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# REPORT OF THE INFORMAL ADVISORY GROUP ON SYNERGIES AMONG **BIODIVERSITY-RELATED CONVENTIONS**

*Note by the Executive Secretary* 

Pursuant to decision XIII/24 of the Conference of the Parties, the Executive Secretary has the honour to transmit to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation the report of the informal advisory group on synergies among biodiversity-related conventions.\*\*

<sup>\*</sup> CBD/SBI/2/1.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The list of members of the informal advisory group is annexed to the present document.

# REPORT OF THE INFORMAL ADVISORY GROUP ON SYNERGIES AMONG BIODIVERSITY-RELATED CONVENTIONS SUBMITTED TO THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY

- 1. This document reports on the work undertaken by the informal advisory group on synergies since it was established, pursuant to the request of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) in decision XIII/24, paragraph 15, in November 2017.
- 2. The report is presented to the second meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation of the Convention (SBI 2), as also requested by the Conference of the Parties in that decision. It contains advice to the Executive Secretary, the Bureau of CBD COP 13, and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions, as developed by the Group.
- 3. The report is structured in two main sections. Part 1 presents the advice of the informal advisory group, as well as additional actions that the group recommends. Part 2 describes the work and methodology in formulating the advice. Additional detail is provided in annex to the report.

#### PART 1. ADVICE OF THE INFORMAL ADVISORY GROUP ON SYNERGIES

#### INTRODUCTION

1. Part 1 of this report presents the advice of the informal advisory group as mandated by decision XIII/24 (section I) and additional recommendations of the group (section II).

#### I. ADVICE OF THE INFORMAL ADVISORY GROUP ON SYNERGIES

- 2. The following text presents advice of the informal advisory group on synergies established pursuant to paragraph 15 of decision XIII/24 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.
- 3. In decision XIII/24, the Conference of the Parties welcomed options for enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions at the national level contained in annex I to the decision; and a road map for enhancing synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions at the international level 2017-2020 (the "road map"), contained in annex II of the decision.
- 4. Annex II to decision XIII/24 contains a table of "desirable key actions for enhancing synergies at the international level from 2017 to 2020". The key actions are grouped under seven activities which contribute towards three broad outcomes. For each key action, the table serves to identify: the timeline in which it would be implemented; the organization(s) that would potentially lead it; guidance or directive provided under the conventions that would mandate its implementation, if any; and the source or origin of the proposal for the action.
- 5. As requested in paragraph 15 of decision XIII/24, advice of the informal advisory group concerns the prioritization and implementation of actions in the table contained in annex II of the decision. As also requested in paragraph 15 of the decision, the advice of the Group is targeted to the Executive Secretary (ES), the CBD COP 13 Bureau, and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG), as appropriate.
- 6. The informal advisory group considers that all the desirable key actions are important and should be implemented. It has therefore provided advice on the implementation of each of the key actions rather than only on some that have been prioritized. Advice of the Group on the implementation of each of the key actions is presented below in the order in which the key actions are contained in the original table, according to the Activity and to the Outcome to which each relates, and indicating which of the actions received the highest scores during the Group's prioritization exercise:

#### 1. Are a/expected Outcome A: Enhanced cooperation and coordination mechanisms.

- 1.1. Activity 1: Enhancement of the efficiency of the work and processes of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions.
  - **1.1.1. Key action**: Counterpart staff working on specific areas (high score).

# 1.1.1.1. Advice to the BLG:

Taking into account relevant existing liaison/coordination mechanisms and work undertaken by communication and capacity development officers:

- a) to continue to strengthen collaboration among counterpart staff working on specific areas;
- b) to further identify issues with potential for synergies;
- 1.2. Activity 2: Involving other relevant organizations in the work of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions to, among others: facilitate coordinated system-wide action on capacity-building; clarify roles and responsibilities in mutually-supportive activities; provide links with appropriate processes related to the SDGs, and; facilitate strengthened support to Parties at the regional level.
  - **1.2.1. Key action:** Invitation to contribute to discussions of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions and their preparation.

# 1.2.1.1. Advice to the BLG:

- 1/ To continue to convene meetings with other organizations whose work is relevant to the biodiversity agenda and implementation of the conventions, and:
  - a) to invite suggestions for the agenda and share information and outcomes of such meetings;
- b) to continue to involve FAO in such sessions, particularly in support of the Biodiversity Mainstreaming Platform;
- c) to involve the Environment Management Group Secretariat in such sessions.
- 2/ To share information on the work of the BLG on a web page including the minutes of BLG meetings, in a timely manner.

# 1.2.1.2. Advice to the Bureau and the BLG:

To consider ways for Parties to the Conventions, through bureaux and standing committees or other mechanisms, to provide feedback on the work of the BLG.

- **1.2.2. Key action:** Participation at meetings of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions.
  - 1.2.2.1. Advice: See under previous key action.
- 1.3. Activity 3: Fostering cooperation in areas of common interest and within the mandates of two or more conventions.
  - **1.3.1. Key action:** Continued development and strengthening of joint work programmes and memoranda of understanding.

## 1.3.1.1. Advice to the members of the BLG:

Taking into account work of existing initiatives and coalitions (CPW, CPF, GSPC, IAS-LG):

- a) to continue to develop and strengthen joint work programmes and agreements, avoiding unnecessary bureaucracy and focusing on useful joint activities;
- b) to collaborate with existing partnerships and coalitions, and invite them to share relevant reports/outcomes;

- c) to make available a full list of agreements between the convention secretariats;
- d) to review current agreements, include new activities/ update existing agreements or establish new agreements, as needed.
- <u>1.4. Activity 4</u>: Enhancing the work of the Chairs of the Scientific Advisory Bodies of Biodiversity related Conventions (CSAB).
  - **1.4.1. Key action:** Coordination of the CSAB including to enable the CSAB to serve as a mechanism between the conventions, IPBES and their secretariats.

