



Convention on Biological Diversity

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Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities

First meeting

Panama City, 27–30 October 2025

Agenda item 9

Adoption of the report

Report of the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities on its first meeting

Summary

The Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities held its first meeting in Panama City, from 27 to 30 October 2025. It adopted six recommendations, which are contained in section I, while the account of the proceedings of the meeting is contained in section II.

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I. Recommendations adopted by the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities

1/1. In-depth dialogue on thematic and cross-cutting issues under Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity related to indigenous peoples and local communities

The Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities

Recommends that, at its seventeenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopt a decision along the following line:

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling decision [16/34](#) of 27 February 2025,

Noting that, at its first meeting, the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity¹ Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities held an in-depth dialogue on the theme “Strategies for mobilizing resources to ensure the availability of and access to financial resources and funding, as well as other means of implementation, including capacity-building, development and technical support for indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth, to support the full implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework”,²

Noting also that element 8 of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity related to indigenous peoples and local communities to 2030³ is aimed at promoting the implementation of the relevant targets of the Framework, in particular by supporting access, including direct access, to funding for indigenous peoples and local communities in the context of national policies, plans, projects, programmes or systems, as appropriate,

Stressing that the implementation of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention related to indigenous peoples and local communities should follow [approaches][a human rights-based approach,] in line with section C of the Framework [and in accordance with national legislation [and international instruments]],

1. *Encourages* Parties, and invites other relevant actors, considering specific challenges faced by developing countries, to take into account the outcomes of the in-depth dialogue held at the first meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities:

(a) To consider establishing or strengthening, in line with element 8 of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity related to indigenous peoples and local communities to 2030, mechanisms and strategies for the mobilization of adequate, predictable and easily accessible financial resources from all sources for indigenous peoples and local communities, including women, youth and persons with disabilities among them;

(b) To support and strengthen the self-determined priorities of indigenous peoples and local communities, identify gaps, promote good practices and further explore options for the

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

² Decision [15/4](#), annex.

³ Decision [16/4](#), annex.

development or improvement of policies, mechanisms and other appropriate initiatives and measures to achieve the targets of the Framework;

2. *Invites* funding providers and initiatives:

(a) To support the identification and implementation of finance solutions that enhance the mobilization of resources to support indigenous peoples and local communities;

(b) To consider establishing or enhancing simplified procedures and dedicated funding windows to facilitate direct access by indigenous peoples and local communities, including women, youth and persons with disabilities among them, in a transparent, fair, accountable and equitable manner, taking into account the needs and priorities of indigenous peoples and local communities, in accordance with national circumstances and legislation;

3. *Decides* that the next in-depth dialogue shall address Task 7.1 of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention related to indigenous peoples and local communities in accordance with the Framework and that its theme shall be “Development of guidelines, in collaboration with the relevant United Nations bodies, as well as indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth among them, to contribute to the enhancement of the contributions of indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth among them, to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in line with a human right-based approach, consistent with relevant international obligations and instruments”.

1/2. **Modus operandi of the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities**

The Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities

Recommends that, at its seventeenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopt a decision along the following line:

The Conference of the Parties,

Acknowledging the unique role of indigenous peoples and local communities [and of people of African descent, comprising collectives embodying traditional lifestyles][, including women and youth among them,][, as appropriate, in line with national priorities and circumstances,] their innovations, practices and traditional knowledge [and technologies] in the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity⁴ and its Protocols and of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,⁵ and their contributions to the work of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Intersessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and recognizing the need for the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in the work of the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities established by decision [16/5](#) of 1 November 2024,

1. [Adopts] the modus operandi of the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities annexed to the present decision;

[2. *Invites* the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body on Implementation to support the work of the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities by further incorporating and promoting the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention related to indigenous peoples and local communities to 2030;⁶]

3 *Encourages* Parties, [in accordance with national priorities and circumstances,] and invites other Governments and relevant organizations, to continue and enhance their support for the full and effective participation of representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities [and of people of African descent, comprising collectives embodying traditional lifestyles][, as appropriate, in line with national priorities and circumstances,] in the meetings of [the subsidiary bodies and, as applicable, their governing structures][the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, the Subsidiary Body on Implementation and the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities], including [by ensuring that the host countries deliver entry visas to all participants designated by Parties and national organizations of indigenous peoples and local communities to attend official meetings held under the Convention, and] through contributions to the Special Voluntary Trust Fund for Facilitating the Participation of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities.

⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

⁵ Decision [15/4](#), annex.

⁶ Decision [16/4](#), annex.

[Annex**Proposed modus operandi of the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities****I. Functions**

1. The Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity⁷ Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities shall perform its functions under the guidance of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meetings of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety⁸ and 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 to the Convention on Biological Diversity⁹ for items referred to it by them. The Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities shall work in collaboration with the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body on Implementation and carry out its functions taking into account their roles, functions and mandates, with a view to ensuring complementarity with their work and applying procedures that avoid overlaps. The functions of the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities are:

(a) To promote, support and review the implementation of the work undertaken under the Convention pertaining to Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention related to indigenous peoples and local communities;

(b) To provide advice to the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol, as well as[, upon request from any of the three governing bodies,] to the other subsidiary bodies[, on knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and on matters of relevance to indigenous peoples and local communities that are within the scope of the Convention and its Protocols].

II. Operating principles

2. In carrying out its functions, the Subsidiary Body shall align its work with [the Framework and] future strategic plans and prioritize the tasks that need early action.

[3. The functions of the Subsidiary Body shall be guided by the principles of transparency, inclusiveness, gender responsiveness, equity, [intergenerational dialogue,] respect for rights, in accordance with national legislation, [the recognition of diverse knowledge systems,] cost-efficiency and collaboration with the other subsidiary bodies.]

4. The Subsidiary Body shall ensure the full, effective and meaningful participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, including women, youth and knowledge holders among them, in all aspects of its work.

5. In [promoting the implementation of [work][the programme of work] on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention related to indigenous peoples and local communities [to 2030]][carrying out its functions], the Subsidiary Body shall cooperate with and will benefit from the assistance of United Nations entities, expert bodies and processes that have

⁷ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

⁸ *Ibid.*, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

⁹ *Ibid.*, vol. 3008, No. 30619.

complementary functions and work on matters related to indigenous peoples and local communities.

III. Procedural matters

6. In line with paragraph 5 of rule 26 of the rules of procedure for meetings of the Conference of the Parties, the rules of procedure for meetings of the Conference of the Parties apply, *mutatis mutandis*, to the meetings of the Subsidiary Body, with the exception of rule 18.

7. When the Subsidiary Body serves a Protocol to the Convention, decisions under the Protocol shall be taken only by the Parties to the Protocol.

8. The Subsidiary Body shall undertake any tasks that fall within the scope of its programme of work and those that are referred to it by the Conference of the Parties or the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the respective Protocol and shall report on its work to those bodies.

IV. Bureau and co-chairs

9. The Bureau of the Conference of the Parties shall serve as the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body. [In its modalities, the Subsidiary Body shall function as Party-led process, and shall clarify the roles of the Parties and the Bureau.]

[10. The Subsidiary Body shall have two co-chairs elected by the Conference of the Parties. One co-chair shall be nominated by Parties from the United Nations regional group that exercises its turn, in a rotation among United Nations regional groups.¹⁰ The other co-chair, representing indigenous peoples and local communities, shall be nominated on a rotational-basis among the [seven sociocultural regions]^[11] [applied under the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues][United Nations regional groups.]]

11. Nominations shall be carried out by [indigenous peoples and local communities through their own governance structure, representatives and organizations][organizations or representative bodies[, as endorsed by Parties,] of indigenous peoples and local communities [[officially registered] [in their respective countries] [at the national level]]].

12. At least one of the co-chairs shall be selected from a developing country, taking into account gender and geographical balance. The co-chairs shall not be from the same region. The co-chairs shall take office from the end of the meeting of the Conference of the Parties at which they have been elected and remain in office until their successors take office at the end of the following ordinary meeting of the Conference of the Parties.]

13. Candidates for the co-chairing of the Subsidiary Body should have experience in the processes of the Convention and competence in matters related to indigenous peoples and local communities in the context of the Convention. When identifying a candidate,[the regional group and representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities] [should take into account] the availability of time that the candidates have for the work of the Subsidiary Body [should be taken into account].

14. In the event that the co-chair nominated by Parties and elected by the Conference of the Parties is from a country that is not a Party to one or both Protocols, a substitute shall be assigned

^[10] Following the practice of rotation in the chairing of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, and with a view to avoiding that, at any one time, a regional group provides the chairs of more than one subsidiary body, the order of the regions from which the Chair of the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention related to indigenous peoples and local communities is elected shall be as follows: African States, Western European and other States, Asia-Pacific States, Latin America and Caribbean States and Eastern European States.]

^[11] [For the purpose of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Arctic sociocultural region comprises the following indigenous peoples: Atabaskian, Aleut, Dolgan, Gvichin, Kereki, Kety, Koryak, Mansi, Nganasan, Nenets, Saami, Selkup, Khanty, Chuvan, Chukchi, Evenk, Even, Enets, Inuit and Yakigir.]

from among members of the Bureau representing a Party to the Protocol to chair items related to one or the other Protocol.

