



Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr.: General
30 April 2024

Original: English

Subsidiary Body on Implementation

Fourth meeting

Nairobi, 21–29 May 2024

Item 7 of the provisional agenda*

Cooperation with other conventions and international organizations

Cooperation with other conventions and international organizations**

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. At its fifteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity highlighted the importance of cooperation with other conventions, international organizations and initiatives for the successful implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in its decisions 15/4, 15/5, 15/6, 15/8 and 15/13, among others. In its decision 15/4, the Conference of the Parties affirmed that its decision 15/13 on cooperation was of equal standing to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

2. The present note provides a report on cooperation with other conventions, international organizations and initiatives and the implementation of decision 15/13. Section II contains information on actions taken by other conventions and organizations in their respective processes to recognize the Framework and contribute to its implementation and monitoring. Section III outlines actions taken by the Secretariat, other conventions and international organizations to enhance cooperation, including the Bern Process. Section IV addresses other elements of decision 15/13. Section V contains a brief conclusion and section VI provides elements of a draft recommendation.

3. A report of activities concerning cooperation with other conventions, international organizations and initiatives since July 2021 will be made available (CBD/SBI/4/INF/4). The following reports by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre will also be made available: the report of the Bern III Conference on Cooperation among the Biodiversity-related Conventions for the Implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (CBD/SBI/4/INF/15), a cross-mapping of the Framework with the strategies of other conventions and multilateral agreements (CBD/SBI/4/INF/13), and contains a report on relevant work by UNEP (CBD/SBI/4/INF/14).

4. Information on cooperation under specific areas of work is also reported in documents addressing other items of the agenda of the present meeting, including documents [CBD/SBI/4/2](#) on the review of progress in implementation of the Framework, [CBD/SBI/4/7](#) on capacity-building and development, technical and scientific cooperation, and technology transfer, clearing-house

* CBD/SBI/4/1.

** The present document is being issued without formal editing.

mechanism and knowledge management, document [CBD/SBI/4/5](#) on resource mobilization, document [CBD/SBI/4/4](#) on mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting and review, as well as documents prepared for the twenty-sixth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, including documents [CBD/SBSTTA/26/2](#) on the monitoring framework and [CBD/SBSTTA/26/3](#) on scientific and technical needs to support the implementation of the Framework.

II. Actions under the governance processes of other conventions and international organizations in support of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

5. In its decision [15/13](#), the Conference of the Parties invited the governing bodies of biodiversity-related conventions, relevant multilateral environmental agreements and international organizations to endorse the Framework (para. 3) and to contribute to its implementation and monitoring by strengthening cooperation and synergies, adopting mutually supportive decisions, and aligning their strategies with the Framework (para. 4).

6. Pursuant to these invitations, the governing bodies of several conventions and organizations have taken steps to endorse or recognize the Framework, coordinate their own strategies with the Framework and to contribute to its implementation and monitoring. The responses from the governing bodies to the invitation of the Conference of the Parties represent concrete steps in the operationalization of the Framework. Such formal recognition will contribute to its implementation and the monitoring of its progress.

A. Formal recognition of the Framework

7. The governing bodies of the following conventions and international organizations recognized or welcomed the adoption of the Framework in decisions or resolutions adopted at their meetings held between January 2023 and March 2024:

Conventions represented in the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions

Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage: decision 45 COM [7.2](#) adopted by the World Heritage Committee at its forty-fifth session (2023);

Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals: resolution [14.7](#) adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth meeting (2024);

International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture: resolution [1/2023](#) adopted by the Governing Body at its tenth session (2023);

Rio Conventions

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC): decision [1/CMA.5](#) adopted by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement at its fifth session (2023);¹

Chemicals and waste multilateral environmental agreements

Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions: decisions [BC-16/22](#), [RC-11/9](#) and [SC-11/21](#) adopted by their respective Conferences of the Parties (2023);

Minamata Convention on Mercury: decision [MC-5/17](#) adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its fifth meeting (2023);

¹ At the margins of the meeting, the Presidencies of the Conferences of the Parties to the UNFCCC and the Convention on Biological Diversity sponsored a [COP 28 Joint Statement on Climate, Nature and People](#).

International Conference on Chemicals Management: resolution [V/6](#) adopted by the Conference at its fifth session ([ICCM-5](#)) (2023);

Regional conventions

Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region (Cartagena Convention): decision 17/XII adopted by the Conference of Parties at its seventeenth meeting (2023);

Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution: forty-third session of the Executive Body (2023);²

Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians (Carpathian Convention): decision [7/6](#) adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its seventh meeting (2023);

International organizations and bodies

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations: resolution [1/174](#) adopted by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its one hundred and seventy-fourth session (2023);

International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas: resolution [23/23](#) adopted by the Commission at its 28th Regular Meeting (2023);

United Nations Environment Assembly: resolution [4](#)³ of the sixth session of the Assembly, and Ministerial Declaration of the High-level Segment of the Assembly (2024);⁴

United Nations General Assembly, seventy-eighth session: resolution [78/155](#)⁵ on the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

United Nations General Assembly, seventy-eighth session: resolution [78/68](#) on sustainable fisheries including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;

United Nations General Assembly, seventy-eighth session: resolution [78/69](#) on oceans and the law of the sea (2023);

World Health Organization: decision [WHA76.17](#) adopted by the seventy-sixth World Health Assembly (2023).