# 1.4.1.1. Advice to the BLG:

1/ To utilize the work of the Chairs of the Scientific Advisory Bodies of Biodiversity-related Conventions (CSAB) as a mechanism between the conventions, IPBES and their secretariats; 2/ To facilitate the CSAB:

- a) to meet at the margins or back-to-back with IPBES Plenary;
- b) to participate as observers in multilateral expert panels;
- c) to further identify issues with potential for synergies;
- d) to consult with the bureaux regarding their agendas and share information such as minutes of their meetings.

# 2. Area/expected Outcome B: Enhancing management of and avoiding duplication related to information and knowledge, national reporting, monitoring and indicators.

- <u>2.1. Activity 1</u>: Collaboration in the management of information and knowledge and alignment in national data gathering, reporting, monitoring and indicators.
  - **2.1.1. Key action (a):** Undertake an analysis of gaps and duplications of existing tools and approaches in information management and knowledge management and an assessment of their effectiveness (high score).

#### 2.1.1.1. Advice to the ES and BLG:

Taking into account the outputs and outcomes of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24" and the 'Sixth National Report: Technical reporting guidance' and other relevant tools and initiatives:

- a) to continue to collaborate with UNEP MEA-IKM/InforMEA, UNEP WCMC and the BIP in the management of information and knowledge and alignment in national data gathering, reporting, monitoring and indicators;
- b) to catalyse funding and appropriate implementation arrangements to undertake an analysis of gaps and duplications of existing tools and approaches in information management and knowledge management and an assessment of their effectiveness.

# 2.1.1.2. Advice to the ES:

To include action above in the proposed activities for the 2019-2020 biennium and associated voluntary budget for consideration and approval at COP 14.

**2.1.2.** Key action (b): Provide support in designing data collection and monitoring systems.

## 2.1.2.1. Advice to the ES and members of the BLG:

Taking into account the outputs and outcomes of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24", in collaboration with UNEP, UNEP-WCMC and IUCN, catalyse

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> More information on the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24", managed by the CBD Secretariat and UNEP and executed by UNEP-WCMC is available in CBD/SBI/2/INF/13.

funding and appropriate implementation arrangements for a project facilitate easy access to the guidance material and provide support in designing data collection and monitoring systems aimed at the national level and informed by the needs of the various conventions.

#### 2.1.2.2. Advice to the ES:

To include action above in the proposed activities for the 2019-2020 biennium and associated voluntary budget for consideration and approval at COP 14.

**2.1.3. Key action (c):** Advance and make use of relevant case studies on information management, such as those described in the UNEP Sourcebook of opportunities for enhancing cooperation among the biodiversity-related conventions at national and regional levels (the UNEP Sourcebook).

# 2.1.3.1. Advice to the ES and members of the BLG:

Building on the positive outputs and outcomes of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24": to catalyse funding and appropriate implementation arrangements for a project to further support the online library of case studies, conceived as a "living" and updateable resource/tool.

# 2.1.3.2. Advice to the ES:

To include action above in the proposed activities for the 2019-2020 biennium and associated voluntary budget for consideration and approval at COP 14.

**2.1.4. Key action (d):** Provide guidance on national databases, data access and use, and share experience in national database development and use, taking into account and utilizing relevant initiatives including those under the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention on Biological Diversity, MEA IKM/InforMEA and the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF).

#### 2.1.4.1. Advice to the ES and members of the BLG:

In collaboration between the secretariats of the biodiversity-related conventions, and building on the online library prepared under the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24" and other relevant initiatives: to catalyse funding and appropriate implementation arrangements for a project to develop guidance on national databases, data access and use through a dedicated project.

# 2.1.4.2. Advice to the ES:

To include action above in the proposed activities for the 2019-2020 biennium and associated voluntary budget for consideration and approval at COP 14.

**2.1.5.** Key action (e): Support national efforts in national data gathering, reporting, monitoring and indicators, building on the work of InforMEA and the mapping exercises identified in the UNEP Sourcebook.

#### 2.1.5.1. Advice to the ES and members of the BLG:

Building on previous key action (d) and the positive outputs and outcomes of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24", catalyse funding and appropriate implementation arrangements for a project to develop a programme to support national efforts in national data gathering, reporting, monitoring and indicators.

#### 2.1.5.2. Advice to the ES:

To include action above in the proposed activities for the 2019-2020 biennium and associated voluntary budget for consideration and approval at COP 14.

**2.1.6. Key action (f):** Maximize data compatibility and enhance links between the data systems of the conventions and relevant global knowledge products; improve harmonization, links and interoperability of all relevant biodiversity-related data initiatives (high score).

#### 2.1.6.1. Advice to the ES and members of the BLG:

Building on the outputs and outcomes of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24" and in collaboration with UNDP (GEOBON). InforMEA and UNEP-WCMC: to consider supporting the establishment of an agreed initiative in support of this key action.

**2.1.7.** Key action (g): Contribute to the ongoing processes on indicators for the Sustainable Development Goals, including their refinement, and to the discussion of biodiversity-related indicators under each of the other conventions.

#### 2.1.7.1. Advice to the BLG:

Building on the positive outputs and outcomes of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24", in collaboration with BIP, IAEG (interagency and expert group on SDG indicators) and Environment-Live: to continue joint and coordinated work on this key action.

**2.1.8. Key action (h):** Provide, at the regional and subregional levels, capacity-building related to data management and national reporting, including training on database systems.

# 2.1.8.1. Advice to the members of the BLG:

Taking into consideration the outcomes and outputs of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24", catalyse funding and appropriate implementation arrangements for a dedicated capacity-building project endorsed by participating countries to provide, at the regional and subregional levels, capacity-building related to data management and national reporting, including training on database systems.

#### 2.1.8.2. Advice to the ES:

To include action above in the proposed activities for the 2019-2020 biennium and associated voluntary budget for consideration and approval at COP 14.