15. The co-chairs of the Subsidiary Body shall be ex officio members of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties. The President of the Conference of the Parties shall invite the co-chairs of the Subsidiary Body to the sessions of the Bureau on matters related to the Subsidiary Body.

[16. Capacity-building on the processes of the Convention shall be provided to the representative of indigenous peoples and local communities nominated as co-chair.]

[17. Further to the established [and effective] practice of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention, the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body shall continue to invite representatives of [organizations or representative bodies of] indigenous peoples and local communities [officially registered] [in their respective countries] to designate at the beginning of each meeting of the Subsidiary Body one representative each from [the United Nations regional groups][the seven sociocultural regions [applied under][identified by][acknowledged by] the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues] [following selection procedures and structures determined by each region] to participate in the work of the Subsidiary Body, as friends of the Bureau. [Candidates for the function of friends of the Bureau should have strong connections with indigenous peoples and local communities at the national and local levels in their respective countries, experience in the processes of the Convention and competence in matters related to indigenous peoples and local communities.] [Similar to the rule for Bureau members, friends of the Bureau may be elected for a maximum of two consecutive terms.]]

[17. alt. At the beginning of each meeting of the Subsidiary Body, the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body shall invite [one][two] representative[s] from each region, in a balanced manner between indigenous peoples and local communities, [[officially] registered or recognized in their respective country] to participate in the work of the Subsidiary Body, as friends of the Bureau.]

V. Budgetary matters

18. The Subsidiary Body shall meet once in each intersessional period, back-to-back with meetings of other subsidiary bodies, unless otherwise decided by the Conference of the Parties[, with due consideration for the importance of ensuring the full and effective participation of [developing country Parties] [and] [indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth among them][, giving special consideration to indigenous peoples and local communities from developing country Parties]].

19. Should the Conference of the Parties consider it necessary to the Subsidiary Body to carry out its mandate, [and subject to the availability of resources,] [as appropriate,] ad hoc technical expert groups may be established, with full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, and in accordance with section H, paragraph 18, of the consolidated modus operandi of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, as contained in annex III to decision [VIII/10](#) of 31 March 2006.

20. The number and length of the meetings and activities of the Subsidiary Body and its expert groups shall be reflected in the budget adopted by the Conference of the Parties or extrabudgetary funding.

VI. Organizational matters

21. The Subsidiary Body may, within the budgetary resources approved by the Conference of the Parties [or the Conference of the Parties serving as the meetings of the Parties to the Cartagena or Nagoya Protocols] in respect to a specific decision by [that body][those bodies]

within the mandate of the Subsidiary Body, make requests to the Executive Secretary and use mechanisms under the Convention or its Protocols, as appropriate.

22. The Executive Secretary shall provide to the Subsidiary Body the support necessary to carry out its functions and mandate. [The Subsidiary Body, may, as appropriate, [and subject to the availability of resources,] use mechanisms that are established under the Convention.] The meetings of the Subsidiary Body shall be conducted in plenary sessions [or, where the necessary budgetary resources have been approved by the Conference of the Parties[, in open-ended sessional working groups, as appropriate.] [Up to two open-ended sessional working groups of the Subsidiary Body may be established and operate simultaneously during meetings of the Subsidiary Body.] The working groups would not meet in parallel to the plenary sessions. The working groups shall be established on the basis of well-defined terms of reference and be open to all Parties and observers].

VII. Focal points

23. Parties should designate national focal points[, including from indigenous peoples and local communities, as appropriate,] to follow up on the work of the Subsidiary Body. [The existing national focal points for Article 8(j) and related provision of the Convention may continue to be the focal points for the Subsidiary Body.] [National focal points should work with indigenous peoples and local communities to help to facilitate their full and effective participation in the work of the Subsidiary Body, as appropriate.] [Parties are encouraged to designate [additional] national focal points from indigenous peoples and local communities to follow up on the work of the Subsidiary Body and to engage with them at the national and local levels.]

VIII. Documentation

24. The Secretariat shall make the official pre-session documentation for meetings of the Subsidiary Body available in the six official languages of the United Nations at least six weeks before the opening of the meeting, in accordance with rule 10 of the rules of procedure for meetings of the Conference of the Parties[, and shall further endeavour to make meeting documents available three months before the opening of each meeting].

25. The number and length of documents, including information documents, shall be kept to a minimum, and documentation shall include proposed conclusions and recommendations for consideration by the Subsidiary Body.

]

1/3. Proposed elements for the guidelines related to Tasks 1.1 and 1.2 of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity related to indigenous peoples and local communities to 2030

The Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities

Recommends that, at its seventeenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopt a decision along the following line:

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decision [16/4](#) of 30 October 2024, by which it adopted the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity¹² related to indigenous peoples and local communities to 2030, and in particular Tasks 1.1 and 1.2, directed to the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, to develop guidelines to strengthen the legal and policy framework for the implementation of Targets 2 and 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,¹³ including on indigenous and traditional territories, and guidelines for the inclusion and consideration of traditional lands and of resource use in spatial planning processes and environmental impact assessments to support the implementation of Targets 1 and 14 of the Framework, respectively, and recognizing the alignment of the programme of work with the Framework,

[Recalling also decision [16/6](#) of 1 November 2024,]

[Acknowledging the need to address the underrepresentation of indigenous peoples and local communities from [developing countries][various regions] and specific challenges faced by developing countries in the work of the Convention,]

Taking note of the output of the expert workshop to support the implementation of Tasks 1.1 and 1.2 of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention related to indigenous peoples and local communities, including draft guidelines,¹⁴

1. *[Adopts]* the [placeholder for the annex title] contained in the annex to the present decision;

2. *Encourages* Parties, and invites other Governments, to integrate and apply the guidelines [or their elements], as appropriate and in accordance with national legal frameworks, in spatial planning processes, national biodiversity strategies and action plans and environmental impact assessment procedures, [consistent with][respecting] the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth among them, [arising] under [relevant] international [human rights] law and instruments;

3. *Also encourages* Parties, and invites other Governments and relevant actors in a position to do so, to support the dissemination of the guidelines, including through their translation into the languages of indigenous peoples and local communities, in accordance with national priorities and circumstances;

4. *Further encourages* Parties to identify and promote best practices to secure land tenure and governance by indigenous peoples and local communities, in line with Task 1.2 of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity related to indigenous peoples and local communities [and in accordance with national legislation and circumstances][and international obligations];

¹² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

¹³ Decision [15/4](#), annex.

¹⁴ [CBD/A8J/WS/2025/2/3](#).

[5. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, and invites the global coordination entity and the regional and subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres, to facilitate [capacity-building,] technical cooperation and the exchange of information to assist Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities and other relevant stakeholders in implementing the guidelines;]

[5.[alt] *Invites* Parties and other Governments, in partnership with indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth and relevant stakeholders, to identify and share their capacity-building and development needs for implementing the guidelines through the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention, and invites Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to offer support to address the capacity needs thus identified;]

6. *Encourages* Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, to monitor and evaluate the use and effectiveness of the guidelines and report thereon in national reports, including through the clearing-house mechanism, and by means of other appropriate mechanisms, such as community-based monitoring and information systems, which should be recognized as relevant data sources, in accordance with national circumstances;

[7. *Encourages* Parties to strengthen the effective participation and co-leadership of indigenous peoples and local communities, including people of African descent, where appropriate, in the design, implementation and monitoring of biodiversity policies and programmes, as well as in biodiversity assessments and reporting, ensuring their full and effective participation and incorporating community-based monitoring indicators and traditional knowledge systems as complementary to other data sources, in accordance with national circumstances.]

Annex

[Voluntary guidelines to strengthen the legal and policy framework for the recognition of the role of indigenous peoples and local communities and their [indigenous and] traditional territories in spatial planning, ecosystem restoration, [other effective] [area-based] conservation and environmental impact assessments]

I. Rationale

1. By its decision [16/5](#), the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity¹⁵ established the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities. The Subsidiary Body is mandated to provide advice to the Conference of the Parties, other subsidiary bodies and, upon request, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety¹⁶ and 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,¹⁷ on matters concerning indigenous peoples and local communities.

2. By its decision [16/4](#), the Conference of the Parties adopted the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity related to indigenous peoples and local communities to 2030. The objective of the programme of work is to promote the implementation of Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention related to indigenous peoples and local communities, as well as of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.¹⁸ In the programme of work, the Conference of the Parties affirmed the importance of promoting the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities at all stages and levels of

¹⁵ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, vol. 3008, No. 30619.

¹⁸ Decision [15/4](#), annex.

implementation, in recognition of the close connection that indigenous peoples and local communities have with biological diversity and the Convention and its Protocols.

3. Element 1 of the programme of work, on conservation and ecosystem restoration, includes two tasks for the Subsidiary Body:

Task 1.1. Develop guidelines,¹⁹ with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, to strengthen the legal and policy framework for the implementation of Targets 2 and 3 of the Framework, including on indigenous and traditional territories, to support the protection and restoration practices led by indigenous peoples and local communities.

Task 1.2. Identify and promote best practices to secure land tenure and governance by indigenous peoples and local communities and develop guidelines for the inclusion and consideration of traditional lands and of resource use in spatial planning processes and environmental impact assessments, in accordance with national legislation and international obligations.

4. The present guidelines have been developed by the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities pursuant to Tasks 1.1 and 1.2 of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention related to indigenous peoples and local communities. The guidelines are aimed at Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities and other relevant actors, including, relevant conservation and ecosystem restoration organizations, academia and research institutions, the private sector and other entities that will implement all elements of the guidelines.

