relevant organizations, initiatives, partners and relevant stakeholders, including from the private and financial sectors, academia, the scientific community and philanthropic organizations to mainstream biodiversity in all relevant processes;⁷

6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources:

(a) To integrate the consideration of biodiversity mainstreaming into regional and subregional dialogue meetings to support the implementation of the Framework, including by identifying challenges and scientific, technical and technological gaps that may undermine countries' capacity to support mainstreaming and ensure just transitions, in particular in developing countries;

(b) To strengthen collaboration with relevant convention secretariats, organizations and institutions and foster collaboration and cooperation, as appropriate, among relevant processes and programmes in order to make available the information, expertise and relevant technologies, including in relation to transition plans, needed to achieve biodiversity mainstreaming at all levels;

(c) To invite Parties, other Governments and relevant convention secretariats, organizations and institutions and other stakeholders to share good practices, tools, mechanisms, guidance and relevant solutions that can support biodiversity mainstreaming across sectors and to provide a structured overview of that information through the clearing-house mechanism;

(d) To support capacity-building and development activities related to biodiversity mainstreaming, in collaboration with Parties and other Governments, subnational and local governments, the regional and subregional support centres of the technical and scientific cooperation

⁵ In particular those sectors related to decision 15/4 and the relevant targets of the Framework, including those targets covering tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming, and the sectors mentioned in decision 14/3 (energy and mining, infrastructure, manufacturing and processing) and decision XIII/3 (agriculture, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture, and tourism), respecting self-determined national priorities.

mechanism, indigenous peoples and local communities and networks of women and youth, as well as relevant stakeholders, such as non-government organizations, international financial institutions and private sector entities;

(e) To undertake the following activities ahead of the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties:

- (i) To provide a structured overview of available good practices, tools, mechanisms, guidance and relevant solutions to support biodiversity mainstreaming within and across sectors, both under the Convention and in other processes;
- (ii) To foster sector-specific communities of practice for the exchange of lessons learned, inter alia, through the holding of a series of webinars focused on mainstreaming across various sectors, in particular those already covered in previous decisions of the Conference of the Parties, bringing together partners and experts from a variety of backgrounds to share best practices, existing tools, solutions, guidance and innovative practices that could support implementation within and across sectors;

(f) To prepare a progress report on the aforementioned activities, for consideration at a meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation to be held before the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

(g) To undertake, on the basis of the results of the activities listed in the subparagraphs above, ahead of the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the additional activities necessary to advance biodiversity mainstreaming, which may include assessing the need for an analysis of challenges to biodiversity mainstreaming support and of scientific, technical, technological and institutional capability gaps that may undermine the capacity of countries to support biodiversity mainstreaming, using information from the seventh national biodiversity reports and [reporting][information] by non-State actors.