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Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity
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Item 8 of the provisional agenda*
Resource mobilization and financial mechanism

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Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. The present note reports on intersessional activities pertaining to resource mobilization (sect. II) and the financial mechanism (sect. III) undertaken by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its sixth and seventh meetings and by the Secretariat.

2. At both meetings, the Subsidiary Body considered resource mobilization and the financial mechanism as separate agenda sub-items and adopted recommendations 6/1 and 7/2 on resource mobilization and recommendations 6/2 and 7/3 on the financial mechanism. The elements of a draft decision contained in those recommendations were consolidated into two separate draft decisions, one for each of the two agenda sub-items, for further consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth meeting. The two consolidated draft decisions will be included in the compilation of draft decisions contained in document CBD/COP/17/2.

3. As will be explained in section II.A below, recommendation 6/1 on resource mobilization contained requests to the Secretariat which led to a number of suggested amendments to the elements of a draft decision set out in that recommendation. The suggested amendments, which are detailed in section IV below, will be included in the aforementioned compilation of draft decisions.

II. Resource mobilization

4. In its decision 16/34 (para. 7), the Conference of the Parties adopted the strategy for resource mobilization for the period 2025–2030 and recalled its decision to keep the implementation of the strategy under review at each of its meetings, starting at the present meeting, through the global stocktake. Also in decision 16/34 (para. 19), the Conference of the Parties decided to implement Articles 21 and 39 of the Convention on Biological Diversity and address the global biodiversity finance gap by 2030 by (a) establishing the permanent arrangement for the financial mechanism envisioned under Article 21; and (b) assessing and improving the mobilization of finance from all sources.

* CBD/COP/17/1/Rev.1.

5. In paragraphs 22 and 23 of the same decision, the Conference of the Parties established intersessional processes and road maps extending until its nineteenth meeting for the implementation of the two tracks mentioned above. Several tasks, detailed below, were to be considered by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation before the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and several requests, also detailed below, were made to the Executive Secretary, including to support consideration of those tasks. A progress report on the tasks and requests is provided in the remainder of the present section.

A. Tasks taken up by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its sixth meeting

6. In subparagraph 26 (b) of decision 16/34, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to commission studies on the following topics: (a) the relationship between debt sustainability and the implementation of the Convention; (b) how the guidance on safeguards in biodiversity finance mechanisms adopted in decisions XII/3 and 14/15 had been implemented, identifying good practices and lessons learned, as well as opportunities for improving implementation of the guidance; and (c) the relationship between biodiversity and climate finance.

7. At its sixth meeting, the Subsidiary Body on Implementation considered drafts of those three studies and the preliminary findings and adopted recommendation 6/1, including elements of a draft decision for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth meeting.

8. In paragraph 3 of that recommendation, the Subsidiary Body requested the Executive Secretary to: extend the deadline for a peer review of the draft studies to 20 May 2026; finalize the studies and submit them to the Conference of the Parties for consideration at its seventeenth meeting; and include in its progress report for the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties any suggested amendments to the draft decision that would result from insights contained in the final versions of the studies.[1]

9. Further to those requests: the deadline for peer review was extended through notifications Nos. 2026-025, 2026-026 and 2026-027; a total of 32 reviews of the study related to climate finance, 30 reviews of the study related to debt sustainability and 26 reviews of the study related to safeguards were received with appreciation; the three studies were revised accordingly and their final versions will be made available to the present meeting as information documents; and based on a review of the final versions of the studies, suggested amendments to the draft decision contained in recommendation 6/1 are provided in section IV below and will be included in the aforementioned compilation of draft decisions.