5. While applying these guidelines, Parties should, as appropriate, adopt a comprehensive protection and a differentiated approach for indigenous peoples in voluntary isolation and initial contact, in accordance with national circumstances, with a view to strengthening the legal and policy framework for spatial planning, ecosystem restoration and conservation, and to avoiding activities that may put them at risk.

II. Objectives

6. The objectives of the guidelines are to:

(a) Provide guidance on the inclusion and consideration of traditional lands, territories and waters, and resource use systems of indigenous peoples and local communities in spatial planning processes and environmental impact assessments to support the implementation of Targets 1 and 14 of the Framework;

(b) Provide legal and policy guidance to support the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in decision-making processes and the implementation of ecosystem restoration activities, recognizing their contribution to the implementation of Target 2 of the Framework through their traditional knowledge, innovations and practices and through indigenous and traditional governance systems;

(c) Provide legal and policy guidance for the identification, recognition, protection and promotion of, and respect and support for, the indigenous and traditional territories of indigenous peoples and local communities to support the implementation of Target 3 of the Framework.

III. Guiding principles

7. The present guidelines should be applied in accordance with national legislation and circumstances and international law and instruments and in a manner that is consistent with section C of the Framework and the general principles outlined in the programme of work.

¹⁹ For the purpose of the present guidelines, “guidelines” refers to voluntary guidelines.

[A. Spiritual and cultural relationships]

8. Conservation and ecosystem restoration measures, as well as spatial planning and effective management processes addressing land- and sea-use change and environmental impact assessments, should be designed in a manner that recognizes and respects the spiritual and biocultural relationships that indigenous peoples and local communities have with biodiversity in their lands, territories and waters.

B. Recognition of and respect for customary land and water tenure and governance systems

9. The customary tenure over land, water and territories, governance systems, customary law and procedures of indigenous peoples and local communities should be recognized and respected.

C. Human rights-based approach

10. Conservation and ecosystem restoration efforts, spatial planning and environmental impact assessments should follow a human rights-based approach respecting, protecting and promoting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities[, including the rights to participate in decision-making matters that would affect them and to the just and fair resolution of disputes, [in accordance][consistent] with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples²⁰ and international human rights law]. [The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples provides the minimum standards for the survival, dignity and well-being of indigenous peoples, including by promoting their full and effective participation in all matters of concern to them, including in relation to lands, waters, and territories, health, culture, spirituality, governance and self-determination. In this regard, nothing in the present guidelines may be construed as diminishing or extinguishing the rights that indigenous peoples currently have or may acquire in future.] The rights of individuals arising from human rights law, including the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, and the rule of law should also be acknowledged.

D. Free, prior and informed consent

11. The free, prior and informed consent²¹ of indigenous peoples and local communities should be respected in the design and implementation of spatial planning and environmental impact assessment activities, as appropriate, including those related to the designation and management of conservation and restoration areas that may have an impact on their lands, territories, waters, resources and cultural heritage, in accordance with national circumstances.

E. Traditional knowledge, innovations and practices

12. The traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities provide valuable cultural guidance and information to enhance and support the implementation of conservation and ecosystem restoration measures, spatial planning and effective management processes addressing land- and sea-use change and environmental impact assessments, in addition to other knowledge systems. Traditional knowledge systems should therefore be recognized, respected, valued and protected, including through the respect for the free, prior and informed consent of traditional knowledge holders.

F. Gender equality and intergenerational equity

13. The critical roles of women and girls, children and youth, knowledge holders and elders from indigenous peoples and local communities in conservation and ecosystem restoration efforts, spatial planning and environmental impact assessments should be recognized. Women and girls among indigenous peoples and local communities play an important role in the preservation and transmission of traditional knowledge. Gender-responsive approaches should address barriers to the participation, leadership and benefit-sharing of women and girls, and children and youth from indigenous peoples and local communities and should safeguard the transmission of gender-specific knowledge.

14. The implementation of the present guidelines should be guided by the principles of intergenerational equity to ensure that the needs of the present generation are met without

²⁰ General Assembly resolution 61/295, annex.

²¹ “Free, prior and informed consent” refers to the tripartite terminology of “prior and informed consent”, “free, prior and informed consent” or “approval and involvement”.

compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs and that younger generations can participate meaningfully in decision-making at all levels.

G. Recognition of diverse value systems

15. Conservation and ecosystem restoration efforts, spatial planning and environmental impact assessments should be undertaken in a manner that respects the diverse value systems of indigenous peoples and local communities. Such concepts as Mother Earth, spirituality, nature's gifts and the rights of nature should be acknowledged and respected in accordance with section C of the Framework and national circumstances. The cultural, spiritual and holistic relationships of indigenous peoples and local communities with their lands, territories and waters and their distinct knowledge systems and governance institutions should also be acknowledged and respected.]

IV. Inclusion and consideration of traditional lands and of resource use in spatial planning processes

16. National laws and policy frameworks should, as appropriate, ensure the recognition of traditional lands and resource use in participatory, integrated and biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning and effective management processes that address land- and sea-use change, including those led by or jointly developed with indigenous peoples and local communities in relation to their lands, territories, waters and resources, including marine and coastal areas.

17. Spatial planning and effective management measures led by indigenous peoples and local communities that address land- and sea-use change should be considered and reflected, as appropriate, in the development, revision or updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, as well as in land-use planning and marine spatial planning.

18. Spatial planning and land-use-related frameworks and processes should, as appropriate, recognize land- and sea-use mapping led by indigenous peoples and local communities, developed in accordance with their cultural, governance and spiritual dimensions and using traditional toponyms.

19. Decision-making in spatial planning and effective management processes addressing land- and sea-use change should promote cooperation and collaboration with indigenous peoples and local communities, through the recognition, as appropriate, of indigenous and traditional governance systems.

V. Contributions to the effective restoration of degraded ecosystems²²

20. The rights and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities in ecosystem restoration activities, which are grounded in their holistic relationships with their lands, territories and waters should be respected and promoted by, inter alia, supporting biocultural approaches, customary sustainable use of biodiversity, traditional knowledge systems and other forms of stewardship, such as those related to the governance and land tenure rights of indigenous peoples and local communities.

21. Restoration efforts should take into account traditional knowledge and the principles of free, prior and informed consent[, as appropriate]. In accordance with indigenous and traditional governance systems, the roles of elders, knowledge holders, women and girls, and children and youth from indigenous peoples and local communities should be recognized and strengthened in all aspects of restoration.

22. Legislative, administrative and policy measures related to ecosystem restoration should be developed in line with Target 2 of the Framework and in a manner that recognizes and safeguards the contributions of indigenous peoples and local communities. Measures should be developed with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities at all stages and in all processes related to planning, development, implementation and monitoring. Assessments of degraded

²² The territories, lands and waters of indigenous peoples and local communities should not be considered as inherently in need of restoration.

ecosystems should draw upon diverse knowledge systems, including scientific assessments and the traditional knowledge systems of indigenous peoples and local communities.

23. Restoration efforts should be co-designed and co-developed with indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant government authorities and reflected in national restoration plans and national reporting, ensuring that the contributions of indigenous peoples and local communities are visible, supported and tracked through the use of appropriate indicators.

24. Restoration efforts in indigenous and traditional territories should, where possible, contribute to food and water security, climate and community resilience, income generation and the cultural and lifestyle strengthening of indigenous peoples and local communities.

VI. Recognition of and respect for indigenous and traditional territories in the implementation of Target 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

25. Legal, administrative and policy measures for the national identification and recognition of, and respect for, indigenous and traditional territories should be developed, adopted and implemented. Those measures should recognize, as appropriate, the customary tenure systems, governance institutions, cultural significance, sacred sites, conservation roles, traditional economies and rights over lands, waters, territories and resources of indigenous peoples and local communities.

[26. [The recognition of indigenous and traditional territories [in accordance with Target 3 of the Framework and national circumstances] [should[, as appropriate,] be considered a distinct system that contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, complementary to and different from protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures] [and, therefore, does not require a classification under the category of protected areas or other effective area-based conservation measures.]] [Where indigenous and traditional territories are already classified as protected areas or other effective area-based conservation, zoning measures should apply with clear identification of zones with access for indigenous peoples and local communities to practice their traditional sustainable use and cultural practices].]

VII. Environmental impact assessments

27. The Akwé: Kon Voluntary Guidelines for the Conduct of Cultural, Environmental and Social Impact Assessments Regarding Developments Proposed to Take Place on, or Which Are Likely to Impact on, Sacred Sites and on Lands and Waters Traditionally Occupied or Used by Indigenous and Local Communities²³ provide a culturally appropriate framework for conducting environmental, cultural and social impact assessments related to developments proposed on or near sacred sites, or on lands, territories and waters traditionally occupied or used by indigenous and local communities.²⁴

28. The Akwé: Kon Voluntary Guidelines remain valid and applicable to environmental impact assessments, in particular in the context of the implementation of the Framework and Task 1.2 of the programme of work.

29. The Akwé: Kon Voluntary Guidelines include cultural and social dimensions in environmental impact assessments, including evaluating impacts on spiritual values, cultural practices, customary governance systems, traditional livelihoods and intergenerational knowledge transmission.

