

## THEMATIC WORKSHOP ON MARINE AND COASTAL BIODIVERSITY FOR THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

Montreal, Canada, 13-15 November 2019

### CONCEPT NOTE

The global community will have a critical opportunity in 2020 to set the world on a path to a **sustainable future for the global ocean**. The year 2020 will host a number of major global policy events for the oceans, in particular the 2020 United Nations Ocean Conference and the United Nations Biodiversity Conference.

As 2020 marks the deadline for the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, a new global framework for biodiversity is needed to carry the global community into the future with a view to achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity. The fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in 2020, is expected to adopt a new post-2020 global biodiversity framework as a follow-up to the current Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. It is essential that this framework incorporate key priorities and objectives for the marine and coastal biodiversity, as well as lessons learned both from the Convention on Biological Diversity, other multilateral agreements and international processes. In addition, there is a need for focused input from stakeholders on what the framework should entail for marine and coastal issues if a sustainable future is to be achieved for marine and coastal biodiversity and the ecosystem functions and services that it provides.

Another key 2020 milestone for the ocean is the 2020 United Nations Ocean Conference. The first Conference, held in 2017, was a historic event, catalysing major commitments and generating significant momentum for the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 14 (oceans and seas). As a follow-up to the Conference, the Communities of Ocean Action (COA) were formed in order to maintain this momentum and focus on the many ambitious and wide-ranging voluntary commitments announced in the context of the Conference. These Communities can play a key role in engaging the views, perspectives and experiences of a broad range of members of the ocean community and in bringing forth the knowledge and information on key lessons learned, needs and priorities for the future of the marine and coastal biodiversity. As the United Nations Ocean Conference nears, these Communities provide a key platform for synthesizing valuable input to the SDG 14 and CBD processes, including the global biodiversity framework.

The Thematic Workshop on Marine and Coastal Biodiversity for the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework will be convened in Montreal, Canada, from 13 to 15 November 2019 with financial support from the Governments of Sweden and the Republic of Korea. The workshop is being convened in conjunction with the 2020 Ocean Pathways Week (11-15 November 2019).

During the 2020 Ocean Pathways Week, the SDG 14 Communities of Ocean Action on Marine and Coastal Ecosystems Management, Coral Reefs and Mangroves (COA) will meet to highlight experiences and lessons learned from the COA activities, and discuss their potential roles and outline key elements and issues for the consideration in the 2020 United Nations Ocean Conference, including the implementation of its outcomes.

The CBD Thematic Workshop on Marine and Coastal Biodiversity for the global biodiversity framework is intended to identify potential elements related to marine and coastal biodiversity for inclusion in the framework and will serve as an input into the CBD discussions, in particular the negotiations of the Working Group on the Post-2020.

These meetings will overlap on 13 November 2019 to facilitate cross-fertilization of experiences and to provide an avenue for the COAs to provide an input directly to the CBD thematic discussions on marine and coastal biodiversity for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

The expert workshop will also provide linkages to other post-2020 thematic workshops, in particular on ecosystem restoration (6-8 November 2019) and area-based conservation measures (1-3 December 2019).

**2020 Ocean Pathways Week**

<b>Monday 11 Nov</b>	<b>Tuesday 12 Nov</b>	<b>Wednesday 13 Nov</b>	<b>Thursday 14 Nov</b>	<b>Friday 15 Nov</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Advancing Ocean Action Towards SDG 14: Leveraging Synergies for Marine and Coastal Ecosystems, Mangroves and Coral Reefs”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Advancing Ocean Action Towards SDG 14: Leveraging Synergies for Marine and Coastal Ecosystems, Mangroves and Coral Reefs”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Advancing Ocean Action Towards SDG 14: Leveraging Synergies for Marine and Coastal Ecosystems, Mangroves and Coral Reefs” (all participants in the Post-2020 Workshop are invited to attend)</li> <li>• Thematic Workshop on Marine and Coastal Biodiversity for the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (all participants of COA meeting are invited to attend)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thematic Workshop on Marine and Coastal Biodiversity for the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thematic Workshop on Marine and Coastal Biodiversity for the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework</li> </ul>

**Key principles**

Key principles are as follows:

- (a) Discussions among Parties and stakeholders in line with the principles of transparency and inclusiveness agreed at the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
- (b) The thematic workshop is an expert meeting aiming at providing the Co-Chairs of the Working Group on Post-2020 with concrete and constructive inputs for consideration in their future work on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Workshop does not constitute a negotiating process but will serve to seek areas of convergence;
- (c) The format and overall approaches used for previous regional and thematic consultations/workshops will be followed;
- (d) Build on the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, lessons learned from their implementation and current state of the art in this area of work while also identifying issues that are not included in the Aichi Biodiversity Targets;
- (e) Consider interlinkages between terrestrial ecosystem restoration on coastal and marine ecosystems;
- (f) Provide outcomes that can be further discussed at the thematic expert workshop on area-based conservation measures;

- (g) Being guided by relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties;
- (h) Involve and consider alignment with strategies and approaches in other multilateral agreements and relevant international processes;
- (i) Bringing a reasonable number of Parties (50-75) balanced among CBD regions (equally 10-15 Parties per region). Following existing practices under the Convention for workshops involving important stakeholders in meetings, and with financial support as per CBD protocol for eligible Parties and representatives of major stakeholder groups (indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth, civil society);
- (j) To be organized in the period before the second meeting of the Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework;
- (k) Consideration of marine and coastal issues within a comprehensive framework addressing all three objectives of the Convention;
- (l) Conducted in English;
- (m) Two co-leads chosen from among Parties will be identified. They will be engaged in this issue from the preparation of the workshop to the delivery of the outcomes of the workshop to the Co-Chairs of the Working Group on Post-2020 and throughout the post-2020 process.

### **Expected outcome**

Concrete proposals to be considered in the further development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. To the extent feasible and appropriate, these proposals will cover the different elements of the framework with particular focus on goals, targets, indicators, baselines.

### **Elements of a provisional agenda**

- Opening
- Background on CBD post-2020 process
  - presentation by Co-Chairs of WG2020
- Current and future trends
  - Presentations highlighting findings of recent major cross-cutting reports/assessments on the state of the ocean (i.e., GBO-5, IPBES, IPCC)
  - Plenary discussion and Q&A
- Taking stock of lessons learned
  - Presentations and break-out discussions focused on reviewing lessons from the design implementation of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets
- Achieving the 2050 vision
  - Break-out groups to discuss what the 2050 vision should be for different marine ecosystems
- Visioning 2030
  - Break-out group discussions to identify where different marine ecosystems need to be in order to be on track to achieve 2050 vision
- Potential substantive elements on marine and coastal biodiversity for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework
  - Break-out group (six stations supported by a facilitator and a note-taker) discussions on specific potential elements, based on Aichi Targets and linked to CBD marine decisions, including on:
    - Exploitation of marine living resources
    - Marine pollution

- Important marine ecosystems
    - Marine ecosystem restoration
    - Area-based planning and conservation measures
    - Marine and coastal species
  - Considerations and needs related to monitoring and review of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework
    - Break-out groups to discuss issues related to monitoring and review:
      - Baseline information on different aspects of marine biodiversity/ecosystems
      - Indicators for potential post-2020 goals/targets
      - Data needs to support monitoring and review of progress
  - Review of key points raised in the workshop.
  - Following the process of regional consultations, a morning special session is organized on Day 3 on a few identified items for further in-depth discussion on the basis of proposals from Day 2 (in small groups).
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