**2.1.9.** Key action (i): Keep under review opportunities for cooperation in reporting under the conventions, in line with CBD COP decision XIII/27 on national reporting, and for ensuring interoperability between reporting systems or platforms (BLG), making use of and continuing the development of approaches and possible tools.<sup>2</sup>

# 2.1.9.1. Advice to the ES and members of the BLG:

Taking into consideration the outcomes and outputs of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24", and taking account of the work under implementation of CBD decision XIII/27: to seek direction from the governing bodies of the conventions to enable implementation of this key action, including to provide funds for IT development and to enable dedicated staff effort.

- <u>2.2. Activity 2</u>: Provide countries with capacity-building at the national level in the area of information and knowledge management.
  - **2.2.1.** Key action (a): Provision of appropriate tools and technology for database development.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Such as the modular approach to reporting in FOEN, UNEP-WCMC, NatureConsult (2016). Elements for a modular reporting against the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. UNEP-WCMC, Cambridge (UNEP/CBD/COP/13/INF/24).

#### 2.2.1.1. Advice to the members of the BLG:

Taking into account the outcomes of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24", existing guidance from the GEF, the "Connect" project, in collaboration with UNEP, UNDP, UNEP-WCMC and other potential partners, and with the endorsement of participating countries: catalyse funding and appropriate implementation arrangements for a dedicated project to implement this key action.

#### 2.2.1.2. Advice to the ES:

To include action above in the proposed activities for the 2019-2020 biennium and associated voluntary budget for consideration and approval at COP 14.

**2.2.2.** Key action (b): Pilot studies on database planning and management, for example in two countries per region.

### 2.2.2.1. Advice to the members of the BLG:

Building on the positive outputs and outcomes of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24", in collaboration with UNEP, UNDP and other relevant organizations, and with the endorsement of participating countries: to consider supporting the development of a dedicated project to implement this key action.

# 3. Area/expected outcome C: Enhanced provision of capacity-building and guidance

- 3.1. Activity 1: Make existing guidance material more widely known and readily available or prepare new materials to address any gaps.
  - **3.1.1. Key action (a)**: List of existing guidance materials on synergies.

#### 3.1.1.1. Advice to the ES and members of the BLG:

Building on the outputs and outcomes of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24", support the dissemination and maintenance of guidance material, and prepare new materials to address any gaps.

**3.1.2. Key action (b)**: A guide and other communications material about the biodiversity-related conventions, their relationships and synergies among them.

# 3.1.2.1. Advice to the members of the BLG:

Building on the positive outputs and outcomes of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24" and in collaboration with UNEP:

- a) prepare and make available yearly calendars of events and meetings of biodiversity-related conventions;
- b) support the production of a guide and other communication material about the biodiversity-related conventions, their relationships and synergies among them.
- **3.1.3. Key action (c):** Guidance on synergies in implementing the national biodiversity strategy and action plan and similar strategies and action plans of other biodiversity-related conventions (high score).

## 3.1.3.1. Advice to the ES and members of the BLG:

Building on the positive outputs and outcomes of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24", in collaboration with UNEP (including UNEP regional offices), other regional coordination mechanisms and UNDP, and taking into account existing guidance and activities under the conventions and UNEP, to consider supporting the development of further guidance material as described in this key action.

**3.1.4. Key action (d):** Guidance document on possible opportunities for a coordinated approach to funding from the GEF and other multilateral systems including the Green Climate Fund where appropriate and/or possible.

# 3.1.4.1. Advice to the ES:

(Relates also to key action C.2.d)

Building on the positive outputs and outcomes of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24" and in collaboration with GEF and convention secretariats: develop a guidance document as described under this key action that would:

- a) note the importance of synergies in documents about GEF replenishment;
- b) note the importance of the Sourcebook of opportunities for enhancing cooperation among the biodiversity-related conventions at national and regional levels;
- c) recommend making use of BIOFIN and its notebook, and exploring other opportunities including in the private sector;
- d) highlight the COP decision XII/30 inviting other MEA COPs to provide advice to GEF through the CBD COP
- e) note the need to discuss this in the BLG.
- **3.1.5.** Key action (e): Success stories of synergies in the implementation of the biodiversity-related conventions are compiled and made available, including through the Clearing-house Mechanism and the NBSAP Forum.

# 3.1.5.1. Advice to the ES and members of the BLG:

To collaborate to develop and find an accessible location for concept of an online library developed under the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24".

**3.1.6. Key action (f):** Provide information on synergies, such as the UNEP Sourcebook, the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, common issues for biodiversity-related conventions and sources of funding for biodiversity, on the websites of each of the biodiversity-related convention, for example through a dedicated "synergies" page.

#### 3.1.6.1. Advice to the members of the BLG:

Building on the outputs and outcomes of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24":

- a) catalyse funding and appropriate implementation arrangements for the development of a dedicated "synergies" online hub. Allocate sufficient staff time to maintain it;
- b) identify gaps;
- c) follow-up activities to the document 'Improving access to existing guidance, data and information via biodiversity related convention websites'.

#### 3.2. Activity 2: Capacity-building.

**3.2.1** Key action (a): Identify common areas of national capacity-building needs, across the conventions.

# 3.2.1.1. Advice to the members of the BLG:

As agreed at the BLG meeting/meeting with agencies: to examine proposals resulting from the synergistic work conducted by the CBD Secretariat in follow-up to decision XIII/23.

**3.2.2.** Key action (b): Share information on ongoing, planned and upcoming capacity-building programmes, projects and initiatives relevant to the biodiversity-related conventions in order to

facilitate a coordinated approach, avoid duplication, ensure coherence of their delivery, maximize their utilization and enable cooperation in implementation where relevant.

# 3.2.2.1. Advice to the members of the BLG:

To make use of the calendar of capacity-building activities resulting from the synergistic work conducted by the CBD Secretariat in follow-up to decision XIII/23 in support of implementation.

**3.2.3. Key action (c):** Deliver coordinated capacity-building, including through regional and subregional mechanisms and online mechanisms, taking advantage of existing networking opportunities for capacity-building and addressing common needs and areas of two or more conventions and including building capacity for synergistic implementation of the conventions.