30. Parties, other Governments, the private sector and organizations of indigenous peoples and local communities may develop and apply other recognized, applicable and effective principles, standards, agreements and protocols for environmental, cultural and social impact assessments.

²³ Decision [VII/16 F](#), annex.

²⁴ The Conference of the Parties decided to use “indigenous peoples and local communities” in decision [XII/12](#) and “prior and informed consent”, “free, prior and informed consent” and “approval and involvement” depending on national circumstances, in the Mo’otz Kuxtal Voluntary Guidelines in decision [XIII/18](#).

VIII. Institutional and administrative mechanisms

A. Recognition of customary governance systems

31. The governance systems of indigenous peoples and local communities, including traditional and customary governance systems, should be recognized and supported as unique and legitimate frameworks for the stewardship, conservation and restoration of biodiversity, in accordance with national legislation and circumstances, as well as international law and instruments. This recognition should extend to customary laws, community protocols, norms, values and rules related to land, water and marine management, as well as the protection of sacred sites.

32. Enabling conditions should be created to ensure support for indigenous peoples and local communities in strengthening and exercising their governance systems for stewardship, conservation and restoration of biodiversity, for example, through the recognition of and support for community mapping, the participatory demarcation of their territories and the development of community-led monitoring systems, in accordance with national legislation and circumstances.

33. Where applicable, the autonomy of indigenous peoples and local communities in the management and governance of their lands, territories and waters, including marine and coastal areas, should be respected through the recognition of their justice and governance systems and the provision of financial and technical support.

[34. Strengthening the customary governance systems of indigenous peoples and local communities for stewardship, conservation and restoration of biodiversity supports more effective spatial planning and sustainable management.]

B. Free, prior and informed consent

35. Mechanisms, legislation, administrative, corporate and policy measures or protocols should be developed and implemented in consultation with indigenous peoples and local communities, as appropriate and in accordance with national legislation and circumstances and international instruments, with a view to obtaining their free, prior and informed consent before the establishment, expansion or change of any protected area or any other effective area-based conservation measures affecting their lands, territories and waters, including marine and coastal areas, or their cultural values and heritage. Free, prior and informed consent should be obtained through consultations conducted in good faith as part of environmental impact assessments and in accordance with national legislation and the Akwé: Kon Voluntary Guidelines.

36. Free, prior and informed consent should be understood as an ongoing process, allowing communities to determine what information should be shared or withheld, in particular with regard to sacred sites and culturally sensitive information.

37. Traditional knowledge, innovations and practices should only be accessed and used with the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples and local communities, in line with customary protocols, national legislation and international instruments.

C. Administrative arrangements

38. Indigenous and traditional mechanisms, including relevant governance frameworks, in accordance with indigenous and traditional governance systems should be established or, as needed, strengthened or maintained.

39. Co-management bodies should be established or strengthened under national legislation, as appropriate, to guide the planning, implementation and monitoring of conservation and ecosystem restoration efforts, spatial planning and environmental impact assessments. Co-management bodies should ensure an equitable representation of government and indigenous peoples and local communities.

40. Areas that are governed and managed by indigenous peoples and local communities in accordance with their customary laws and practices, governance systems and institutional frameworks should be recognized in the context of conservation and ecosystem restoration efforts, spatial planning

and environmental impact assessments, in line with national legislation and circumstances, and international instruments.

41. The customary law, procedures and governance systems of indigenous peoples and local communities may be recognized and respected in the design, management and monitoring of protected areas, as appropriate. Such recognition may also be reflected in other effective area-based conservation measures, spatial planning and environmental impact assessments.

42. Consultative and collaborative mechanisms should be established or, as needed, strengthened between governments and [legitimate] representative bodies and organizations of indigenous peoples and local communities[, as determined by them,] [in their respective countries,] in relation to community mapping initiatives and monitoring systems.

43. Mechanisms, legislation, administrative, corporate and policy measures, including safeguards, grievance mechanisms and monitoring systems, should be developed and implemented to prevent marginalization, displacement or cultural harm in connection with conservation, restoration and sustainable use efforts, spatial planning and environmental impact assessments.

D. Mechanisms for conflict resolution

44. Mechanisms, legislation, administrative, corporate and policy measures or protocols for conflict prevention, resolution and grievance redress should be established or, as needed, strengthened. Those systems should recognize and respect customary dispute resolution practices and safeguard the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities in relation to protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and ecosystem restoration efforts, spatial planning and environmental impact assessments.

IX. Full and effective participation

45. Indigenous peoples and local communities should be accorded the right to full, equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive participation in all decision-making processes that may affect their rights, lands, territories, waters and resources.

46. The participation of indigenous peoples and local communities should be ensured throughout the development, planning, implementation and monitoring of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation and ecosystem restoration measures, spatial planning and environmental impact assessments that affect them.

X. Enabling conditions

A. Capacity-building

47. The capacity of indigenous peoples and local communities, relevant government institutions and the private sector to implement the present guidelines should be strengthened. Capacity-building efforts should be culturally sensitive and include training for public authorities, stakeholders and the private sector to apply relevant legislation and policies respectfully and effectively.

48. Opportunities for training, technical cooperation and legal support, including, where possible, in indigenous languages, should be created and promoted through the development of appropriate materials and tools to allow for the sharing of experiences related to protected areas and other effective area-based conservation and ecosystem restoration efforts, spatial planning and environmental impact assessments among indigenous peoples and local communities.

B. Awareness-raising

49. Awareness should be raised among government institutions, civil society, the private sector and the general public of the roles, contributions, rights and knowledge systems of indigenous peoples and local communities in conservation and ecosystem restoration.

C. Sustainable, inclusive and accessible financial mechanisms

50. Adequate sustainable and accessible financial support should be provided or strengthened for the design, implementation and monitoring of protected areas and other effective area-based

conservation measures, ecosystem restoration measures, spatial planning and environmental impact assessments led by or involving indigenous peoples and local communities, in line with decisions [16/4](#) and [16/34](#).

51. Direct funding programmes should be developed, established or strengthened, as appropriate, in coordination with Parties, consistent with national legislation and circumstances, to support restoration and conservation efforts, spatial planning processes and environmental impact assessments led by indigenous peoples and local communities within their lands, territories and waters with their full and effective participation, in line with decisions [16/4](#) and [16/34](#).

D. Monitoring and reporting

52. The development of monitoring and reporting mechanisms, including the use of biocultural community protocols, should be supported.

53. Quantitative and qualitative indicators, including biocultural and traditional knowledge indicators, and community-based monitoring and information systems should be promoted, strengthened and, where appropriate, operationalized, taking into account national circumstances, without creating additional reporting burdens, to measure the effectiveness of conservation and ecosystem restoration efforts led by or involving indigenous peoples and local communities, including for headline indicator 22.1 of the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework on land-use change and land tenure in the traditional territories of indigenous peoples and local communities.²⁵

54. The need to ensure and enhance the transparency and inclusivity of community-based monitoring and information systems and to fully engage indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth among them, in the management of those systems, including by promoting and implementing community-based monitoring and information systems in developing countries, should be acknowledged, and the importance of enhanced international cooperation to address the technical, financial, technological and capacity constraints that undermine the capacity of developing countries to support community-based monitoring and information systems should be highlighted.

55. National information systems on indigenous and traditional territories, at all levels, should be created and maintained, in accordance with national circumstances, legislation and priorities, to monitor progress in the recognition and governance of those territories. The systems must ensure data sovereignty for those groups, with their free, prior and informed consent.

56. Information on the implementation of commitments related to indigenous and traditional territories, and the contributions of indigenous peoples and local communities to conservation and ecosystem restoration, should be integrated into national biodiversity strategies and action plans, national restoration plans and national reports produced under the Convention.

E. Access to information

57. Indigenous peoples and local communities should have timely and culturally appropriate access to information related to protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, ecosystem restoration, spatial planning and environmental impact assessments. Access includes the translation of relevant materials into the languages of indigenous peoples and local communities,[as appropriate,] as well as the use of culturally appropriate formats to facilitate the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth among them.

F. Technical cooperation and legal support

58. Technical, scientific and legal support should be provided to strengthen the capacity of indigenous peoples and local communities to undertake community mapping and monitoring related to protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, ecosystem restoration, spatial planning and environmental impact assessments.

²⁵ See decision [16/31](#).

59. Legal support should be provided, as appropriate, in line with national circumstances, to enhance awareness of the collective land rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth among them, and their right to a traditional lifestyle and to assist indigenous peoples and local communities with processes related to protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, ecosystem restoration, spatial planning and environmental impact assessments.

1/4. Process to review and update the Voluntary Glossary of Key Terms and Concepts Within the Context of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention

The Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities

Recommends that, at its seventeenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopt a decision along the following line:

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling Task 5.4 of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity²⁶ related to indigenous peoples and local communities to 2030,²⁷

1. *Decides* to endorse the process for reviewing and updating the Voluntary Glossary of Key Terms and Concepts Within the Context of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity,²⁸ as outlined in annex I to the present decision;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to convene, subject to the availability of resource, an ad hoc technical expert group on the review and update of the voluntary glossary, with the terms of reference set out in annex II to the present decision, and to submit the results of the expert group's work to the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, for consideration at its second meeting;

3. *Requests* the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities to make a recommendation for updating the voluntary glossary on the basis of the outcome of the review, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its eighteenth meeting.

