

NON-PAPER

SBSTTA-24 AGENDA ITEM 3

This non-paper has been prepared for the SBSTTA-24 Contact Group on agenda item 3 based on statements and submissions received during the informal and formal plenary sessions of SBSTTA-24, in February and May, respectively. This document includes an updated recommendation which will serve as the basis for the development of a conference room paper under agenda item 3 on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework: scientific and technical information to support the review of the updated goals and targets, and related indicators and baselines (CBD/SBSTTA/24/3). The recommendation on the Global Biodiversity Outlook under agenda item 3 will not be discussed by the contact group and will be delivered to the plenary as a standalone conference room paper.

Note that the conference room papers discussed at SBSTTA-24 will be adopted during the closing session of SBSTTA-24 which will occur back-to-back with the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, or as otherwise decided. Due to the timing of the closing of SBSTTA-24, any invitations or requests to the third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group or the third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation or requests to the Executive Secretary for work that is proposed between the SBSTTA-24 session in May 2021 and the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties should be included in the report for the May meeting, as opposed to being included in the conference room paper. However, there is the option to note work which is expected to occur during that period in the draft conference room paper.

The paragraphs shown in bold represent paragraphs where significant or divergent views were expressed during the plenary session. The contact group is expected to address these bolded paragraphs only.

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The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice,

Takes note of the list of the proposed headline indicators contained in annex I of the note by the Executive Secretary on the monitoring framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;¹

Also takes note of the proposed list of component and complementary indicators;²

Takes note of the work of the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the Co-chairs of the open-ended working group on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, to update the proposed list of headline indicators, taking into account advice provided during the twenty-fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, the outcomes of the discussions of the third meeting of the Subsidiary Body of Implementation, and the first draft of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, prior to the third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and the further update of the monitoring framework, including the headline, component and complementary indicators, after the third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework for consideration at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

Recommends that the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting adopt a decision that includes the following elements, taking into account also the conclusions of the third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation and the third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework:

¹ CBD/SBSTTA/24/3

² CBD/SBSTTA/24/3/Add.1

The Conference of the Parties,

Adopts the monitoring framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework annexed to the present decision;

***Decides* to use the period from [2016 to 2020], where data is available, as a baseline for monitoring the progress in implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework at the global level, while noting that other baselines [including a pre-industrial baseline] may be relevant and used at the national level;**

***Also decides* to keep the monitoring framework under review, enabling, among other things, the future incorporation, modification or removal of indicators as appropriate;**

***Further decides* that the headline indicators will be used in global assessments to monitor progress towards the goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, complemented, as appropriate, by the component and complementary indicators;**

***Also decides* that the headline indicators should be used by Parties in their national reports for reporting on the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, where technically feasible and as appropriate;**

***Encourages* all Parties to use the headline indicators in national planning processes, including national biodiversity strategies and action plans and other national planning processes;**

***Invites* Parties to adapt and use the list of component and complementary indicators in their national planning processes and in their national reports for reporting on their progress in implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework in line with article 26 of the Convention, as appropriate and according to their national priorities and circumstances;**

Recognizes the value of aligning national monitoring with the United Nations System of Environmental-Economic Accounting statistical standard in order to mainstream biodiversity in national statistical systems and to strengthen national information and monitoring systems and reporting;

Recalling Article 20, *encourages* Parties and *invites* other governments, the Global Environment Facility, the Biodiversity Indicator Partnership, IPBES and other relevant organizations to support national, regional and global biodiversity monitoring systems;

Invites the United Nations Statistical Commission, the Global Earth Observations – Biodiversity Observation Network and the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership and other relevant organizations to support the operationalization of the monitoring framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

***Decides* to establish an *ad hoc* technical expert group to advise on the further operationalization of the monitoring framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework with the terms of reference contained in annex X to the present decision; and to report to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at its twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth meetings and the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its fourth meeting;**

Requests the Executive Secretary and in collaboration with relevant partners:

- To develop guidance and support capacity development to support Parties, taking into account the special needs, circumstances and priorities of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States among them, and countries with economies in transition, in compiling and using the headline indicators, and component and complementary indicators when relevant, including in

their national reports, national biodiversity strategies and action plans and other national planning processes;

- To facilitate the use of relevant tools, including the Data Reporting Tool (DaRT), to facilitate national reporting and the sharing of information between multilateral environment agreements;

Annex X

**TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR AN AD-HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON INDICATORS
FOR THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK**

1. The Group will work:
 - (a) To provide technical advice and develop guidance on addressing gaps and on the remaining gaps in and the implementation of the indicators for the monitoring framework of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, including advice on the use of harmonized and agreed indicator definitions, best practices for monitoring and national data sharing, and scientific and technical advice on the improvement of indicators or addition of new indicators in the monitoring framework of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;
 - (b) To identify detailed metadata, including global baselines, prioritizing first headline indicators then component and complementary indicators of the monitoring framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, taking into account existing methodologies and standards which have been developed, including the Sustainable Development Goal indicators, the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics and the System of Environmental Economic Accounts developed under the auspices of the United Nations Statistical Commission;
 - (c) To review the effectiveness of the monitoring framework in measuring progress towards the achievement of post-2020 global biodiversity framework goals and targets and to present with the results presented to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting held prior to the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
 - (d) To provide advice on ways for national governments to fill temporal and spatial data gaps, including through the use of big data, including citizen science, community-based monitoring and information systems, remote sensing, modelling and statistical analysis and other forms of data;
 - (e) To provide advice on the existing capacity, gaps and need in terms of capacity, technology transfer and financing needs related to the monitoring of the global biodiversity framework in consultation with the Informal Advisory Group on technical cooperation.
2. The group will undertake its work on the basis of:
 - (a) Experience under the Convention with indicators and monitoring;
 - (b) Experience of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership and other relevant programs of work;
 - (c) Statistical standards and development under the intergovernmental forum of the United Nations Statistical Commission;
 - (d) Experience with other relevant global monitoring frameworks, including multi-lateral environment agreements, and knowledge systems.
 - (e) Recent developments on issues related to the indicators and their metadata.
3. The group will be composed of 30 technical experts nominated by Parties, including representatives of national statistical offices, and experts in the relevant social and biological sciences, and up to 15 representatives nominated by observer organizations, including members of the Biodiversity Indicator Partnership and other relevant organizations. The Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, will select experts from nominations submitted by Parties and organizations with due regard to representation of different areas of technical expertise while recognizing that all experts will need knowledge of biodiversity, and to geographical representation, indigenous peoples and local communities, major stakeholders and rights holders' groups, gender balance and to the special conditions of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States, and countries with economies in transition.
4. The Group will nominate two co-chairs from among the selected experts.

5. The Chair of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice will be invited to participate in the group *ex officio*.

6. The Group may also invite other experts, as appropriate, from Governments, UN and other international organizations, civil society, indigenous peoples and local communities, including representatives from the working group on Article 8(h) academia and the private sector to contribute their expertise and experiences on specific issues related to the terms of reference of the Group.

7. The Group will primarily conduct its work electronically and, subject to availability of resources, will also meet physically if possible, meeting at least twice during the intersessional period.

8. The ad-hoc technical expert group should be established and start its work immediately after approval by the Conference of the Parties (COP) and report on its work for the meeting of SBSTTA before the 16th Conference of the Parties.