# 3.2.3.1. Advice to the members of the BLG:

(relates to previous two key actions)

Building on the outputs and outcomes of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24", collaborate in the development and implementation of capacity-building programmes and activities addressing common needs and areas, according to the results of the synergistic work conducted by the CBD Secretariat in follow-up to decision XIII/23.

**3.2.4. Key action (d):** Conduct webinars, regional workshops and other activities for the national focal points of biodiversity-related conventions on accessing funds in the GEF biodiversity focal area.

# 3.2.4.1. Advice to the ES and members of the BLG:

1/ To support webinars, regional workshops and other activities for the national focal points of biodiversity-related conventions on accessing funds in the GEF biodiversity focal area;

- 2/ To include a briefing on GEF mechanism and synergies with other conventions in implementing NBSAPs and Strategic Plan 2011-2020 in COP 14 programme.
- **3.2.5. Key action (e):** To establish joint events, such as a pavilion for biodiversity-related conventions to be convened at international conventions and congresses.

#### 3.2.5.1. Advice to the ES and members of the BLG:

To continue to organize joint events at the margins of COPs, including capacity-building communication/awareness-raising activities, and promotional activities to advertise the existence of the materials and a future online database/ joint website, as relevant and depending on venue and resources.

# II. ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GROUP TO ENHANCE RELATED WORK ON SYNERGIES

- 7. In reviewing the desirable key actions included in the road map 2017-2020, the informal advisory group also identified a number of additional actions that could contribute to enhancing coherent implementation and synergies among biodiversity-related conventions. These additional actions would be complementary to the desirable key actions presented in the table contained in annex II to decision XIII/24. A full list of the additional desirable actions identified by the Group is presented below.
- 8. The informal advisory group further recommends that the Executive Secretary and the members of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions carefully review the recommendations prepared as an output of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24", with a view to their possible follow-up and implementation. These are contained in the project's report, entitled "Recommendations on possible next steps and activities to enhance cooperation and collaboration among the biodiversity-related conventions, and delivering on COP decision XIII/24".

### Additional activities/actions suggested by the informal advisory group on synergies

- 9. During their deliberations, members of the informal advisory group provided suggestions of activities/actions additional to those contained in the table provided in Annex II to decision XIII/24. The suggestions are organized by areas/expected outcomes contained in the table, as follows.
  - 1. Area A. Enhanced cooperation and coordination mechanisms
- 10. Additional activities/key actions relating to enhanced cooperation and coordination mechanisms are as follows:
- (a) Supporting/encouraging the creation of National Liaison Groups of Biodiversity-related Conventions;<sup>3</sup>
- (b) Using the assessment model on Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 to assess the level of implementation of all Aichi Biodiversity Targets;
- (c) Assessing the possibility and desirability of holding meetings of the governing bodies concurrently;
- (d) Addressing mainstreaming at the meetings of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions;
- (e) Identifying draft decision(s) that could be presented to the governing bodies of other biodiversity-related conventions, based on the experience of CMS and CITES:<sup>4</sup>
- (f) The Secretariat could prepare and distribute a survey on coordination mechanisms at the national level;
- even actively participate in meetings of other conventions but cannot accept the invitation due to time and budget constraints of secretariats staff. In the past, secretariats have relied on Party representatives from different conventions to represent them and ensure that the views of the other instrument are equally taken on board to promote coherence and synergies. In return this enables the secretariats of the different conventions to be involved and stay aware of opportunities for synergies even if they are low on staff on the individual processes/topics. As Parties are also organized in regional groups, this furthermore could contribute to a better understanding among the Parties of issues relevant to different multilateral environmental agreements. This informal practice should therefore be acknowledged and encouraged. Examples:
  - (i) CMS Chair of the Strategic Plan Working Group (Belgium) represented the CMS Executive Secretary in a CBD post-2020 framework side-event during the CMS COP12;
  - (ii) CITES National focal point for Mexico reported to the CITES Secretariat on an upcoming IPBES meeting.
  - Other examples can probably be found when talking to the secretariats;
- (h) Make use of the bureau members' functions of communication within their regional group to encourage dialogues and exchanges on issues of synergies among biodiversity-related conventions at the national level;
- (i) The secretariats of biodiversity-related conventions should enhance synergies among them at a practical level through arrangements for management and staffing including time allocation that promote cooperation and communication across the conventions on issues of common concern. This

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Note that, effectively, this has already been included under Annex I of decision XIII/24

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Four Parties to the two conventions submitted a joint proposal to CMS COP 12 for the Parties to CMS to adopt the African Elephant Action Plan, an instrument originally developed in the margins of CITES (CITES Decisions 14.75 to 14.79). Statement by John E. Scanlon, CITES Secretary-General at the Twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Migratory Species. Opening Plenary, Manila, Philippines, 23 October, 2017. Online <a href="https://cites.org/eng/news/sg/CITES">https://cites.org/eng/news/sg/CITES</a> SG opening speech Twelfth CoP Convention on Migratory Species 23102017

could be done through partnership agreements or other formal arrangements or just by exchanging the relevant information among relevant staff. It could be very useful both for the efficiency of the Secretariat as the implementation by the Parties if staff working on similar issues are in communication with their counterparts handling the same issue when for example developing activities, guidance, communication or draft COP decisions on these issues. This would facilitate a coherent approach to implementation and outreach on these issues across the biodiversity-related conventions at low cost as no new structures would be needed, just better communication and organization;