Annex I

Process for reviewing and updating the Voluntary Glossary of Key Terms and Concepts Within the Context of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity

The process for reviewing and updating the Voluntary Glossary of Key Terms and Concepts Within the Context of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity^{29,30} shall be as follows:

Step 1. The Executive Secretary shall invite Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant stakeholders to submit views and experiences on possible elements of the Voluntary Glossary of Key Terms and Concepts Within the Context of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention that should be reviewed or updated, and invite relevant Parties, in line with national legislation and circumstances, to include the views and experiences of people of African descent, comprising collectives embodying traditional lifestyles, in their submissions.

Step 2. The Executive Secretary shall prepare a synthesis of the views received.

Step 3. The Executive Secretary shall convene an ad hoc technical expert group on the review and update of the voluntary glossary, which shall review the synthesis of the views received and formulate technical advice and proposals on which elements of the glossary should be updated.

²⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

²⁷ Decision [16/4](#), annex.

²⁸ Decision [14/13](#), annex.

²⁹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

³⁰ Decision [14/13](#), annex.

[The process should ensure that any revised definitions reflect the diversity of legal and cultural contexts across Parties and allow for national adaptation.]

Step 4. The Executive Secretary shall make available the technical advice and proposals formulated by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on the Review and Update of the Voluntary Glossary of Key Terms and Concepts Within the Context of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity, for peer review, and also make the technical advice, proposals and results of the peer review available as an information document to the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities at its second meeting.

Step 5. The Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities shall consider at its second meeting the advice and proposals formulated by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group and prepare a recommendation for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its eighteenth meeting.

Annex II

Terms of Reference for the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on the Review and Update of the Voluntary Glossary of Key Terms and Concepts Within the Context of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity

1. The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on the Review and Update of the Voluntary Glossary of Key Terms and Concepts Within the Context of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity shall:

(a) Review the synthesis of the views received and formulate advice and proposals on which elements of the voluntary glossary should be updated in the light of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;³¹

(b) Submit reviewed and updated elements of the voluntary glossary for the consideration of the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities at its second meeting.

[2. alt.1 The Expert Group shall be composed of 35 experts, as follows:

(a) Fourteen experts from indigenous peoples and local communities, representing the seven sociocultural regions recognized by the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (two per region), nominated and selected through an agreed process;

(b) Fifteen experts from Parties, representing the five United Nations regional groups (three per group);

(c) Six experts nominated by relevant stakeholders.]

[2. alt.2 The Expert Group shall be composed of 29 experts, as follows:

(a) Fifteen experts from Parties, representing the five United Nations regional groups (three per group);

(b) Ten experts from indigenous peoples and local communities, representing the five United Nations regional groups (two per group);

(c) Four experts nominated by relevant stakeholders.]

³¹ Decision [15/4](#), annex.

[2. alt.3 The Expert Group shall be composed of 14 experts, as follows:

(a) Seven experts from indigenous peoples and local communities, representing the seven sociocultural regions recognized by the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (one per region), nominated by their own procedures;

(b) Five experts from Parties, representing the five United Nations regional groups (one per group);

(c) Two experts nominated by relevant stakeholders.]

3. The Co-Chairs of the Subsidiary Body will be invited to participate, *ex officio*, in meetings of the Technical Expert Group.

4. Experts shall be selected taking into consideration relevant expertise, including on gender perspective, gender balance and geographical distribution, ensuring a diversity of knowledge systems, including traditional knowledge and relevant policy development.

1/5. Provision of advice on traditional knowledge for the global report on collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

The Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities,

Recalling decisions [15/6](#) of 19 December 2022 and [16/32](#) of 27 February 2025 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,³²

1. *Reiterates* the encouragement to Parties in subparagraphs 23 (c) and (d) of decision [15/6](#);
2. *Stresses* the importance of including women and youth from indigenous peoples and local communities in the preparation of the seventh and eighth national reports;
3. *Welcomes* the contributions of indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth to the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,³³ and stresses that these contributions should be reflected in the global report on collective progress in the implementation of the Framework;
4. *Encourages* Parties to facilitate submissions on the indigenous knowledge systems and traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth among them, obtained with their free, prior and informed consent,³⁴ as appropriate, so that such information may be used in national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national reports, as well as in the global report on collective progress, including by providing capacity-building and financial and technical support for those efforts;
5. *Invites* indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth among them, and encourages Parties, to provide extensive relevant information, when available, on actions by indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth among them, related to the implementation of the Framework, highlighting successes, challenges and possible gaps in the implementation of section C and Targets 13, 21, 22 and 23 of the Framework;
6. *Takes note with appreciation* of the case studies and other information on relevant traditional knowledge, innovations, practices and technology of indigenous peoples and local communities contained in document [CBD/SB8J/1/INF/2](#);
7. *Notes* that many of the sources of information for the global report on collective progress listed in paragraph 18 of decision [16/32](#) may include information related to the traditional knowledge, innovations, practices and technology of indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth among them, provided by them with their free, prior and informed consent;
8. *Also notes* that the advice contained in the present recommendation should be considered in the production of the global report on collective progress, in accordance with decision [16/32](#), and that the recommendation will be made available to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body on Implementation;
9. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, under the guidance of the Ad Hoc Scientific and Technical Advisory Group for the Preparation of the Global Report on Collective Progress in the Implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework:
 - (a) To use the advice on traditional knowledge contained in the present recommendation when preparing the global report on collective progress;³⁵

³² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

³³ Decision [15/4](#), annex.

³⁴ “Free, prior and informed consent” refers to the tripartite terminology of “prior and informed consent”, “free, prior and informed consent” or “approval and involvement”.

³⁵ The global report will be prepared in accordance with the guidance provided in recommendation [27/1](#) of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.

(b) To include inputs related to traditional knowledge, including best practices, challenges, gaps and solutions in the collection of inputs to be conducted during the informal technical dialogue referred to in subparagraph 24 (h) of decision [16/32](#) and subparagraph 7 (c) of recommendation [27/1](#) of 24 October 2025 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, subject to the availability of resources;

10. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources:

(a) To work with relevant organizations to facilitate capacity-building and development activities, including by providing tools and guidance for sharing the information and data referred to in the present recommendation;

(b) To support indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth among them, in the submission of information on their commitments as actors other than national Governments, in line with notification No. [2025-132](#) of 20 October 2025 and recommendation [27/1](#), following the procedure set out in annex II to decision [16/32](#).

1/6. Recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

The Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities

Recommends that, at its seventeenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopt a decision along the following line:

[The Conference of the Parties,

Having considered the note by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity³⁶ on the recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues,³⁷

Noting that there are divergent views among Parties with regard to the recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues,

1. *Takes note* of the recommendations emanating from the twenty-third and twenty-fourth sessions of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in the context of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to continue to inform the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues of developments of mutual interest and to provide information to the Forum about activities undertaken under the Convention that are related to the aforementioned recommendations of the Forum.]

³⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

³⁷ [CBD/SB8J/1/7](#).

II. Account of proceedings

Introduction

1. The first meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities was held in Panama City from 27 to 30 October 2025. The meeting was attended by 105 Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.¹

Item 1

Opening of the meeting

2. The meeting was opened at 10.15 a.m. on 27 October 2025 by the President of the Conference of the Parties, the Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of Colombia, Irene Vélez Torres.
3. The meeting began with a traditional indigenous blessing offered by Briseida Iglesias of the Guna peoples, who urged participants to move forward in defending the heritage conferred by the Creator and Mother Earth, guided by the Great Creator of knowledge and strength. The Uskalu Group then performed a traditional Guna dance entitled Mugan Boe (grandmothers' lament), a tribute to the wisdom and strength of the grandmothers who continued to inspire and sustain their communities.
4. Delivering her opening remarks, the President said that the establishment of the Subsidiary Body represented an unprecedented step toward greater environmental democracy within the United Nations, the Convention on Biological Diversity being the first of the more than 500 multilateral treaties and conventions to guarantee the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in a subsidiary body. The most challenging task was now to finalize the draft modus operandi of the Subsidiary Body for adoption by the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth meeting and to ensure good environmental governance. At its sixteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties had adopted a new work programme to integrate the rights, contributions and traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities into the global biodiversity agenda. The guidelines to be discussed as part of the meeting agenda were critical to the implementation of Targets 2 and 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and should support protection and restoration practices led by indigenous peoples and local communities worldwide. She noted that clear guidelines would help to ensure due consideration of traditional lands and resource use by indigenous peoples and local communities in spatial planning processes and environmental impact assessments. Acknowledging that the discussions would be intense, she invited delegates to bear in mind the fundamental purpose of the meeting, which was to strengthen the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in the work of the Convention and to demonstrate to the world that the Subsidiary Body could be a pioneering example of how to move multilateralism towards a deeper, more far-reaching, more rooted and more effective democracy.
5. Opening statements² were made by the Executive Secretary of the Secretariat of the Convention, Astrid Schomaker, and the Minister of Environment of Panama, Juan Carlos Navarro.
6. The Executive Secretary began by expressing her solidarity with the people of Haiti and Jamaica, who were being affected by Hurricane Melissa. She thanked Ms. Iglesias for her blessing and the Uskalu Group for their dance, the Presidency of the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties for its leadership and the Government of Panama for its hospitality in hosting the meeting. She acknowledged the contributions of the donor countries that had enabled the participation of delegates from developing countries and applauded the efforts of the indigenous peoples and local communities to raise the funds needed for their participation, while calling upon donors, including new donors, to step forward to support those efforts. Underscoring the watershed moment that the present meeting

¹ See [CBD/SB8J/1/INF/1](#) for the list of participants.