B. Coordination of strategies with the Framework

8. The following conventions and international organizations have taken steps to identify linkages between their own strategies and the Framework to contribute to its implementation and monitoring.

9. At its extended 45th session, the World Heritage Committee requested the World Heritage Centre to identify and develop coordinated actions on World Heritage and the Framework, including through the Joint Programme of Work on the Links between Biological and Cultural Diversity (decision, 45 COM [7.2](#)). The 46th session of the Committee will be held from 21 to 31 July 2024.

10. Pursuant to the decisions [19.11 to 19.13](#) of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species at its nineteenth meeting (2022) on how the Convention

² The Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution held from 11 to 14 December 2023: “Welcomed the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and invited the EMEP Steering Body and the Working Group on Effects to consider complementary activities in support of its implementation”. The wording will be included in the session report, forthcoming in 2024.

³ UNEP/EA.6/Res.4, 5 March 2024.

⁴ UNEP/EA.6/HLS.1, 1 March 2024.

⁵ A/RES/78/155, 21 December 2023.

could contribute to the implementation and monitoring of the Framework, the Standing Committee at its 77th meeting (2023) considered a mapping of the Convention's Strategic Vision 2021–2030 against the Framework and its monitoring framework (document SC77 Doc. [16](#)) and prepared a recommendation for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its twentieth meeting that will be held in 2025.

11. At its fourteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals encouraged Parties to implement the Samarkand Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2024–2032 and ensure linkages with their national biodiversity strategies and action plans (resolution [14.1](#)). Among other tasks to support implementation of the Framework, the Secretariat was requested to consider how to support and apply the monitoring framework towards the goals and targets of the Samarkand Strategic Plan for Migratory Species 2024–2032 (resolution [14.7](#)). The fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties will be held in 2027.

12. Under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, the Secretariat updated the Convention's [Strategic Plan 2016–2024](#), including a mapping of its goals and targets against those of the Framework. In preparation for the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in July 2025, a Strategic Plan Working Group was tasked with the development of the Convention's fifth Strategic Plan, which will also take into account the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

13. Under the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, the Governing Body acknowledged that the achievement of the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework would contribute to the implementation of the objectives of the International Treaty, and decided to add “GBF implementation and follow-up actions” as a Governing Body-11 milestone for the Governing Body-11 in the Multi-Year Programme of Work at its next session to be held in November 2025 (resolution [1/2023](#)).

14. At its fifteenth meeting (2022), the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification addressed the importance of biodiversity and collaboration with the Convention on Biological Diversity, including in the context of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, in several of its [decisions](#). At its twenty-first meeting (2023), the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention made several references to the Framework in its report aimed at assessing implementation of Convention and its 2018–2030 Strategic Framework, including with regard to integrating biodiversity into national Land Degradation Neutrality interventions with due consideration of the Framework, especially with respect to its Targets 1, 2, 3 and 4. These and related issues of complementarity will be considered by the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting to be held in Riyadh from 2 to 13 December 2024.

15. Under the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, the Secretariat was requested to prepare a report on how the conventions could contribute to the implementation of the 2030 targets and 2050 goals of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (decisions [BC-16/22](#), [RC-11/9](#) and [SC-11/21](#)) for the consideration of the Conferences of the Parties at their next meetings to be held in May 2025.

16. Under the Minamata Convention on Mercury, the Secretariat was requested to prepare a draft road map, including possible actions and indicators, to support Parties in demonstrating and maximizing the co-benefits arising from the implementation of the Minamata Convention and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. The decision noted the absence in the monitoring framework of indicators regarding the overall risk from highly hazardous chemicals and invited the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to consider additional indicators, under target 7, to cover highly hazardous chemicals and mercury (decision [MC-5/17](#)). The next meeting of the Conference of the Parties is scheduled for November 2025.

17. The International Conference on Chemicals Management requested the Secretariat to prepare a report on interlinkages between the Global Framework on Chemicals For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, identifying

entry points for enhancing collaboration and cooperation in the implementation of the two frameworks for consideration at its next meeting, at a date to be determined (resolution [V/6](#)).

18. Under the Carpathian Convention, the Conference of the Parties adopted the Carpathian Biodiversity Framework and requested Parties to use it to contribute to the achievement of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (decision [7/6](#)).

19. At their 23rd Global Meeting, the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans considered a draft implementation strategy of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework for the regional seas.⁶

20. At the last session of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, the Executive Body agreed to include a new item on cooperation with the Convention on Biological Diversity in the [workplan for 2024–2025](#), which includes an assessment of options for meeting the Framework target 7.

21. Under the United Nations Forum on Forests,⁷ the Forum encouraged members to promote coherence and integration of forest-related actions in national biodiversity strategies and action plans for the implementation of the Framework, as well as to reflect these agreements in their forest-related actions (2023).⁸ Related issues will be discussed at the next session of the Forum in May 2024.

22. At its 78th session, the United Nations General Assembly urged Parties to the Convention to ensure the coherence and complementarity of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework with other existing or upcoming international processes frameworks and strategies, in particular with regard to the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement (resolution 78/155⁹).

23. The governing bodies of some conventions and international organizations adopted decisions at meetings held before the second part of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to enable them to respond to the Framework in an effective manner.