- (j) Cooperation and synergies among the convention secretariats could be facilitated by the further identification of issues of common concern by Parties to the Conventions and by the development of joint work plans on issues of common concern by the secretariats;
- (k) Actions for enhanced synergies among biodiversity-related conventions should be adequately integrated in the preparation for and the development of the post 2020 Biodiversity Framework, in particular as they are essential to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals;
- (l) The preparation of a joint high-level/ministerial global event and other joint activities related to the preparation of the post-2020 framework on biodiversity would encourage active participation of the governing bodies as well as the secretariats of the biodiversity-related conventions in the post-2020 process;
- (m) Enhanced synergies among biodiversity-related conventions should contribute to developing guidance on synergies in implementing NBSAPs and similar strategies and action plans and for strengthening the implementation of the post-2020 biodiversity framework and the Sustainable Development Goals;
- (n) The informal advisory group on synergies should continue to provide advice on and monitor the implementation of the road map until the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
- (o) The informal advisory group on synergies could provide advice on the points mentioned above, in particular with regards to ensuring a synergetic approach towards the post 2020 global biodiversity framework, including options for enhancing synergy on national reporting with regard to the post-2020 global framework, including with regard to common sets of indicators and modular approaches to reporting. As the process for a post-2020 global biodiversity framework proceeds, work needs to progress in parallel on indicator and reporting processes, so that these are defined as soon as possible after the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;
- (p) The biodiversity-related conventions and their secretariats should make effective use of the IPBES Global and Thematic Assessments and influence the IPBES work programme coherently as a community;
- (q) Cooperation and synergies among the conventions could be facilitated by the further sharing of information about the Global Environment Facility and its 7<sup>th</sup> replenishment and resource mobilization.
- 11. In addition, under Area A.1 of the table, the informal advisory group asked the Secretariat to prepare a table showing actions that have been taken by the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions under specific thematic areas, as referenced in paragraph 6 of annex II, including in the areas of climate change and invasive alien species, on which attention had been requested by COP 9 and COP 10, and in the area of "mainstreaming". This task remains to be executed by the Secretariat.
- 2. Area B. Enhancing management of and avoiding duplication related to information and knowledge, national reporting, monitoring and indicators
- 12. Additional activities/key actions relating to enhanced management of and avoiding duplication related to information and knowledge, national reporting, monitoring and indicators, are as follow:

- (a) Supporting/encouraging the creation of national clearing-house mechanisms;<sup>5</sup>
- (b) Considering the re-launch of TEMATEA (which, by structuring provisions of different instruments on specific key topics, provided a practical tool to support a better and more coherent national implementation of biodiversity-related conventions);
  - (c) Involving Parties in developing templates for modular reporting;
- (d) Involving national entities more closely in the development of guidelines and templates on national reports;
- (e) The convention Secretariats should continue to collaborate with UNEP MEA-IKM/InforMEA, UNEP WCMC, IPBES Secretariat and the BIP in the management of information and knowledge and alignment in national data gathering, reporting, monitoring and indicators, as appropriate;
- (f) The convention secretariats should carry out a gap analysis of where additional guidance is needed related to data management systems in the context of synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions, either through the development of new material or through the strengthening of existing guidance;
- (g) The convention secretariats should consider the recommendations of the project, "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24", for further work to support implementation of the road map 2017-2020.
  - 3. Area C. Enhanced provision of capacity-building and guidance
- 13. Additional activities/key actions relating to enhanced provision of capacity-building and guidance are as follows:
- (a) Monitoring and assessing the level of effectiveness of existing tools and mechanisms for enhancing synergies at the national level;
- (b) Inviting UN Environment to create projects of national level coordination that could be supported by the Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) of the United Nations Development Programme;
- (c) Measuring impacts of tools and guidelines on synergies among biodiversity-related conventions at the national level;
- (d) Involving all biodiversity-related conventions in preparing the post-2020 biodiversity framework, and organizing a joint high level/ministerial global event before its adoption.

#### PART 2. WORK AND METHODOLOGY IN FORMULATING ADVICE

# I. INTRODUCTION

1. Part 2 of this report provides relevant background and the working methodology of the informal advisory group.

#### II. INFORMAL ADVISORY GROUP ON SYNERGIES

2. This section provides information about the mandate, background and composition of the informal advisory group on synergies among biodiversity-related conventions.

#### A. Mandate

3. At its thirteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties (COP 13) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) adopted decision XIII/24 on cooperation with other conventions and international

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Relates to surveys on national reports: <a href="https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/ac3a/53b9/51fbfbd17ac62cb6a3e93eea/nrws-2017-01-presentation-01-en.pdf">https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/ac3a/53b9/51fbfbd17ac62cb6a3e93eea/nrws-2017-01-presentation-01-en.pdf</a>

organizations, including options to enhance synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions. In paragraph 15 of the decision, the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary, in consultation with the COP 13 bureau, and subject to availability of resources, to establish an informal advisory group on synergies consisting of Party representatives with balanced representation, including regionally, to provide advice to the Executive Secretary, the bureau and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions, as relevant, on (a) further prioritization of actions in the table contained in annex II of decision XIII/24, and (b) implementing the prioritized actions, and to report to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its second meeting.

# B. Background

- 4. The work of the informal advisory group on synergies builds on previous work undertaken under auspices of the CBD, including the results of the work of an informal advisory group established through decision XII/6 in 2015-2016. That group was mandated to prepare, in consultation with the Secretariat, a workshop with the task of preparing options which could include elements for a possible road map, for Parties of the various biodiversity-related conventions to enhance synergies and improve efficiency among them, with a view to enhancing their implementation at all levels.
- 5. The workshop was held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 8 to 11 February 2016 and convened representation of Parties to seven global biodiversity-related conventions drawn from among their bureaux, standing committees or equivalent bodies. The report of the workshop containing its recommendations was presented for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its first meeting. The outcomes of the workshop had built on a range of earlier work, including work conducted in 2013-2015 by the United Nations Environment Programme through its project on cooperation and synergies among biodiversity-related conventions.
- 6. Based on this work, the Subsidiary Body on Implementation made recommendations to COP 13, which adopted decision XIII/24.

# C. Composition of the Group

7. As requested in paragraph 15 of decision XIII/24, and communicated through CBD Notification 2017-114 dated 3 November 2017,8 the informal advisory group consists of Party representatives with balanced representation, including regionally. The Group contains a diversity of experience relevant to the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and other biodiversity-related conventions. The list of members and their expertise is provided in annex 2 of this report. The overall size of the group was not prescribed by the decision.