² Statements made during the meeting and submitted in writing by participants are available at [cbd.int/meetings/SB8J-01](#).

marked for the Convention, she acknowledged the work of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Intersessional Working Group on Article 8 (j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity, which had enabled the establishment of the Subsidiary Body. Noting that the present meeting would measure the potential for the success of the endeavour, she outlined the matters on the agenda for the meeting, highlighting the need to advance three tasks in the new programme of work adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting. Emphasizing the importance of the task ahead, she urged delegates to seize what she characterized as a historic moment to translate Article 8(j) and related provisions into an effective elevation of the role of indigenous peoples and local communities in the work undertaken under the Convention, and to devise clear and actionable recommendations for the Conference of the Parties that would accelerate the implementation of the Framework.

7. The Minister of Environment of Panama welcomed participants to the ancestral lands and waters of the indigenous peoples of Panama, guardians of the thousand-year cultures and ecosystems that connected the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. The Guna word *Muu Bi-li*, meaning “Grandmother Ocean”, was a reminder that all forms of life were interconnected, providing a vision that should guide Parties’ decisions at the present meeting. The traditional knowledge and governance practices of indigenous peoples and local communities would be incorporated into the Parties’ work under the Convention for the first time, as the world had finally understood that there was no conservation without rights, and no sustainability without justice. In his view, the Subsidiary Body should serve to pay down a historic debt and ensure that those who had always protected nature be recognized as full partners in decision-making on the conservation and sustainable management of natural resources. It should become a forum for real synergy between modern science and ancestral knowledge, between national and local governments, and between global conventions and the generations that would inherit the planet. To achieve real actions on the ground, Parties would need to work together and reach a broad consensus and translate Article 8(j) of the Convention from a theoretical commitment into real policies, accessible funding and visible results to conserve biodiversity. Success would be measured not by the recommendations but by what actually happened on the ground in terms of strengthened communities and restored, conserved and protected ecosystems. He called for a change in how the Parties worked, through a shift from isolation to integration. Drawing attention to the creation of the Panama Natural Fund as an ongoing trust fund for permanent funding for actions to conserve biodiversity over time and the Panama Nature Pledge aimed at combining its negotiating efforts under the conventions on biodiversity, desertification, oceans and plastics, he urged others to take the same approach in their countries.

Item 2

Organizational matters

Election of officers

8. In accordance with decision [16/5](#) of the Conference of the Parties, the consolidated *modus operandi* of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the established procedures and practices of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Intersessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention applied *mutatis mutandis* to the first meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities. In accordance with rule 26.5 of the rules of procedure for meetings of the Conference of the Parties, the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties served as the Bureau for the first meeting of the Subsidiary Body.

9. At the 1st plenary session, on 27 October, it was agreed that Jonas Komi Anthé (Togo) would act as Rapporteur of the meeting.

10. The Rapporteur made a statement of thanks on behalf of all participants.

11. In keeping with the past practice of the Working Group, representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities were invited to designate seven friends of the Bureau to participate in Bureau meetings and act as co-chairs of possible contact groups. The following representatives of the seven

regional groups recognized by the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues were designated as friends of the Bureau:

Africa	Lucy Mulenkei (Indigenous Information Network)
Arctic	Gunn-Britt Retter (Saami Council)
Asia	Jennifer Corpuz (Gawis Indigenous Rights)
Central and South America and the Caribbean	Francisco Ramiro Batzin Chojoj (International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity)
Eastern Europe, Russian Federation, Central Asia and Transcaucasia	Aleksei Tsykarev (Center for Support of Indigenous Peoples and Public Diplomacy “Young Karelia”)
North America	Rochelle Diver (International Indian Treaty Council)
Pacific	Christine Teresa Grant (Jabalbina Yalanji Aboriginal Corporation)

12. It was also agreed that Ms. Retter would serve as the indigenous Co-Chair of the Subsidiary Body.³

13. Offering brief remarks, the indigenous Co-Chair underscored the historic nature of the creation of the Subsidiary Body and of the present meeting, which marked an important step in elevating the issues of indigenous peoples and local communities within the Convention processes and ensuring their stronger participation in and contribution to the implementation of the Framework. She offered the words of the Sámi poet Nils-Aslak Valkeapää, “the land is different when you have lived there, wandered, sweated, frozen, seen the sun set, rise, disappear, return; the land is different when you know here are roots, ancestors”, for delegates to keep in mind as they considered the various matters on the agenda for the meeting.

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

14. At its 1st plenary session, the Subsidiary Body adopted the following agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda prepared by the Secretariat:⁴

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Organizational matters.
3. In-depth dialogue: “Strategies for mobilizing resources to ensure the availability of and access to financial resources and funding, as well as other means of implementation, including capacity-building, development and technical support for indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth, to support the full implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework”.
4. Modus operandi of the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities.

³ The indigenous Co-Chair chaired the discussions under items 3, 5 (a) and (b) and 7. The discussions under the remaining items were chaired by the President of the Conference of the Parties or her representative, Daniela Durán González.

⁴ [CBD/SB8J/1/1/Rev.1](#).

5. Implementation of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity related to indigenous peoples and local communities to 2030:
 - (a) Guidelines to strengthen the legal and policy framework for the implementation of Targets 2 and 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including on indigenous and traditional territories, to support the protection and restoration practices led by indigenous peoples and local communities (Task 1.1);
 - (b) Guidelines for the inclusion and consideration of traditional lands and of resource use in spatial planning processes and environmental impact assessments (Task 1.2);
 - (c) Process to review and update the Voluntary Glossary of Key Terms and Concepts Within the Context of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention (Task 5.4).
6. Provision of advice on traditional knowledge for the global report on collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.
7. Recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.
8. Other matters.
9. Adoption of the report.
10. Closure of the meeting.
15. At the same session, the Subsidiary Body approved the proposed organization of work set out in annex I to the provisional annotated agenda,⁵ including the Co-Chair's proposal to continue the practice, introduced at the twelfth meeting of the Working Group, of allowing the caucus of indigenous peoples and local communities to speak before the Parties on each agenda item.
16. A statement was made by a representative of the Russian Federation.

Item 3

In-depth dialogue: “Strategies for mobilizing resources to ensure the availability of and access to financial resources and funding, as well as other means of implementation, including capacity-building, development and technical support for indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth, to support the full implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework”

17. The Subsidiary Body considered agenda item 3 at its 1st plenary session. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on the in-depth dialogue entitled “Strategies for mobilizing resources to ensure the availability of and access to financial resources and funding, as well as other means of implementation, including capacity-building, development and technical support for indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth, to support the full implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework”, which contained a draft recommendation.⁶
18. Panel presentations were made by Jurgis Sapijanskas (Global Environment Facility), Terence Hay-Edie (United Nations Development Programme), Darío Mejía Montalvo (Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean), Anita Tzec (International Union for Conservation of Nature) and Mariam Wallet Aboubakrine (Association Tnhinan Canada).
19. A statement was made by a representative of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity.

⁵ [CBD/SB8J/1/1/Add.1](#).

⁶ [CBD/SB8J/1/2](#).

20. Statements were also made by representatives of the following Parties: Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, China, Colombia, Denmark (on behalf of the European Union and its 27 member States), Democratic Republic of the Congo (on behalf of the African States), Djibouti, Egypt, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Japan, Jordan, Malawi, Malaysia, New Zealand, Panama, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe.
21. Further statements were made by representatives of the CBD Women's Caucus and the Global Youth Biodiversity Network.
22. Following the exchange of views, the Co-Chair said that she would prepare a revised draft recommendation, in consultation with the Secretariat, taking into account the views expressed or supported by Parties⁷.
23. At its 4th plenary session, on 29 October, the Subsidiary Body considered the revised draft recommendation submitted by the Co-Chair.
24. Statements were made by representatives of the following Parties: Armenia, Australia, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, China, Colombia, Denmark (on behalf of the European Union and its 27 member States), Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Japan, Jordan, Mexico, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Russian Federation, South Africa and Switzerland.
25. At its 5th plenary session, on 29 October, the Subsidiary Body resumed its consideration of the revised draft recommendation.
26. A statement was made by a representative of Japan.
27. The Subsidiary Body approved the revised draft recommendation, as orally amended, as draft recommendation CBD/SB8J/1/L.2.
28. At its 6th plenary session, on 30 October, the Subsidiary Body considered draft recommendation CBD/SB8J/1/L.2.
29. A statement was made by the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
30. The Subsidiary Body adopted draft recommendation CBD/SB8J/1/L.2, as orally amended, as recommendation 1/1.

Item 4

Modus operandi of the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities

31. The Subsidiary Body considered agenda item 4 at its 2nd plenary session, on 27 October. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on the modus operandi of the Subsidiary Body, which contained a draft recommendation.⁸ The following information documents had also been issued in relation to item 4: the proposed version of the modus operandi of the Subsidiary Body contained in document CBD/COP/16/L.6⁹ and a compilation of views and information on the modus operandi.¹⁰
32. A statement was made by a representative of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity.
33. Statements were also made by representatives of the following Parties: Armenia, Australia, Bangladesh, Benin, Brazil, Burundi, Canada, China, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark (on behalf of the European Union and its 27 member States), Fiji, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Japan, Jordan, Malawi, Malaysia, Namibia, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Russian Federation, South Africa (on behalf of the African States) and Togo.