B. Tasks taken up by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its seventh meeting

10. In paragraph 24 of decision 16/34, the Conference of the Parties requested that the Subsidiary Body on Implementation consider the initial elements referred to in the road maps provided in subparagraphs 22 (a) and 23 (a) of the decision, further discuss opportunities for broadening the contributor base and develop a draft decision and that it report on progress at the seventeenth meeting. Pursuant to the requests, the Subsidiary Body at its seventh meeting considered notes by the Secretariat that covered those tasks,[2] as well as the other remaining tasks listed in decision 16/34 concerning:

(a) A summary of the main insights arising from the review of the strategy for resource mobilization (further to para. 7 and subpara. 25 (a) of decision 16/34);

(b) Draft elements for further developing the criteria for the institutional structure to operate the financial mechanism, taking into consideration the compilation of views contained in annex II to decision 16/34 (further to subpara. 22 (a) and para. 24 of that decision);

[1] Relevant paragraphs of the draft decision were kept in abeyance pending the finalization of the three studies.
[2] See CBD/SBI/7/3 and the addenda thereto, as well as the associated information documents.

(c) Identified impediments to the effectiveness of global biodiversity finance and elements for its further enhancement (further to subpara. 23 (a) and para. 24 of decision 16/34);

(d) Proposals for the best periodicity for the issuance of notifications for updating the list of developed country Parties and other Parties that voluntarily assume the obligations of developed country Parties, in accordance with Article 20 (2) of the Convention, and opportunities for broadening the contributor base (further to paras. 18 and 24 of decision 16/34).

11. Further to subparagraph 25 (b) of decision 16/34, the results of a study on how to strengthen the tracking of and reporting on the various sources of biodiversity finance were made available in an information document to the seventh meeting of the Subsidiary Body.[3] Relevant conclusions from the study were reflected in a pre-session document on identified impediments to the effectiveness of global biodiversity finance.[4]

12. Based on the above-mentioned considerations, the Subsidiary Body at its seventh meeting adopted recommendation 7/2, including elements of a draft decision for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth meeting.

13. In paragraph 3 of that recommendation, the Subsidiary Body requested the Secretariat to make available to the Conference of the Parties, at its seventeenth meeting, the non-exhaustive list of areas of convergence and divergence related to opportunities for broadening the contributor base, identified by the friends of the co-chairs of the contact group on resource mobilization at the seventh meeting of the Subsidiary Body. That list will therefore be made available as an information document to the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth meeting.

14. In paragraph 2 of recommendation 7/2, the Subsidiary Body requested the Secretariat to provide an updated progress report on the requests contained in decision 16/34. The present section responds to that request.

C. Other requests in decision 16/34

15. In subparagraph 26 (a) of decision 16/34, the Conference of the Parties requested the Secretariat, subject to the availability of financial resources, to facilitate an international dialogue with ministers of environment and finance from developed and developing countries to accelerate the achievement of Target 19 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

16. Pursuant to that request and with the generous financial and logistic support of the Government of Armenia in partnership with the Coalition of Finance Ministers for Climate Action and the Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE)), a high-level dialogue between ministers of finance and ministers of environment is planned to take place in Yerevan on 27 October 2026 as part of the high-level segment of the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The session, which will bring together ministers of finance and ministers of environment to enable them to build a shared understanding of how public finance and fiscal policy can be aligned with national and global biodiversity goals, will provide the space for a candid high-level exploration of the following issues: how nature-related risks and opportunities can be reflected in macrofiscal planning; how green budgeting can create fiscal space for socioeconomic development; and how ministries of finance and ministries of environment can work together on delivery.

17. Since the adoption of decision 16/34, the Secretariat has undertaken other initiatives to respond to these needs. The Secretariat initiated collaboration with the Coalition of Finance Ministers for Climate Action and the United Nations Environment Programme, with a view to holding such dialogues at the margins of meetings of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund

[3] CBD/SBI/7/INF/20. Given its relevance to the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, the study was considered in the context of the updating of the metadata for the headline indicators and made available to the twenty-eighth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice as a reference document.

[4] CBD/SBI/7/3/Add.4.