24. At its fifteenth session, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, through [the Bridgetown Covenant](#) (2021), extended the mandate of the BioTrade Initiative to assist member States in working together towards the adoption of a post-2020 global biodiversity framework and beyond.¹⁰

25. The Programme 2021–2024 of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) adopted by its members in 2021 ensured alignment of the programme with the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.¹¹ In 2023, and among other supportive initiatives, IUCN published an Information note including a mapping of IUCN Nature 2030's targets and actions against the Framework's targets for 2030, a list of relevant 2020 IUCN Resolutions, and contributions of IUCN's knowledge products and tools for the implementation and monitoring of the Framework.¹²

26. The governing bodies of some conventions have initiated discussions or considered issues of relevance to the Framework. These include the Commission on Phytosanitary Measures of the International Plant Protection Convention which, at its eighteenth session (2024), requested the secretariat to continue to engage in the Bern Process (see sect. III below).

⁶ UNEP/RSP23/5; to be issued.

⁷ E/2023/42-E/CN.18/2023/8.

⁸ Report of the eighteenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (E/2023/42-E/CN.18/2023/8).

⁹ A/RES/78/155, 21 December 2023.

¹⁰ The initiative is ongoing. In March 2024, the 7th BioTrade Congress: Global governance for trade and biodiversity featured BioTrade, among other issues. The Congress is part of the activities planned by UNCTAD and partners towards CBD COP 16, as well as UNCTAD's 60th anniversary and its 16th quadrennial Ministerial Conference in 2025. The outcome supports the implementation of UNCTAD's Bridgetown Covenant, The Biodiversity Plan and the Sustainable Development Goals.

¹¹ See [WCC 2020 DEC 149 EN.pdf](#).

¹² Contributing to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework: Nature 2030, IUCN Resolutions and Conservation Tools, IUCN International Policy Centre, October 2023, online: [information-note-iucn-and-the-gbf.pdf](#)

27. Considering that such information was a valuable input to the Bern III Conference, UNEP and the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre prepared an information paper on the strategic plans and actions of 15 conventions, including a preliminary cross-mapping of strategies and other activities. This cross-mapping has been further updated and is made available in the information document CBD/SBI/4/INF/13.

III. Actions by the Secretariat, conventions and international organizations to enhance cooperation

A. Bern Process

28. At its twelfth meeting, the Conference of the Parties established a party-led process aimed to enhance cooperation and synergies among biodiversity-related conventions and an informal advisory group to guide the process (decision [XII/6](#)). At a workshop held in Geneva in February 2016, representatives of Parties to each of the conventions developed options for action to enhance synergies at national and international levels. At its thirteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties welcomed options for enhancing synergies among the conventions at the national level and a road map for enhancing synergies among the conventions at the international level (decision [XIII/24](#)).

29. At its fourteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties requested the Secretariat to organize a workshop to facilitate discussions among Parties to the biodiversity-related conventions on how the conventions could contribute to the preparation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and to identify elements that could be included in the framework based on the respective mandates of each convention (decision [14/30](#)). The Consultation Workshop of Biodiversity-related Conventions on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (Bern I) was held in June 2019 in Bern. In order to build on its outcomes, a second consultation workshop, organized by UNEP with the continued support of the Government of Switzerland, was held online from 18 January to 2 February 2021 (Bern II). The reports of the Bern I and Bern II workshops were provided for the consideration of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and the Subsidiary Body on Implementation.¹³

30. These initiatives contributed to the importance of cooperation and synergies between the biodiversity-related conventions being included in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.¹⁴

31. In its decision [15/13](#), the Conference of the Parties invited UNEP to build on the Bern Process and continue to strengthen cooperation and collaboration among biodiversity-related conventions, contributing to effective and efficient implementation of the Framework, by facilitating a process for cooperation among Parties to the relevant biodiversity-related conventions (para. 13). The Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary and encouraged Parties to actively engage in the Bern Process (para. 14).

32. Pursuant to that invitation, UNEP continued its efforts to strengthen cooperation among the conventions and organized a dedicated conference for this purpose. The Executive Secretary supported the preparation of the conference through the participation of the Secretariat in its organizing committee and at the preparatory Bogis-Bossey Expert Meeting.¹⁵ The Secretariat brought

¹³ The Report of the Consultation Workshop of Biodiversity-related Conventions on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, 10-12 June 2019 (Bern I), was provided to the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework at its first meeting (CBD/POST2020/WS/2019/6/2) and the report of the Second Consultation Workshop of Biodiversity-related Conventions on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, 18 January to 2 February 2021 (Bern II), was provided to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its third meeting (CBD/SBI/3/INF/29).

¹⁴ Section B of the Framework on its purpose, para. 6; and Section C on considerations for its implementation, para. 7 (c) on whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach and paragraph 7(q) on cooperation and synergies.

¹⁵ Bogis-Bossey Expert Meeting 2023: Workshop on Cooperation among the Biodiversity-related Conventions for the Implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in preparation for the Bern III Conference, organized

perspectives of work undertaken in the context of decisions [XIII/24](#) and [14/30](#), including the road map on enhancing synergies, to the development of the objectives and programme of the conference. This included building on experiences of the previous workshops and taking into account past or existing actions, tools, decisions and processes that support cooperation and synergies, including those under the Convention and other biodiversity-related conventions.

33. The Secretariat also supported UNEP in gaining the involvement of representatives of indigenous people and local communities, women, youth, subnational and local governments and the private sector, which led to valuable interactions at the conference on whole-of-society and whole-of-government approaches and provided greater visibility for the Bern Process. In follow-up to the conference, the Secretariat participated actively in a high-level side event about its outcomes held at the margins of the sixth session of the United Nations Environmental Assembly¹⁶ and is further supporting UNEP in disseminating the results of the conference.