⁷ See the annex to the present document for a summary of the in-depth dialogue.

⁸ [CBD/SB8J/1/3](#).

⁹ [CBD/SB8J/1/INF/3](#).

¹⁰ [CBD/SB8J/1/INF/4](#).

34. Further statements were made by representatives of the CBD Women's Caucus, Red de Mujeres Indígenas sobre Biodiversidad para América Latina y el Caribe (also on behalf of the Indigenous Women's Biodiversity Network) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

35. Following the exchange of views, the Subsidiary Body agreed to establish a contact group, co-chaired by Pernilla Malmer (Sweden) and Lucy Mulenkei (Indigenous Information Network), with a mandate to further develop the elements of the draft *modus operandi*, working on the basis of document [CBD/SB8J/1/3](#) but also taking into consideration, as appropriate, proposals for alternative text as found in the *modus operandi* set out in information document [CBD/SB8J/1/INF/3](#). Participation would be open to all interested Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, and observers.

36. At its 3rd plenary session, on 27 October, the Subsidiary Body heard a report by the co-chairs of the contact group on the outcome of the group's work, following which the Co-Chair of the Subsidiary Body proposed that the co-chairs of the contact group hold informal consultations with interested Parties on section IV of the proposed *modus operandi*, with a mandate to produce a streamlined text proposal for consideration by the Subsidiary Body.

37. Statements were made by representatives of the following Parties: Brazil, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Russian Federation.

38. Following the exchange of views, the Subsidiary Body agreed to proceed with the proposal of the Co-Chair of the Subsidiary Body and also agreed that representatives of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity would be invited to participate in the informal consultations, to provide information as needed.

39. At its 6th plenary session, the Subsidiary Body considered a revised draft recommendation submitted by the Co-Chair following the informal consultations.

40. A statement was made by the representative of Guatemala.

41. The Subsidiary Body approved the revised draft recommendation as draft recommendation CBD/SB8J/1/L.5.

42. At its 7th plenary, on 30 October, the Subsidiary Body considered draft recommendation CBD/SB8J/1/L.5, which it then adopted as recommendation 1/2.

Item 5

Implementation of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity related to indigenous peoples and local communities to 2030

43. The Subsidiary Body considered sub-items 5 (a) and (b) together at its 2nd plenary session.

- (a) Guidelines to strengthen the legal and policy framework for the implementation of Targets 2 and 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including on indigenous and traditional territories, to support the protection and restoration practices led by indigenous peoples and local communities (Task 1.1)**

and

- (b) Guidelines for the inclusion and consideration of traditional lands and of resource use in spatial planning processes and environmental impact assessments (Task 1.2)**

44. In considering the sub-items, the Subsidiary Body had before it a note by the Secretariat on proposed elements for the guidelines related to Tasks 1.1 and 1.2 of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention related to indigenous peoples and local communities to

2030, which contained a draft recommendation.¹¹ An information document had also been issued in relation to sub-items 5 (a) and (b), containing a compilation of views and information on the implementation of Tasks 1.1 and 1.2 of the programme of work.¹² Furthermore, a note by the Secretariat prepared for the expert workshop to support the implementation of Tasks 1.1 and 1.2 of the programme of work, which contained syntheses of views on the guidelines,¹³ and the report of the expert workshop itself were available to the Subsidiary Body as reference documents.¹⁴

45. A statement was made by a representative of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity.

46. Statements were also made by representatives of the following Parties: Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark (on behalf of the European Union and its 27 member States), Egypt, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malawi, Malaysia, New Zealand, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Uganda and Zimbabwe (on behalf of the African States).

47. A further statement was made by the representative of Red de Mujeres Indígenas sobre Biodiversidad para América Latina y el Caribe (also on behalf of the Indigenous Women's Biodiversity Network).

48. Following the exchange of views, the Subsidiary Body agreed to establish a contact group, co-chaired by Sikeade Egbuwalo (Nigeria) and Jennifer Corpuz (Gawis Indigenous Rights), with a mandate to further develop the proposed elements of the guidelines and draft recommendation in document [CBD/SB8J/1/4](#). Participation would be open to all interested Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, and observers.

49. At its 7th plenary session, the Subsidiary Body considered a revised draft recommendation submitted by the Chair following the discussions in the contact group.

50. Statements were made by representatives of the following Parties: Brazil, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Namibia, New Zealand, Norway and Russian Federation.

51. The Subsidiary Body approved the revised draft recommendation, as orally amended, as draft recommendation CBD/SB8J/1/L.7, which it then adopted as recommendation 1/3.

(c) Process to review and update the Voluntary Glossary of Key Terms and Concepts Within the Context of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention (Task 5.4)

52. The Subsidiary Body considered sub-item 5 (c) at its 3rd plenary session. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on the process to review and update the Voluntary Glossary of Key Terms and Concepts Within the Context of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention, which contained a draft recommendation.¹⁵

53. A statement was made by a representative of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity.

54. Statements were also made by representatives of the following Parties: Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo (on behalf of the African States), Denmark (on behalf of the European Union and its 27 member States), Egypt, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Namibia, Norway, Russian Federation, Switzerland and Zimbabwe.

55. Further statements were made by representatives of the CBD Women's Caucus and the Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean.

¹¹ [CBD/SB8J/1/4](#).

¹² [CBD/SB8J/1/INF/5](#).

¹³ [CBD/A8J/WS/2025/2/2](#).

¹⁴ [CBD/A8J/WS/2025/2/3](#).

¹⁵ [CBD/SB8J/1/5](#).

56. Following the exchange of views, the Co-Chair said that she would prepare a revised draft recommendation, in consultation with the Secretariat, taking into account the views expressed or supported by Parties.
57. At its 4th plenary session, the Subsidiary Body considered the revised draft recommendation submitted by the Co-Chair.
58. Statements were made by representatives of the following Parties: Brazil, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Denmark (on behalf of the European Union and its 27 member States), Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Mexico, Panama, Russian Federation, Uruguay and Zimbabwe.
59. Following the exchange of views, the Subsidiary Body agreed that a small group would hold informal discussions to achieve consensus on wording for annex I.
60. At its 5th plenary session, the Subsidiary Body resumed its consideration of the revised draft recommendation.
61. At the invitation of the Chair, the facilitator of the small group reported on the outcome of the group's discussion and presented compromise text for annex I.
62. Statements were made by representatives of the following Parties: Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark (on behalf of the European Union and its member States), Indonesia, Russian Federation, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Zimbabwe.
63. At its 6th plenary session, the Subsidiary Body resumed its consideration of the revised draft recommendation.
64. Statements were made by representatives of the following Parties: Azerbaijan, Brazil, Canada, Denmark (on behalf of the European Union and its 27 member States), Indonesia, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia and Uruguay.
65. Following the exchange of views, the Subsidiary Body approved the revised draft recommendation, as orally amended, as draft recommendation CBD/SB8J/1/L.3.
66. At its 7th plenary session, the Subsidiary Body considered draft recommendation CBD/SB8J/1/L.3 and adopted it as recommendation 1/4.

Item 6

Provision of advice on traditional knowledge for the global report on collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

67. The Subsidiary Body considered agenda item 6 at its 3rd plenary session. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on the provision of advice on traditional knowledge for the global report on collective progress in the implementation of the Framework, which contained a draft recommendation.¹⁶ An information document had also been issued for agenda item 6, containing submissions of case studies and other information on relevant traditional knowledge, innovations, practices and technology of indigenous peoples and local communities for the global report on collective progress in the implementation of the Framework.¹⁷
68. A statement was made by a representative of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity.
69. Statements were also made by representatives of the following Parties: Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, Colombia, Cook Islands, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark (on behalf of the European Union and its 27 member States), Egypt, India, Indonesia, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Norway, Panama, Russian Federation, South Africa and Zimbabwe (on behalf of the African States).

¹⁶ [CBD/SB8J/1/6](#).

¹⁷ [CBD/SB8J/1/INF/2](#).

70. Further statements were made by representatives of the Asociación Interétnica de Desarrollo de la Selva Peruana, the CBD Women's Caucus and the Global Youth Biodiversity Network.
71. Following the exchange of views, the Co-Chair said that she would prepare a revised draft recommendation, in consultation with the Secretariat, taking into account the views expressed or supported by Parties.
72. At its 6th plenary session, the Subsidiary Body considered the revised draft recommendation submitted by the Co-Chair.
73. Statements were made by representatives of the following Parties: Azerbaijan, Canada, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark (on behalf of the European Union and its 27 member States), India, Malawi, Norway, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and Zimbabwe.
74. Following the exchange of views, the Subsidiary Body approved the revised draft recommendation, as orally amended, as draft recommendation CBD/SB8J/1/L.4.
75. At its 7th plenary session, the Subsidiary Body considered draft recommendation CBD/SB8J/1/L.4 and adopted it as recommendation 1/5.