(IMF), starting possibly with the meetings to be held in Bangkok in the third quarter of 2026. The first of the dialogues was designed around the forthcoming nature guide, which is currently under development by the Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE), with a view to providing support to ministries of finance in incorporating nature-related risks and opportunities in macrofiscal planning. Despite efforts by the Secretariat, however, no funding could be mobilized to facilitate the meeting as intended, at the planned time and in line with the World Bank and IMF meetings in Bangkok. At the time of the preparation of the present document, a meeting between ministers of finance on nature finance was nevertheless scheduled to be held through collaboration with the Coalition of Finance Ministers for Climate Action at the margins of the meetings in Bangkok.

18. In subparagraph 26 (c) of decision 16/34, the Executive Secretary was requested, subject to the availability of financial resources, to integrate a platform on the clearing-house mechanism, in line with the knowledge management strategy to support the implementation of the Framework, for the purpose of exchanging information on best practices and lessons learned on the implementation of the Framework, in particular for Goal D and Targets 14, 15, 18 and 19, and of the strategy for resource mobilization. Technical work in that regard has been finalized and, further to the invitation to submit relevant information, communicated through notification No. 2025-148, 20 submissions had been received as of 5 August 2026, which have been made available through the platform.

III. Financial mechanism

19. In accordance with Article 21 of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Article 28 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and Article 25 of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization, as well as the memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties and the Council of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) contained in decision III/8, the Conference of the Parties has kept under regular review the implementation of four subject areas related to the financial mechanism: (a) accountability based on a report of the GEF Council; (b) guidance on policy, strategy, programme priorities and eligibility criteria for access to and utilization of financial resources; (c) periodic review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism; and (d) determination of funding requirements. Guidance on policy, strategy, programme priorities and eligibility criteria for access to and utilization of financial resources has evolved to include a four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities in anticipation of the next replenishment period of the GEF Trust Fund, and building also on inputs from biodiversity-related conventions, and a consolidation of the existing guidance determined by the Conference of the Parties at its previous meetings, as well as additional guidance arising out of the ongoing in-session negotiations under the Convention and its Protocols.

A. Tasks taken up by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its sixth meeting

20. Pursuant to paragraphs 25 and 30 of decision 16/33 and based on documentation prepared by the Secretariat,[5] the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its sixth meeting considered areas (c) and (d) detailed directly above and adopted recommendation 6/2. That recommendation contains elements of a draft decision, including the terms of reference for a full assessment of the amount of funds that are necessary for the tenth replenishment period of the GEF Trust Fund (July 2030–June 2034) (annex I) and the terms of reference for the seventh quadrennial review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism (annex II).

B. Tasks taken up by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its seventh meeting

21. Pursuant to paragraph 21 of decision 16/33 and based on documentation prepared by the Secretariat as well as the preliminary draft of the report of GEF for the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties,[6] the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its seventh meeting considered

[5] CBD/SBI/6/3/Rev.1.

[6] See CBD/SBI/7/4, CBD/SBI/7/4/Add.1 and CBD/SBI/7/INF/13.

areas (a) and (b) detailed above and adopted recommendation 7/3. That recommendation contains elements of a draft decision in which guidance is provided to GEF and the Secretariat is requested to prepare a draft four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities related to the use of GEF resources for biodiversity for the period from July 2030 to June 2034.

22. The report of the GEF Council for the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties is available in document CBD/COP/17/5/Add.1.

IV. Suggested amendments to the elements of a draft decision contained in recommendation 6/1 of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation

23. The suggested amendments would apply to paragraphs 5 to 8 of the draft decision contained in recommendation 6/1, on resource mobilization. The paragraphs are reproduced below, with text from recommendation 6/1 greyed out, new text against a plain background and deletions in strike-through.