34. The Bern III Conference on Cooperation among the Biodiversity-related Conventions for the Implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework was organized by UNEP with the support of the Government of Switzerland and held from 23 to 25 January 2024 in Bern. It was chaired by Clarisse Kehler Siebert from Sweden and Camila Isabel Zepeda Lizama from Mexico and brought together 133 conference participants, from 69 countries, including representatives of Parties and secretariats to 16 conventions,¹⁷ as well as stakeholders, organizations and individual experts.

35. The main goals of the conference were to identify opportunities to strengthen cooperation and collaboration among the various conventions in the implementation of the Framework at national and international levels; to share experience of cooperation and collaboration; and provide suggestions and conclusions on further steps that could be taken to strengthen these, recognizing and respecting the mandates of each of the conventions. Background material and preparatory briefings were provided by UNEP and the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre in preparation for the conference.¹⁸

36. At the conference, participants were encouraged to build on previous processes and information and to identify opportunities and propose actions in a timeline up to 2030. The Conference generated ideas for actions at global, regional and national levels which were consolidated by the Co-Chairs of the conference and presented in its report.¹⁹ These can be summarized as follows:

(a) Where a need has been identified, to enhance cooperation among the secretariats of relevant multilateral environmental agreements as a basis for sharing information and experience, planning activities, and communicating relevant decisions of governing bodies. Such cooperation could extend to briefing and engaging Parties to the relevant agreements;

(b) To establish a platform at the national level which brings together relevant focal points, government agencies, rights holders and stakeholders for effective updating, review and implementation of national biodiversity strategies and actions plans and enabling whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches;

by UNEP, 27–30 June 2023. Report available online at: https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/43140/Bogis-Bossey_Meeting_Report.pdf?sequence=3.

¹⁶ High-level side event MEAs Cooperation and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework - insights from the Bern III Conference held on 29 February 2024 at the margins of the sixth session of the United Nations Environmental Assembly.

¹⁷ A list of the conventions and agreements represented at the Conference is contained in the report of the Bern III Conference provided in CBD/SBI/4/INF/15.

¹⁸ See www.unep.org/events/conference/bern-iii-conference-cooperation-among-biodiversity-related-conventions. Materials include a [briefing note](#) on the conference and its outcomes. Revised and updated cross-mapping paper made available in CBD/SBI/INF/13.

¹⁹ Made available in CBD/SBI/4/INF/15.

(c) To contribute effectively as multilateral environmental agreements to the global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Framework to be conducted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its seventeenth and nineteenth meetings;²⁰

(d) To enhance outreach by multilateral environmental agreements, individually and collectively, on the benefits of cooperation and synergies, so as to increase understanding and share ideas and experiences and to communicate these in consistent ways;

(e) To include an agenda item on the implementation of the Framework at the meetings of the governing bodies of relevant multilateral environmental agreements;

(f) To continue to build on the Bern Process and keep the Bern III dynamic, spirit and network alive through activities such as webinars on key topics;

(g) To propose that the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its sixteenth meeting establishes an expert group or committee on synergies among multilateral environmental agreements and considers other ways to build on the issues discussed at Bern III;

(h) To use upcoming events as opportunities to enhance collaborative action. Events identified included the United Nations Environment Assembly and the meetings of the Conferences of the Parties to the Rio conventions to be held in 2024 which could be approached with aligned communications and draft decisions;

(i) To draw on the cross-mapping of multilateral environmental agreements against the targets of the Framework addressed by the conference as a basis for identifying opportunities for increased cooperation or identifying “champions” and contributors for particular targets. The cross-mapping may also inform cooperation at the national level (see CBD/SBI/4/INF/13);

(j) To consider how to most effectively establish groups of “partners” or “friends” of specific targets of the Framework, building on experience of the partnerships for Targets 2 and 3 and of groups, such as the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management;

(k) To make the mantra “collect once, use many times” a reality in monitoring and reporting at global and national levels through: increased alignment in use of indicators; further exploration of opportunities for harmonizing reporting; enhanced sharing of data and information; and the use of tools, such as the Data Reporting Tool (DaRT);

(l) To consider the most effective ways to review progress on the Bern III road map to 2030 and on other issues discussed, so that the many ideas contributed by the participants are not lost but are followed up in the most appropriate manner.

37. Issues that were not consolidated by the Co-Chairs but that could be the object of further consideration included a proposal to convene a “common Conference of the Parties” or high-level intergovernmental meeting on biodiversity in 2030 involving all biodiversity-related conventions, strengthening support at regional and subregional levels through regional networks and activity centres, and working collectively to ensure engagement of all stakeholders in the implementation of the multilateral environmental agreements and the Framework.

B. Provision of information and technical support on the Framework

38. One of the purposes of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework is to promote coherence, complementarity and to create opportunities for cooperation between the Convention and its Protocols, other conventions, relevant multilateral agreements and international institutions.²¹ In line with this, in paragraph 15 (a) of its decision [15/13](#), the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to identify, develop and provide information and technical support to help to encourage and assist other conventions and organizations in contributing to the implementation of

²⁰ CBD/SBI/4/4 and CBD/SBI/4/4/Add.2.