Balance among regional groups<sup>9</sup>

Africa 4 members
Asia-Pacific 4 members
Latin America and the Caribbean 4 members

Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) 2 members (1 from EU)

Western Europe and Others Group (WEOG) 4 members (2 from EU, 2 from JUSCANZ)

European Commission 1 member (serves both EU and CEE countries)

Total 19 members

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGR), Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, Especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention) and Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage (World Heritage Convention).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/INF/21 and corresponding recommendations in UNEP/CBD/SBI/1/9/Add.1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Notification 2017-114 available at: <a href="https://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2017/ntf-2017-114-iag-en.pdf">https://www.cbd.int/doc/notifications/2017/ntf-2017-114-iag-en.pdf</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>UN / CBD regional groups: Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC), Central and Eastern Europe (CEE), and Western Europe and Others Group (WEOG).

Balance between developed and developing countries

Developed countries<sup>10</sup>

Developing countries / economies in transition<sup>11</sup>

7 members (including European Commission)

12 members

19 members

Gender balance

Female 14 members
Male 5 members
Total 19 members

8. Noting a gap in the representation of small island developing States (SIDS), the Group requested the Secretariat to invite further nominations of a qualified representative from the Pacific and another from the Caribbean, but no nominations were received.

#### III. DESCRIPTION OF THE WORK OF THE INFORMAL ADVISORY GROUP

- 9. This section describes the organization of work, the meetings and other working methods of the Group.
- 10. To initiate the work of the Group, the Secretariat convened an online conference on 7 December 2017 to discuss the mandate, modalities, organization of work and other introductory matters.
- 11. The Group elected Mr. Hesiquio Benítez of Mexico as its Chair. The Group considered the need to identify, involve and consult other relevant experts, however, considering the expertise contained in the Group, as demonstrated in annex 2 of this report, members concluded that no additional expertise was required to execute their mandate.
- 12. To facilitate its work, and with the generous financial support of the Government of Finland, the Secretariat organized an in-person meeting of the informal advisory group held from 17 to 18 December 2017 in Montreal, Canada. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Benitez and attended by 13 members of the informal advisory group, including one participant by videoconference, with representatives from each of the regions. The meeting elected Ms. Marina von Weissenberg of Finland as its Rapporteur. In addition to staff members of the CBD Secretariat, a representative of the United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment) World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC) participated in the meeting, and a representative of the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands joined the meeting via videoconference.
- During the meeting, the CBD Secretariat gave presentations on synergies across biodiversity-related conventions and co-benefits derived from implementing actions to achieve Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 on protected areas; capacity-building; national reporting; and the InforMEA Initiative and Data Reporting Tool for Multilateral Environmental Agreements. A representative of UNEP-WCMC reported on the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24", which is being conducted in collaboration with the CBD Secretariat and the United Nations Environment Programme with financial support from the governments of Finland and Switzerland and the European Union. The representative of the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention briefed the meeting on relevant work under the Ramsar Convention, including its intersessional work leading up to the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties that will be held in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates, from 21 to 29 October 2018.
- 14. The Group discussed key actions contained in the table in Annex II of decision XIII/24, under areas A (Enhanced cooperation and coordination mechanisms), B (Enhancing management of and avoiding duplication related to information and knowledge, national reporting, monitoring and indicators) and C (Enhanced provision of capacity-building and guidance). It developed notes and suggestions regarding the implementation of the key actions. The Group also decided that, in addition to the key

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> For the purpose of the present analysis, this includes those countries that are members of WEOG and/or EU; and Japan

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> For the purpose of the present analysis, this includes those countries on the OECD DAC List of ODA Recipients; and Kuwait

actions contained in the table in Annex II of decision XIII/24, additional actions could be noted and further considered by the Group and/or presented for the consideration of relevant actors.

- 15. The report of the meeting, including the outcomes of the discussions on the table, is available on the CBD website at the web page of the meeting.<sup>12</sup>
- 16. To conduct additional work and follow-up on pending issues, the Chair with the support of the Secretariat convened three follow-up meetings via the cost-effective means of an online conference facility, on 7 February 2018, 15 March 2018 and 30 April 2018. During these meetings, informed by relevant briefings of update provided by the Secretariat and by UNEP-WCMC and UN Environment on progress of their related work, the Group: analysed the desirable key actions contained in the table in annex II of decision XIII/24; developed notes and suggestions regarding the implementation of the desirable key actions; considered bottlenecks and difficulties in implementing the key actions; prioritized actions by scoring the desirable key actions; identified relevant activities additional to the desirable key actions that could be complementary and helpful to their objectives; considered the outcomes of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24", managed by CBD Secretariat and UNEP and executed by UNEP-WCMC to support key actions of the Road Map 2017-2020 (CBD/SBI/2/INF/13); developed elements of advice on the implementation of the desirable key actions, applicable to the Executive Secretary, the bureau and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions; and prepared and finalized its report to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation.
- 17. At its meeting on 30 April 2018, on the Chair's suggestion the Group created a small team to undertake some remaining tasks, including reviewing the elements of advice in the table of its draft report and the recommendations resulting from the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24". The task team was composed of four members from three regions, and supported by representatives of CBD Secretariat and UNEP-WCMC. The task team met via online conference on 7 May 2018. The Chair incorporated the results of the work of the task team into a draft report, which was circulated to the members of informal advisory group for review and approval via electronic means.
- 18. To support this work, the Secretariat made available an online discussion platform and prepared relevant material. These include: an introductory note on the informal advisory group (mandate, role, etc.); agendas and reports of five meetings; a calendar of relevant international events; a list of members of the informal advisory group and their expertise on biodiversity-related conventions; a description of bottlenecks and difficulties for the desirable key actions; a note on the timeline for preparation of synergies documents; an overview of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24" and activities to support implementation of the key actions; support to the work of the task team; draft possible advice of the informal advisory group to the Executive Secretary, bureau and Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions; a note on the report of the informal advisory group; and a draft report of the Group to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation.

