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Convention on Biological Diversity

Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity
Seventeenth meeting
Yerevan, 19–30 October 2026
Agenda item 18 (f)
Other scientific and technical issues related to the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework: biodiversity and health

Biodiversity and health

Draft decision submitted by the Chair of Working Group II

The Conference of the Parties,

Highlighting the relevance of biodiversity and health interlinkages to the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, [1] as underlined in section C, subparagraphs 7 (g) and (r), of the Framework,

Recalling paragraph 8 of its decision 16/19 of 1 November 2024, in which it invited Parties, other Governments, relevant multilateral environmental agreements and other organizations to share measures, guidance and tools, examples, best practices and lessons learned in the implementation of the Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health[2] and the mainstreaming of biodiversity and health interlinkages at all levels,

Recalling also paragraph 3 of the same decision, in which it encouraged Parties to carry out actions related to the implementation of the Global Action Plan and facilitate the mainstreaming of biodiversity and health interlinkages,

Recognizing the important role of indigenous peoples and local communities as custodians of biodiversity and holders of traditional knowledge related to health and well-being, and the importance of their full and effective participation in the implementation of the Global Action Plan,

Recognizing also the urgent need for capacity-building and financial resources to support the implementation of the Global Action Plan,

Emphasizing the importance of integrating health considerations into the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans,

Recognizing the long-standing collaboration between the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity[3] and the World Health Organization,

1. *Takes note* of the progress report on activities on biodiversity and health,[4] including the proposal for a progress measurement tool for the implementation of the Global Action Plan on

[1] Decision 15/4, annex.
[2] Decision 16/19, annex.
[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.
[4] CBD/COP/17/7.

Biodiversity and Health,[5] and the compilation of existing indicators relevant to biodiversity and health from other processes;[6]

2. *Emphasizes* that the use of potential indicators and the progress measurement tool should be voluntary and in line with national circumstances, legislation and priorities and should not result in any additional burden on Parties;

3. *Invites* Parties, to share, on a voluntary basis, information on the implementation of the Global Action Plan, including as part of the optional information provided on the considerations set out in section C of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;

[4. *Welcomes* the summary for policymakers of *The Thematic Assessment Report on the Interlinkages among Biodiversity, Water, Food and Health* ("nexus assessment") of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, and notes the relevance of the assessment to the implementation of the Framework and the Global Action Plan;]

[5. *Notes* the relevance of the response options for the implementation of the Global Action Plan;]

6. *Also notes* the adoption of the WHO Pandemic Agreement and the ongoing negotiations on its annex on pathogen access and benefit-sharing;

7. *Invites* Parties to create, in accordance with national circumstances and priorities, an enabling environment for the implementation of the Global Action Plan;

8. *Encourages* Parties, in accordance with Article 20 of the Convention, and invites other Governments, relevant multilateral environmental agreements and health agreements, relevant organizations, donors, the private sector and relevant financial institutions, among others, to provide financial resources to support the implementation of the Global Action Plan in developing countries with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, among others, in its implementation;

9. *Also encourages* Parties to apply approaches, such as the One Health approach, among other holistic approaches, on the basis of the best available science and scientific evidence and by promoting the use of relevant international standards and guidelines, in accordance with national circumstances, legislation and capabilities;

10. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to continue to provide financial support for the implementation of the Global Action Plan, according to its mandate;

11. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources:

(a) To complete the work conducted pursuant to paragraph 13 (a) of decision 14/4 of 22 November 2018 on the development of integrated science-based indicators, metrics and progress measurement tools on biodiversity and health, as requested in paragraph 9 (a) of decision 16/19, through a participatory process, and taking into account:

(i) Existing information, to avoid a reporting burden, from, among others, the Framework, the Sustainable Development Goals and other United Nations entities, including the discussions on health-related indicators in relation to adaptation to climate change used in the United Arab Emirates Framework for Global Climate Resilience, adopted at the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement,[7] as well as any relevant action under the global action plan on climate change and health of the World Health Organization;

(ii) Scientific information from all regions;

[5] CBD/COP/17/INF/9.
[6] CBD/COP/17/INF/6.
[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 3156, No. 54113.

(b) To complete the development of the progress measurement tool for assessing the extent to which Parties are mainstreaming biodiversity and health interlinkages into the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, as contained in information document CBD/COP/17/INF/9, by preparing a revised version of the tool with a streamlined set of questions, taking into account inputs from Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women's and youth organizations and other relevant stakeholders;

(c) To continue the work on the development of a limited set of integrated science-based indicators[8] in collaboration with Parties, as well as the World Health Organization and other relevant organizations, including through a peer-review process and, as appropriate, regional workshops and/or an expert workshop with the participation of all regions, with a view to ensuring regional balance and the full and effective participation of all Parties, in particular developing country Parties;

(d) To submit a report on the outcomes of the work done under subparagraphs (a) to (c) above, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting held before the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

(e) To compile and synthesize information from Parties, other Governments, subnational governments at all levels, indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth, relevant multilateral environmental agreements and other organizations on measures, guidance, indicators and tools, examples, best practices and lessons learned, including those integrating equity, human rights and gender-differentiated considerations, in the implementation of the Global Action Plan and the mainstreaming of biodiversity and health interlinkages at all levels, and to make the information available through the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention or on its website, as appropriate;

(f) To continue and strengthen cooperation on biodiversity and health with relevant organizations and partners, such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Health Organization, the World Organisation for Animal Health, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, the Cooperation on Health and Biodiversity Initiative and non-governmental organizations;

(g) To engage with the World Health Organization, with a view to resuming the activities of the Inter-Agency Liaison Group on Biodiversity and Health co-chaired by the Secretariat of the Convention and the World Health Organization, while avoiding any duplication of work;

(h) To continue to facilitate capacity-building activities, scientific and technical cooperation [and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms] [, in line with Article 16 of the Convention,] to support Parties in implementing the Global Action Plan;

(i) To report on the outcomes of the work done under subparagraphs (d) to (g) above to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting held before the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

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[8] Further to paragraph 13 (a) of decision 14/4.