²¹ Decision [15/4](#), annex, para. 6.

the Framework, identify opportunities to cooperate to help achieve the goals and targets of the Framework and provide a list of relevant initiatives and action plans for review by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its fourth meeting.

39. As a means of promoting and strengthening cooperation, the Executive Secretary and representatives of the Secretariat participated in the meetings of other conventions, agreements and organizations to share information concerning the Framework and related decisions of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.²²

40. The Secretariat has developed guidance material on each of the 2030 targets of the Framework to introduce key terms, highlight some of the implications for national target setting and provide key points and guiding questions for consideration as part of national target-setting exercises. It also identifies the adopted indicators to monitor progress and resources that could assist with national target setting and implementation.²³

41. The Secretariat is in the process of improving the Convention's website and the clearing house mechanism to enhance the availability of the tools and guidance developed under the Convention and relevant tools and guidance developed under other processes and organizations. This includes further classifying and mapping the available information relating to the targets and other elements of the Framework, establishing and strengthening interoperability with external relevant knowledge bases and sources; and providing references and linkages to relevant initiatives and resources that are managed outside the Secretariat.²⁴

42. The Secretariat has initiated a compilation of initiatives and partnerships on implementation support²⁵ and is in the process of mapping cooperative activities, initiatives and partnerships against the targets of the Framework. It has also identified scientific and technical needs to support implementation for the consideration of the Subsidiary Body on Technical, Technological and Scientific Affairs at its twenty-sixth meeting.²⁶

43. To support coherent communication and messaging around the goals and targets of the Framework, the Secretariat has prepared a branding toolkit for the Framework. The Biodiversity Plan, which is publicly available for use in relevant communication materials.²⁷ The toolkit was developed in a consultative manner, including with the collaboration of the Biodiversity Communication Flotilla, which comprises representatives of the secretariats of other conventions and organizations.

C. Road map on enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions

44. Pursuant to paragraphs 15 (b) and 7 of decision [15/13](#) and further to progress reported in document [CBD/SBI/3/INF/32](#), key actions of the road map have continued to be implemented in complementarity with actions taken to enhance synergies and cooperation at the national level.

Enhanced cooperation and coordination mechanisms (key actions 1, 2, 3)

45. The Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions remains an important mechanism for cooperation between the convention secretariats. Cooperation and synergies have been integrated into several areas of work of other conventions.²⁸ Under the Convention on Biological Diversity,

²² Information is provided in CBD/SBI/4/INF/4.

²³ Available on the Convention website at: www.cbd.int/gbf/targets.

²⁴ See document [CBD/SBSTTA/26/3](#).

²⁵ Available on the Convention website at: www.cbd.int/cb/support.

²⁶ See documents [CBD/SBSTTA/26/3](#), [CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/15](#) and [CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/16](#).

²⁷ Available on the Convention website at: www.cbd.int/gbf/branding.

²⁸ Cooperation is discussed beyond items related to cooperation under several biodiversity-related conventions, including under the following issue areas: conservation issues (World Heritage Convention decision 44 COM 7.2); the role of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture within the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (International Treaty resolution 1/2023), as well as under other relevant conventions, for example: on Mercury and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity

they are addressed in areas of work, including the financial mechanism, mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting and review, capacity-building, resource mobilization, communication, education and public awareness and knowledge management, and generally in all work related to the Framework. Related documents are identified in the introduction of the present note and in the following sections.

46. The convention secretariats continued to enhance cooperation in areas of common interest by developing or updating cooperation agreements and bilateral or joint workplans. The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity is working with the Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands to prepare the sixth joint workplan of the two conventions²⁹ and is in the process of renewing its memorandum of cooperation with the Secretariat of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, and agreements with the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals and the International Plant Protection Convention.

Enhancing the management of information, knowledge, reporting, monitoring and indicators, and avoiding duplication (key actions 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 22)

47. Actions aimed to enhance the management of information, knowledge, national reporting, monitoring and indicators and avoid duplication among the conventions are the object of collaborative activities under various workstreams of the Convention and partnerships with other organizations and initiatives.

48. The Secretariat is a member of the steering committee of UNEP's project "Scaling Up Actions to Realize Synergies for Biodiversity".³⁰ The project supports several of the key actions of the road map and supports partnering organizations in enhancing coherence and complementarity of actions on knowledge management, and on the development of capacity on related issues at the regional and national levels.

49. The Secretariat participates in several technical working groups of the Multilateral Environmental Agreement Information and Knowledge Management Initiative (InforMEA) which supports its work to enhance interoperability of its platforms and share information with other secretariats. The Secretariat also collaborates with UNEP and other partners in the development and implementation of the Data Reporting Tool (DaRT). To further support national implementation, the Secretariat and partners developed and launched a Target Tracker platform for the Framework and an improved online reporting tool for revising or updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans in the clearing-house mechanism, which promotes cooperation, knowledge-sharing and information exchange between Parties.

50. The Secretariat is also collaborating with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) on its Biodiversity Knowledge Hub, which facilitates access to existing knowledge, tools and resources on biodiversity in the agriculture sectors to enhance countries' knowledge and capacity to implement the Framework, deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals and relevant food and agriculture-related goals.

Framework (Minamata Convention COP decision MC-5/17); on artisanal and small-scale gold mining (Minamata Convention COP decision MC-5/7); and on review of the financial mechanism (Minamata Convention COP decision MC-5/11).

²⁹ Notifications [2024-11](#) and [2024-20](#).