> 5. *Invites* Parties and other Governments, as appropriate and in line with national circumstances, priorities and capabilities, in accordance with national legislation, in line with section C of the Framework and taking into account the context-specific nature of the relationship between debt sustainability and implementation of the Convention:
>
> (a) To assess the relevance and implications of, and explore further opportunities for, applying debt-related instruments to the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, taking into account inter alia, debt sustainability, fiscal and market conditions, institutional capacity, governance and instrument design, and the way that ~~they~~ such instruments could be addressed in national biodiversity finance plans or similar instruments and planning frameworks;
>
> (b) To enhance, where biodiversity-related fiscal and economic risks are relevant at the national level, the integration of relevant biodiversity considerations into national debt management strategies and national fiscal and debt-sustainability assessments, and to explore alternative debt management pathways that do not result in financial flows harmful to biodiversity;
>
> (c) To explore other opportunities, where relevant, for applying debt-related ~~financial~~ fiscal instruments ~~for biodiversity,~~ to support biodiversity implementation, taking into account national contexts and circumstances;
>
> 6. *Encourages* relevant international or regional organizations and initiatives, such as the Biodiversity Finance Initiative of the United Nations Development Programme, to support the activities described in paragraph 5 above, including by identifying good practices and lessons learned and by supporting efforts to improve their visibility;
>
> 7. *Invites* Parties, as appropriate and in line with national circumstances, priorities and capabilities, and in accordance with national legislation, and other governments at all levels, business organizations and other stakeholders, as well as national, regional and international development banks and other financial institutions, as applicable and in line with their respective mandates:
>
> (a) To take the voluntary guidelines on safeguards in biodiversity financing mechanisms[7] into account when selecting, designing and implementing biodiversity financing mechanisms and when developing instrument-specific safeguards for them, with a view to harnessing their positive effects in an effective manner and to avoiding or mitigating negative effects, while promoting coherence and synergies with existing safeguards frameworks and

[7] Decision XII/3, annex III.

standards used by international and national financial institutions, and taking into account, as appropriate, relevant non-governmental initiatives and tools;

(b) To take the voluntary guidelines on safeguards in biodiversity financing mechanisms into account in the context of the ongoing review and harmonization of safeguards standards, as appropriate, including through alignment with relevant national legal and regulatory frameworks, with a view to facilitating their effective implementation at the national and local levels;

(c) To provide and strengthen capacity-building and development for the effective application of safeguards standards**,** as appropriate;

(d) To share relevant case studies, good practices, lessons learned and associated guidance materials through the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention;

8. *Invites* Parties, as appropriate and in line with national circumstances, priorities and capabilities, in accordance with national legislation, and other governments at all levels, the governing bodies of relevant environmental agreements, business organizations and other stakeholders, as well as national, regional and international development banks and other financial institutions, as applicable and in line with respective mandates, to continue to optimize the co-benefits and synergies of biodiversity and climate finance[, while avoiding duplication of work between convention secretariats and respecting their various mandates,] by:

(a) Capitalizing on emerging opportunities to create or scale up biodiversity synergies with climate finance-related actions;

(b) Integrating, or improving the integration of, biodiversity considerations into international and domestic climate finance mechanisms and policies, by:

(i) Strengthening intersectoral coordination at the national level;

(ii) Implementing and advancing social and environmental safeguards policies that reduce and prevent the potentially harmful impacts of climate-related programmes, projects and activities on biodiversity;

(iii) Setting goals, designing policies, programmes and projects and taking actions with biodiversity co-benefits in the delivery of climate finance, such as programmes, projects and activities that support climate change mitigation and adaptation, through nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches, as well as other appropriate approaches consistent with the objectives of the Convention;

(iv) Developing and applying, during the project planning and preparation stage, as appropriate, compatible indicators, metrics and reporting approaches to assess biodiversity outcomes and co-benefits within climate-finance policies, programmes and projects;

(c) Significantly enhancing the understanding and transparency of accounting and reporting in relation to financial contributions as part of the efforts to optimize co-benefits and synergies, including, as appropriate, by improving the compatibility of biodiversity- and climate-finance tracking systems and avoiding double-counting, in line with the purview of the respective multilateral environmental agreements.

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