# IV. FORMULATING ADVICE ON THE PRIORITIZATION OF ACTIONS IN THE TABLE CONTAINED IN ANNEX II TO DECISION XIII/24 AND ON IMPLEMENTING THEM

- 19. The informal advisory group on synergies was requested by the COP to provide advice to the Executive Secretary, the bureau and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions on (a) further prioritization of actions in the table contained in annex II to decision XIII/24, and (b) implementing the prioritized actions.
- 20. At the request of the Chair, members of the informal advisory group individually prioritized the desirable key actions, taking into account their discussions and possible bottlenecks and difficulties to their implementation, and each submitted a list of the five they considered to be the highest priorities. The Chair compiled the inputs with support from the Secretariat. A table that summarizes the results of this exercise is provided in section 1 of annex 1 to the present document. However, the Group considers that all desirable key actions are important and should be implemented. The Group also noted that the

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> At the following URL: <a href="https://www.cbd.int/meetings/BRCOM-2017-01">https://www.cbd.int/meetings/BRCOM-2017-01</a>

prioritization is reflected in the possibilities and opportunities for implementation rather than in the scoring of the actions, as demonstrated by the fact that a number of key actions have already been undertaken or are ongoing.

- 21. The Secretariat was requested to prepare draft advice on each of the desirable key actions targeted to the Executive Secretary, the bureau and the Liaison Group on Biodiversity-related Conventions, building upon the observations and suggestions developed by the group in its meetings, and addressing difficulties and bottlenecks to their implementation that were identified. The draft advice was reviewed by the Group at its fourth online meeting and further considered and revised by the task team. The results of this work were incorporated into a revised draft prepared by the Chair and finalized and agreed through electronic review.
- 22. The recommendations resulting from the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24" have been considered by the Group and, where relevant, have been noted in their advice on implementation of desirable key actions.
- 23. The outcome of the work undertaken by the Group on further prioritization and implementation of actions in the table contained in annex II of decision XIII/24 is presented in annex 1 to the present document. This includes a table in section 2 of the annex that summarizes the Group's notes and observations relevant to implementation of each of the desirable key actions; the status of their implementation and any bottlenecks and difficulties identified; and the advice of the Group arising from these.

#### V. ADVICE OF THE INFORMAL ADVISORY GROUP ON SYNERGIES

- 24. The advice of the informal advisory group is presented in Part 1 of this report.
- 25. A representative of the Group will present the Group's advice to the Executive Secretary and the bureau at the meeting of the bureau to be held in July 2018 in Montreal, and its advice to the Liaison Group on Biodiversity-related Conventions at the next meeting of the Liaison Group, which is planned to be held in the fall of 2018 and prior to COP 14, at the World Heritage Centre, UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France.
- 26. In view of the fact that the advice of the Group concerns the implementation of concrete actions for strengthening coherent implementation of biodiversity-related conventions, the majority of its advice targets the Executive Secretary and members of the Liaison Group on Biodiversity-related Conventions. Considering that the bureau does not have a mandate or resources to be involved in the implementation of such actions, advice of the Group to the bureau is of a different nature, for example, to make use of the bureau members' function of communication within their regional group to encourage dialogues and exchanges on issues of synergies among biodiversity-related conventions at the national level. This and other additional activities/key actions suggested by of the Group are addressed in section VI, below.

# VI. ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE GROUP TO ENHANCE RELATED WORK ON SYNERGIES

27. In reviewing the desirable key actions included in the road map 2017-2020, the informal advisory group also identified a number of additional actions that could contribute to enhancing coherent implementation and synergies among biodiversity-related conventions. These additional actions would be complementary to the desirable key actions presented in the table contained in annex II of decision XIII/24. A list of the additional desirable actions identified by the Group is therefore also presented in Part 1 of this report.

# VII. RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON IMPLEMENTATION

28. The informal advisory group also contributed to the formulation of the draft recommendations related to its work that are presented for the consideration of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its second meeting in document CBD/SBI/2/10.

#### **ANNEXES**

#### Annex 1

# Advice on prioritization of actions in the table contained in annex II to decision XIII/24 and on implementing the prioritized actions

#### 1. Advice on prioritizing the desirable key actions in Annex II of Decision XIII/24

1. The following table (Table 1) summarizes the results of the prioritization exercise described in section IV in Part 2 of this report, by which members of the informal advisory group each identified the five key actions in the table contained in Annex II to Decision XIII/24 that they considered to be of highest priority. To facilitate communication and for ease of reference, the Group introduced a different numbering system to the table, referring to key actions #1 to #27 (please refer to table 2, below). The shading used in table 1 is replicated in table 2 to indicate the ranking of each key action.

Table 1: Ranking of desirable key actions contained in Annex II of Decision XIII/24

Ranking	Desirable key action #				
HIGH (5 to 7 votes)	1, 6, 11, 19				
MEDIUM (2 to 4 votes)	2, 4, 5, 9, 12, 15, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27				
LOW (0 to 1 vote)	3, 7, 8, 10, 13, 14, 16, 24				

- 2. The IAG considers that all desirable key actions are important. Specific advice on each action, and additional advice, has been provided by the Group. Actions can be and are being implemented. The Group notes that the prioritization is reflected in the possibilities and opportunities for implementation rather than in the scoring of the actions, as demonstrated by the fact that a number of key actions have already been undertaken or are ongoing.
- 3. Several key actions are related to one another and in some cases their implementation would be sequential, for example, the key actions of the Activity "Capacity Building" (C2). First one would "Identify common areas of national capacity-building needs, across the conventions" (key action #23, C2 (a)); then one would "Share information on ongoing, planned and upcoming capacity-building programmes, etc." (key action #24, C2 (b)); and then one would "Deliver coordinated capacity-building, etc." (key action #25, C2 (c)) and "Conduct webinars, regional workshops, etc." (key action #26, C2(d)).

# 2. Advice on implementing the desirable key actions for enhancing synergies at the international level from 2017 to 2020

- 4. The following table (Table 2) has been adapted from the table contained in Annex II of CBD COP decision XIII/24. The text in normal font is drawn directly from that table. Text inserted as a result of the work of the informal advisory group on synergies is shown in bold font.
- 5. The advice of the informal advisory group on synergies on implementing the desirable key actions for enhancing synergies at the international level from 2017 to 2020 can be found under the column "Advice to the Executive Secretary (ES), the bureau and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG)".
- 6. The table should be read in conjunction with the full text in annex II of decision XIII/24.