³⁰ The EU-GPGC project "Scaling Up Actions to Realize Synergies for Biodiversity", under the Environmental Treaties Programme, implemented in complementarity with the Environmental Treaties Programme - Realizing Synergies for Biodiversity project (Treaties I, 2017–2023) funded by European Union, Switzerland and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency. The project is designed for UNEP to support countries in increasing coherent implementation of multilateral environmental agreements and scale up synergies actions and tools, including interoperability between the Data Reporting Tool, Online Reporting System, Bioland and the clearing-house mechanism. The programme is extended to a second phase - Leveraging transformational change through coherent and synergistic implementation of Environmental Treaties (Treaties II) in the context of the triple planetary crisis for three years.

51. The Secretariat collaborates with the secretariat of the PANORAMA – Solutions for a Healthy Planet initiative, on capacity development and knowledge management to support the implementation of the Framework and support interoperability between the PANORAMA knowledge hub and the Bioland tool developed by the Secretariat.³¹

52. The draft knowledge management strategy to support the implementation of the Framework ([CBD/SBI/4/7](#) and [CBD/SBI/4/7/Add.2](#)) takes into account the need to continue collaboration with these and other initiatives. Among its objectives, the strategy aims to strengthen networks on knowledge management, and to enhance collaboration among biodiversity knowledge initiatives, tools and platforms.

53. With regard to cooperation on information tools and technology, the Secretariat provides access and support in the use of its in-house registration system, Kronos, to other multilateral environmental agreements and bodies, including the Ozone Secretariat, the Minamata Convention on Mercury, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species and the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on Plastic Pollution.

*Enhanced provision of capacity-building and guidance
(key actions 8, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24 and 25)*

54. Actions aimed at making existing guidance material on cooperation more widely known and readily available have also been pursued. The material prepared by UNEP, UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre and the Secretariat, such as the compendium of guidance on synergies on achieving synergies among biodiversity-related conventions at the national level,³² cross-mapping papers and others, have been built upon and made available to Parties, including under the Bern Process.

55. Further to key actions for the provision of guidance on synergies at the national level and dissemination of success stories and best practices, several decisions and resolutions of other conventions have called for increased collaboration on national biodiversity strategies and action plans across biodiversity-related conventions.³³ The Secretariat collaborates with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNEP and the Global Environment Facility (GEF) in the context of the Global Biodiversity Framework Early Action Support project, the NBSAP Accelerator Partnership, the NBSAP Forum and NBSAP Dialogues, which provide assistance and guidance to Parties on the steps needed to develop, implement and monitor national biodiversity strategies and action plans aligned with the Framework. Other tools supported by the Secretariat, such as Bioland, support countries in establishing their national clearing-house mechanisms and encourage synergies in implementation at the national level.

56. The operationalization of the global coordination entity of the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, which will promote cooperation with relevant initiatives supporting implementation of the Framework and with technical cooperation mechanisms led by other

³¹ More information is provided in [CBD/SBI/4/7/Add.3](#).

³² UNEP-WCMC. (2018). Compendium of guidance on achieving synergies among biodiversity-related conventions at the national level. Cambridge (United Kingdom), and updated under DaRT. Online: <https://dart.informea.org/compendia?f%5B0%5D=source:3>.

³³ In CBD decision 15/6, annex I, it is noted that national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) should promote synergies and planning across biodiversity-related conventions and MEAs (15/6, annex I); CITES resolution 18.03 adopted the objective that Parties support and enhance existing cooperative partnerships in order to achieve their identified objectives; CMS resolution 13.1 encourages Parties to include in their NBSAPs appropriate reference to other biodiversity-related conventions; ITPGRFA resolution 13/2022 invites contracting parties to ensure that the contributions of PGRFA are fully integrated and supported within NBSAPs; resolution XIV.6 of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands invites contracting Parties to support the mainstreaming of wetland ecosystem functions and the ecosystem services in NBSAPs; WHC decision 37 COM 5A requests States Parties to ensure their NBSAPs fully consider the importance of natural World Heritage sites.

multilateral environmental agreements and organizations, will also enhance capacity and guidance for coherent national implementation.³⁴

57. With regard to the provision of guidance on opportunities for a coordinated approach to funding, UNDP's Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) continues to support countries in identifying funding opportunities and bridging their national biodiversity finance gaps, including by providing free and open access to a catalogue of finance solutions.³⁵ The updated strategy for resource mobilization for the Framework to be considered by the Subsidiary Body at its present meeting ([CBD/SBI/4/5](#)) proposes to enable the strategy through increased cooperation and synergies with other conventions and multilateral agreements.

58. The Conference of the Parties continues to enable the incorporation of strategic priorities of other biodiversity-related conventions in its guidance to GEF, pursuant to its decision 15/15 ([CBD/SBI/4/6](#)). Through its integrated programmes and other aspects of its programming directions, GEF enables collaborative and efficient actions towards the targets of the Framework. Representatives of the other conventions served by GEF are invited to attend the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund Council meetings.

59. The long-term strategic framework for capacity-building and development to support nationally determined priorities for the implementation of the Framework adopted through decision [15/8](#), promotes coherence, efficiency and effectiveness of capacity-building at all levels ensuring alignment with initiatives that support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, which is of relevance to all biodiversity-related conventions and other multilateral environmental agreements. In line with this, the secretariats of the Rio Conventions are implementing a joint capacity-building initiative to strengthen the capacities of Parties to foster synergies in the implementation of the conventions and the Sustainable Development Goals at the national level.³⁶ Further updates and examples on the implementation of the strategic framework are provided in document [CBD/SBI/4/7/Add.3](#).