Item 7

Recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

76. The Subsidiary Body began its consideration of agenda item 7 at its 3rd plenary session. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on the recommendations of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, which contained a draft recommendation.¹⁸
77. A statement was made by a representative of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity.
78. Statements were also made by the representatives of Canada and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
79. At its 5th plenary session, the Subsidiary Body resumed its consideration of agenda item 7.
80. Statements were made by representatives of the following Parties: Brazil, Cameroon (on behalf of the African States), Canada, Colombia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark (on behalf of the European Union and its 27 member States), Haiti, India, Jordan, Mexico, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Russian Federation, South Africa and Zimbabwe.
81. A statement was also made by the representative of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.
82. Following the exchange of views, the Co-Chair said that she would prepare a revised draft recommendation, in consultation with the Secretariat, taking into account the views expressed and supported by Parties.
83. At its 6th plenary session, the Subsidiary Body considered the revised draft recommendation submitted by the Co-Chair.
84. Statements were made by representatives of the following Parties: Australia, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark (on behalf of the European Union and its 27 member States), India, Indonesia, Norway and Russian Federation.
85. Following the exchange of views, the Subsidiary Body approved the revised draft recommendation, as orally amended, as draft recommendation CBD/SB8J/1/L.6.
86. At its 7th plenary session, the Subsidiary Body considered draft recommendation CBD/SB8J/1/L.6.

¹⁸ [CBD/SB8J/1/7](#).

87. Statements were made by representatives of the following Parties: Brazil (also on behalf of BRICS) and Democratic Republic of the Congo.

88. The Subsidiary Body adopted draft recommendation CBD/SB8J/1/L.6 as recommendation 1/6.

Item 8

Other matters

89. A statement was made by the representative of Colombia on the contribution of people of African descent to biodiversity conservation.

Item 9

Adoption of the report

90. At its 7th plenary session, the Subsidiary Body considered the draft report presented by the Rapporteur.¹⁹

91. A statement was made by a representative of Denmark.

92. The Subsidiary Body adopted the draft report, as orally amended, on the understanding that the Rapporteur would be entrusted with its finalization.

Item 10

Closure of the meeting

93. Following the customary exchange of courtesies, the meeting was declared closed at 8:30 p.m. on 30 October.

¹⁹ [CBD/SB8J/1/L.1](#).

Annex

Summary of the in-depth dialogue on strategies for mobilizing resources to ensure the availability of and access to financial resources and funding, as well as other means of implementation, including capacity-building, development and technical support for indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth, to support the full implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

1. On 27 October 2025, at the 1st plenary session of its first meeting, the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities held an in-depth dialogue on strategies for mobilizing resources to ensure the availability of and access to financial resources and funding, as well as other means of implementation, including capacity-building, development and technical support for indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth, to support the full implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. The dialogue began with presentations by five panellists and was followed by an exchange of views and experiences.
2. The panel comprised Jurgis Sapijanskas (Global Environment Facility, GEF), Terence Hay-Edie (United Nations Development Programme, UNDP), Darío Mejía Montalvo (Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean), Anita Tzec (International Union for Conservation of Nature) and Mariam Wallet Aboubakrine (Association Tinhinan Canada).
3. The GEF representative highlighted the lessons learned and the evolution of GEF funding related to indigenous peoples and local communities. In practice, funding involved a range of complementary modalities. GEF support included the Small Grants Programme, country-driven projects and, since 2018, a dedicated window for indigenous peoples and local communities. GEF support also included the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, under which 32 per cent of the \$201.6 million programmed to date was to support actions by indigenous peoples and local communities for biodiversity, far exceeding the 20 per cent target set by the Fund governance body. Key modalities, such as self-determination in priority setting and directness of funding, were important. Recognizing that much remained to be done, he underscored that GEF was committed to progress guided by, and in partnership with, indigenous peoples and local communities.
4. The UNDP representative emphasized the role of UNDP in supporting access to finance through a variety of initiatives, including the Climate Promise framework, support for national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the Small Grants Programme, which was aimed at delivering resources directly to indigenous peoples and local communities. UNDP was also working with the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues to monitor financial flows to indigenous peoples. He highlighted that, in 2024, the Inter-Agency Support Group on Indigenous Peoples' Issues had established a working group on finance for indigenous peoples, which included UNDP, the World Bank, GEF, the Green Climate Fund and the International Fund for Agricultural Development.
5. The representative of the Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean noted that resources available to indigenous peoples remained limited, even though improvements had been observed. A key issue on which there were still diverging views was what was meant by the reference to direct access or direct finance for indigenous peoples. Some were of the view that Governments should receive funding and subsequently invest in projects benefiting indigenous peoples, while a number of representatives of indigenous peoples argued that indigenous peoples should receive funding directly. The speaker then presented the Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean as an example of a funding mechanism for indigenous-led initiatives, jointly governed by Governments and indigenous

peoples under a co-developed programme of work. He concluded by saying that the Fund model could be considered or adapted for use in other mechanisms.

6. The representative of the International Union for Conservation of Nature said that her organization played a leading role through the Podong Indigenous Peoples Initiative, which had been jointly developed with the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity. The Initiative responded to a formal request for the International Union for Conservation of Nature to support the creation of a new mechanism designed and governed by indigenous peoples. It was aimed at scaling up direct financing for indigenous peoples' initiatives, with a focus on reducing threats to biodiversity.

7. The representative of Association Tinhinan Canada presented the Ārramāt Project, a global indigenous-led research initiative. She described the Project as an example of an operational model aimed at addressing indigenous peoples' self-determination, equitable access to research funding and inclusion in decision-making. It promoted indigenous leadership at all levels, from design to implementation to reporting, and ensured equitable access to research funding through a direct funding mechanism for indigenous peoples, Governments and organizations. The Project also illustrated the practical application of equity and inclusivity, with women, gender-diverse persons and persons with disabilities comprising the majority of the leadership team, and with indigenous youth, elders and knowledge holders guiding all aspects of the work.

8. Following the panel presentations, interventions were made by representatives of 23 Parties and three observer organizations, as summarized below.

9. Representatives of the caucus of indigenous peoples and local communities stressed that, in spite of the vital role of indigenous peoples and local communities in managing and sustaining Earth's biodiversity, they received a minimal share of available financial resources. Given the urgency of the biodiversity crisis, increasing resources must be provided directly to indigenous peoples and local communities as a strategic condition for the success of the 2030 vision of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

10. The types of difficulties faced by indigenous peoples and local communities in getting access to funding were identified. Several Party representatives pointed to the diversity of governance structures, legal status and institutional capacity among indigenous peoples and local communities within and across countries. Some suggested that the diversity could inform the design of funding mechanisms tailored to local conditions within national frameworks. The need to facilitate coherence with national biodiversity policies, including national biodiversity strategies and action plans, was noted.

11. There was broad recognition of the need to improve access to finance by indigenous peoples and local communities in the context of the mobilization of resources from all sources and the wider resource mobilization strategy. It was noted that the conclusions of the dialogue should complement, rather than duplicate, the work of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation and ongoing discussions on resource mobilization and financial mechanisms.

12. Many Parties highlighted capacity-building for indigenous peoples and local communities as a key factor for improving access to finance, with some Party representatives noting that such efforts should involve organizations of indigenous peoples and local communities, and strengthening national institutions. The importance of building and strengthening the capacities of organizations of indigenous peoples and local communities, including through technical support, was stressed by many. One Party representative noted that the capacity of indigenous peoples and local communities should not be a barrier to funding and that emphasis should be put on making funding mechanisms more accessible. The complexity of current funding mechanisms was also highlighted.

13. Several Party representatives underlined the importance of evidence-based approaches to identify needs and gaps and of prioritizing the needs of indigenous peoples and local communities. The scenarios and models provided by the Nature Futures Framework of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services were pointed to as useful tools in

this regard. Facilitating the leadership of indigenous peoples and local communities in designing solutions to address identified needs and gaps emerged as an important area for further consideration.

14. Several Party representatives emphasized the importance of targeted support for women and youth from indigenous peoples and local communities and of intergenerational knowledge transfer within indigenous peoples and local communities. It was also emphasized that the lack of funding continued despite the adoption of inclusive policy frameworks.

15. Several examples of good practices were shared. A number of Party representatives pointed to the Cali Fund for the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits from the Use of Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources as an innovative mechanism for financing the self-identified priorities of indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth among them, and supported the adoption of measures to encourage private sector contributions to the Fund. The future tropical forest investment fund was also referenced, with a Party representative noting its foreseen dedicated allocation of at least 20 per cent for indigenous peoples and local communities and its modalities to prioritize direct access by indigenous peoples and local communities, where feasible, and otherwise through accountable intermediaries, while remaining aligned with national frameworks.

16. Good practices at the national and regional levels were also shared. One Party representative drew attention to the issue of a long-term national project to conserve a large area of land co-led by indigenous peoples, environmental groups and philanthropic organizations, with diverse funding from Governments, individuals and private foundations. Another Party representative described government initiatives to offer capacity-building workshops on funding requests and report writing to support indigenous peoples and local communities with navigating complex application processes.

17. In summary, despite the examples of good practices shared, it was acknowledged that the current funding landscape for indigenous peoples and local communities remained insufficient. All participants emphasized the need for ongoing dialogue and outreach to improve the scale, accessibility, transparency and direct access to funding by indigenous peoples and local communities. Key priorities included strengthening the capacity of indigenous peoples and local communities, using evidence-based approaches, providing targeted funds for women and youth from indigenous peoples and local communities and ensuring complementarity with national frameworks and existing modalities.
