



## Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr.: General  
20 April 2024

Original: English

---

### Subsidiary Body on Implementation

#### Fourth meeting

Nairobi, 21–29 May 2024

Item 11 of the provisional agenda\*

#### Review of the programmes of work of the Convention

### Review of the programmes of work of the Convention

#### Note by the Secretariat

1. In its decision [15/4](#), the Conference of the Parties to the Convention decided that the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework should be used as a strategic plan for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols, its bodies and its Secretariat over the period 2022–2030 and that, in that regard, the Framework should be used to better align and direct the work of the various bodies of the Convention and its Protocols, its Secretariat and its budget (para. 8). In the same decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to conduct a strategic review and analysis of the programmes of work of the Convention in the context of the Framework to facilitate its implementation and, on the basis of that analysis, to prepare draft updates of the programmes of work for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, as appropriate, and to report on that work to the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting (para. 9).
2. At its twenty-fifth meeting, the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice considered a note by the Secretariat which contained the description of a possible approach for the review and analysis of relevant programmes of work. In its recommendation 25/3, the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice decided to give further consideration to the matter at its twenty-sixth meeting and consider recommendations for the adjustment of relevant programmes of work, for further consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting. Pursuant to that decision, the Secretariat prepared an analysis of scientific and technical needs to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including the identification of gaps in tools and guidance.<sup>1</sup>
3. The analysis revealed some gaps in the tools and guidance developed under the Convention to address the actions required to achieve the targets for addressing the cross-cutting issues of the Framework. The analysis demonstrated, however, that (a) the substantial guidance that has been developed under the Convention remains relevant, much of it is probably underused (for various reasons) and some of it may require updating; and (b) there is a wealth of tools and guidance developed through other processes and an important potential to “mainstream” the Framework by working with the relevant bodies, where necessary, with a view to integrating considerations arising from the Framework into such tools and guidance so that they become “biodiversity-inclusive”.

---

\* CBD/SBI/4/1.

<sup>1</sup> As described in documents CBD/SBSTTA/26/3 and CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/15.

4. In this context, it was concluded from the analysis that the way forward might encompass: (a) improved knowledge management of the available tools and guidance; (b) further enhanced cooperation with other processes and organizations; (c) taking the gaps identified into account in ongoing work under the Convention; (d) consideration of advancing new work on a strictly limited number of issues; (e) taking the gaps into account in work on capacity-building and development and technical and scientific cooperation; and (f) taking the gaps into account in developing proposals for the programme of work and budget of the Secretariat. Some of these issues are relevant to the items being considered by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation.

5. In particular, capacity-building and development and technical and scientific cooperation, developed through the implementation of decisions 15/6 and 15/8 of the Conference of the Parties, could facilitate the wider use of the tools and guidance developed under the Convention. Moreover, in response to the call for the submission of contributions to the analysis of scientific and technical needs, a few Parties shared nationally developed tools and guidance. Enhanced technical and scientific cooperation among Parties could not only promote the sharing of practical experience in applying guidance developed under the Convention but also facilitate the sharing of such nationally developed tools and guidance.

6. Given the continued relevance of the programmes of work, the urgency of national-level implementation of the Framework, the limited time provided under the agendas of the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies and resource constraints (including those of Parties, the Secretariat and partners), it was suggested that further in-depth review of the programmes of work might not be warranted. Moreover, given the technical nature of the programmes of work, any further refinement of the existing programmes of work would fall mostly under the mandate of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.

7. With regard to the possibility of advancing new work (as referred to in para. 4 (d) above), the Subsidiary Body on Implementation may wish to incorporate the items identified by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice in the proposed multi-year programme of work of the Conference of the Parties, to be considered under item 12 of the agenda of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation.

---