60. The above actions also contribute to the implementation of paragraph 11 of decision [15/13](#), which encourages Parties to implement the Convention and other conventions in a complementary manner, including in reviewing and updating their national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

Outreach (key action 27)

61. The Secretariat conducts joint outreach with the members of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions, including through joint statements and events and mutual support to their respective observances, and with the members of the Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions, including through the co-organization of the Rio Convention Pavilion. The Secretariat serves as the hub for the Biodiversity Communications Flotilla that enables collaboration between the secretariats of all related conventions and organizations. A pavilion for the Framework at the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties will provide further opportunities for joint outreach on the implementation of the Framework.

Observations regarding implementation of the road map on synergies

62. The implementation of some key actions of the road map on synergies would require dedicated resources and funding, for example key action 5, convening the Chairs of the scientific advisory bodies of biodiversity-related conventions, and key action 26, organizing workshops for the national focal points of biodiversity-related conventions on accessing funds in the biodiversity focal area of GEF. Further work on some key actions, such as on reporting and interoperability between platforms, would benefit from direction and resources from the governing bodies of other conventions. It is also

³⁴ Pursuant to decision 15/8 and see [CBD/SBI/4/7](#).

³⁵ Open source: [BIOFIN Catalogue of Finance Solutions | BIOFIN](#).

³⁶ See [CBD/SBI/4/7/Add.3](#)

important to note that several key actions have developed and been integrated under relevant areas of work of the Convention as outlined above.

IV. Implementation of other elements of decision 15/13

63. Towards the objectives of decision 15/13, the Secretariat has continued to maintain cooperation agreements with many partners and has recently renewed a Memorandum of Understanding with FAO (2023), signed a triparty Memorandum on Cooperation with the Secretariats of the Alpine and the Carpathian Conventions (2023), and established a Joint Initiative agreement with the Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests (2023) to foster collaboration for the timely achievement of the Global Forest Goals of the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017–2030 and the Framework. The Secretariat continues to facilitate exchanges between governments and stakeholders towards a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach in implementation by supporting the participation of representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth and other major stakeholder groups in its processes, including in meetings of expert and informal advisory groups under the Convention; activities related to cooperation and synergies among conventions, including the Bern Process, and at the margins of its meetings and other major meetings, such as the United Nations Environment Assembly; and in projects and programmes under the Convention.

64. Pursuant to paragraph 8 of decision 15/13, FAO and UNEP continue to liaise closely with the secretariats of the Rio conventions and relevant partner organizations in the implementation of the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration and in support of the Target 2 road map including the Framework for Ecosystem Restoration Monitoring, the Target 2 resource guide and capacity development programme.

United Nations Environment Management Group

65. In paragraph 9 of its decision 15/13, the Conference of the Parties invited the United Nations Environment Management Group to facilitate United Nations system-wide coordination towards the objectives of the Framework. The Secretariat continued to engage in the work of the Group, including its Issue Management Group on Biodiversity. The mandate of the Issue Management Group had been extended at the 28th Senior Officials Meeting in September 2022 in order to facilitate a coordinated approach to the implementation of the Framework, and was further extended at the 29th Senior Officials Meeting held in October 2023.³⁷ At its 29th meeting, in the light of the convening of the Conferences of the Parties of the Rio Conventions in 2024, the Senior Officials also decided to organize a dialogue series on strengthening action to address the drivers of environmental change underlying the three Conventions, as well as other conventions on pollution issues to address in an effective and synergistical manner the planetary crisis of climate change, nature loss, desertification, drought and pollution.

Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

66. In paragraph 15 (c) of its decision 15/13, the Conference of the Parties requested the Secretariat to continue working with the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the Permanent Forum on People of African Descent on topics related to biodiversity and traditional knowledge. The Executive Secretary participated in the twenty-second and twenty-third sessions of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (2023 and 2024) and briefed the Forum on the work of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Intersessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention at its twelfth meeting and preparations for the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

67. The Chairperson and members of the Permanent Forum participated in the twelfth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Intersessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention, including in the in-depth dialogue on “The role of languages in the intergenerational

³⁷ The report is available at: https://unemg.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Table-of-actions-SOM-29_Final-.pdf

transmission of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices” and in providing an introduction to agenda item 8 on recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

68. Pursuant to paragraph 16 of decision 15/13, the Secretariat and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization are developing a workplan to advance the Joint Programme of Work on the Links between Biological and Cultural Diversity. Together with the International Union for Conservation of Nature they will support the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity in the preparation for the Nature and Culture Summit to be held at the margins of the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

World Health Organization

69. Pursuant to paragraph 17 of decision 15/13, the Secretariat has exchanged information with the World Health Organization on relevant processes and experience under the Convention and the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing and provided inputs to its negotiation processes upon request.³⁸

Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction Agreement

70. The Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction ([BBNJ Agreement](#)) adopted on 19 June 2023, includes references to the Convention on Biological Diversity and its implementation will support the achievement of the goals and targets of the Framework in areas beyond national jurisdiction. The Secretariat is collaborating with the interim secretariat of the Agreement in this regard.

V. Conclusions

71. The work conducted through cooperation between the various conventions, multilateral agreements, international organizations and initiatives reported in the present note supports the implementation of the Framework in a more efficient and effective manner and promotes coherence and complementarity between them.

72. Among other indicators and elements of success in enhancing cooperation, the following may be highlighted: the increasing number of instruments and organizations that recognize the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and consider its goals and targets in their decisions and strategies (section II of this note); the growing engagement of conventions, other agreements, international organizations and Parties in cooperation processes and initiatives, such as the Bern Process; the availability of tools and resources that support Parties to consider synergies when developing their national biodiversity strategies and action plans and reporting on implementation; the engagement of United Nations entities in biodiversity-related initiatives, such as Issue Management Group on Biodiversity and the United Nations Common Approach on Biodiversity; and the participation and engagement of new and additional stakeholders and organizations in initiatives to strengthen synergies and cooperation.

73. This work also supports the expected outcomes of the Secretariat’s results-based programme of work³⁹ that:

(a) Through the Convention and its Protocols, the international community increasingly converges on common and integrated gender-sensitive approaches to biodiversity conservation,

³⁸ Further information on cooperation with the World Health Organization in relation to access to genetic resources and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of their utilization will be provided in a document prepared for the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization at its fifth meeting.

³⁹ As outlined in [CBD/COP/15/7](#).

sustainable use and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources;

(b) Through the application of the global biodiversity framework, national implementation of the Convention and its Protocols for improved status of biodiversity is enhanced;

(c) Awareness and action to conserve, sustainably use and share the benefits of biodiversity is enhanced at all levels and across sectors of society;

(d) Regular review and assessment contribute to adaptive management and progressive enhancement of the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols.

VI. Recommendation

74. The Subsidiary Body on Implementation may wish to adopt a recommendation along the following lines:

The Subsidiary Body on Implementation

Recommends that the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting consider adopting a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decisions XIII/24 of 17 December 2016, 14/30 of 29 November 2018, and 15/13 of 19 December 2022 on cooperation with other conventions and international organizations as well as its decision 15/4 of 19 December 2022 by which the Conference of the Parties adopted the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,

Reaffirming the importance of cooperation among all relevant conventions, organizations and initiatives to implement and monitor progress in the implementation of the Framework, in a manner respectful of their respective mandates, and to enable inclusive and transformative change needed to reach the 2030 mission of the Framework,

Welcoming the work of other conventions and organizations to enhance cooperation, including through the decisions of their governing bodies recognizing, welcoming or endorsing the Framework,

Welcoming also the work of the Environment Management Group in promoting a United Nations system-wide contribution to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,

Welcoming further the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Environment Programme undertaken so far to support the achievement of Target 2 of the Framework,

Noting with appreciation the support provided by the Government of Switzerland and the leadership provided by the United Nations Environment Programme in the Bern Process, in the organization of the Bern III Conference and follow-up activities,

Noting also with appreciation the work of the Co-Chairs of the Conference and the active participation of representatives of Parties to the conventions and multilateral agreements that participated in the Conference,

1. *Welcomes* the decisions of the governing bodies of other conventions and organizations recognizing, welcoming or endorsing the Kunming-Montreal Global

Biodiversity Framework¹ and of the work under many of these to align their strategies with the Framework;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the initiatives of United Nations agencies to develop tools and guidance on biodiversity and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;

3. *Notes* that the Carpathian Biodiversity Framework adopted by the Conference of the Parties of the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians at its seventh meeting could serve as a model for aligning regional with global biodiversity commitments and actions;

4. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Environment Programme in collaboration with the Rio Conventions and other relevant partners to continue the implementation of the Target 2 roadmap² in consultation with Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, and relevant stakeholders;

5. *Invites* the United Nations Environment Programme to further build on the Bern Process and continue to support cooperation and collaboration among biodiversity-related conventions, contributing to the effective and efficient implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;

6. *Encourages* Parties to consider the report of the Bern III Conference and convey its conclusions to relevant meetings and processes under relevant conventions and organizations, including under the Convention on Biological Diversity;³

7. *Encourages* Parties to further engage in the Bern process on cooperation among Parties to the various biodiversity-related conventions, contributing to the effective and efficient implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;

8. *Invites* Parties to the Convention that are also members of the United Nations Forum on Forest to consider, as appropriate, the alignment of forest-related commitments and actions in their national biodiversity strategies and action plans and voluntary national contribution towards the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017–2030;

9. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to:

(a) Further support cooperation among the related conventions and organizations, including biodiversity-related conventions, the Rio conventions, chemicals and wastes conventions, and other relevant multilateral environmental agreements, including through joint activities and programmes;

(b) Continue to collaborate in the integration of cooperation and synergies under the programmes of work and cross-cutting issues of the Convention and report on these at the next meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation;

(c) Collaborate with the secretariats of other conventions and the United Nations Environment Programme in monitoring/following up the implementation of the outcomes of Bern III Conference and in the Bern process;

(d) Collaborate with the United Nations Forum on Forests and within the Collaborative Partnership on Forests in order to support alignment in the implementation of the United Nations Strategic Plan for Forests 2017–2030 and the Framework;

¹ A list that builds on the information contained in paragraph 7 of the present note (CBD/SBI/4/10) and is up to date at the time of the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties would be appended to the decision.

² www.fao.org/national-forest-monitoring/areas-of-work/restoration-monitoring/target-2-roadmap/en/.

³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

(e) Report on its future cooperation activities in support of implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.