Table 2. Table of desirable key actions for enhancing synergies at the international level from 2017 to 2020 including advice from the informal advisory group on synergies

Area/	Activity	Desirable	Timeline	Potential	Notes of the IAG regarding their	Implementation	Advice to the Executive
expected		key action	2017-	lead	recommendations and future work	status and	Secretary (ES), the bureau
outcome			2020	organizatio		bottlenecks and	and the Liaison Group of
				ns		difficulties to	Biodiversity-related
						implementation	Conventions (BLG)
	(Description	(Descriptio	(Indicati	(Lead		•	, ,
	of activity)	n of key	on of the	organizatio			
		action)	start	n, partner			
			and the	organizatio			
			period)	ns, Parties)			
A.	1.	<b>Key action</b>	2017-	Convention	The Liaison Group of Biodiversity-	This is being acted	The IAG has the following
Enhanced	Enhancemen	#1	2020	secretariats	related Conventions could identify	upon. It is an	elements of advice to the
cooperatio	t of the			*	issues with potential for synergies, such	agreement and	BLG:
n and	efficiency of	Counterpar			as biodiversity mainstreaming, post-	wish of the BLG	
coordinatio	the work	t staff			2020 framework, and scenarios for the	that there will be	Taking into account
n	and	working on			2050 vision for biodiversity, Aichi	such cooperation	relevant existing
mechanism	processes of	specific			Biodiversity Targets, climate change	among	liaison/coordination
S	the Liaison	areas <sup>a</sup>			and protected areas.	counterpart staff	mechanisms and work
	Group of				Note on Cotons and of the IAC and	on relevant issues.	undertaken by
	Biodiversity -related				Note on future work of the IAG and	Some interagency	communication and
	Conventions				relevant ongoing work to support the key	liais on/coordinatio	capacity development
					action:	n mechanisms	officers:
	(Biodiversit y Liaison				The Se avetaviet is asked to premare a	(joint work plans	a) to continue to strengthen
	Group,				The Secretariat is asked to prepare a table showing actions that have been	and agreements) are also relevant	collaboration among
	BLG)				table showing actions that have been taken by the Liaison Group of	to this action.	counterpart staff working on specific areas <sup>b</sup> ;
	DLO)				Biodiversity-related Conventions under	to this action.	b) to further identify issues
					specific thematic areas, as referenced in		with potential for
					paragraph 6 of annex II, including in		synergies.
					paragraph o orannex 11, mending m		syncigies.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> The informal advisory group suggested the following areas, among others: biodiversity mainstreaming, Aichi Biodiversity Targets, post-2020 global biodiversity framework, scenarios for the 2050 vision for biodiversity, climate change and protected areas.

b Idem.

Area/ Ac. expected outcome	tivity Desirable key action		Potential lead organizatio ns	Notes of the IAG regarding their recommendations and future work  the areas of climate change and invasive alien species, on which attention had been requested by COP9 and COP10, and in the area of "mainstreaming".	Implementation status and bottlenecks and difficulties to implementation	Advice to the Executive Secretary (ES), the bureau and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG)
other releva organ s in the work Liaison Group Biodir-relate Converto, an others facility coord system action capace building and	ant nization he to contribute to contribute to discussions of the Liaison Group of Biodiversit y-related Conventior s and their preparatior non city-ng; by roles on sibilit	2020	Convention secretariats* and relevant organizations	IAG recognizes the importance for the Liais on Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions to convene meetings with other organizations whose work is relevant to the biodiversity agenda and implementation of the conventions.  Continue to invite relevant organizations. Such involvement should be in line with the mandates and COP decisions, and should not duplicate the decisions. Involvement of others should lead to efficient actions in support of implementation.  Invite suggestions for the agenda and share information and outcomes of such sessions.  The Biodiversity Mainstreaming Platform under FAO is an important initiative to take into consideration. The Environment Management Group should also be involved.  Share information on the work of the	This is being acted upon. Meeting of the BLG and other relevant organizations held September 2017 and subsequent work has been carried out with other relevant organizations in context of decision XIII/23 related to capacity-building. No particular difficulties or bottlenecks envisaged at this point.	The IAG has the following elements of advice to the BLG:  1/To continue to convene meetings with other organizations whose work is relevant to the biodiversity agenda and implementation of the conventions, and: (a) to invite suggestions for the agenda and share information and outcomes of such meetings; (b) to continue to involve FAO in such sessions, particularly in support of the Biodiversity Mainstreaming Platform; (c) to involve the Environment Management Group Secretariat in such

Area/	Activity	Desirable	Timeline	Potential	Notes of the IAG regarding their	Implementation	Advice to the Executive
expected	·	key action	2017-	lead	recommendations and future work	status and	Secretary (ES), the bureau
outcome		•	2020	organizatio	, and the second	bottlenecks and	and the Liaison Group of
				ns		difficulties to	Biodiversity-related
						implementation	Conventions (BLG)
	provide				Liais on Group of Biodiversity-related		sessions.
	links with				Conventions on a web page.		
	appropriate				Land to the state of the state		2/ To share information on
	processes				Find ways for Parties to the		the work of the BLG on a
	related to				conventions to provide feedback on the		web page including the
	the SDGs,				work of the Liaison Group of		minutes of BLG meetings,
	and;				Biodiversity-related Conventions.		in a timely manner.
	facilitate				<b>,</b>		Jan 1
	strengthened				Identify a channel for the IAG to		The IAG has the following
	support to				communicate with the Liaison Group of		elements of advice to
	Parties at the				Biodiversity-related Conventions so		bureau and the BLG:
	regional				that the IAG can bring forward ideas		<del>2001 2001 2011 2011 2011 2011 2011 2011</del>
	level				and advice that could be addressed at		To consider ways for
					the next meeting of the Liaison Group <sup>c</sup> .		Parties to the Conventions,
					the next meeting of the Emison Group (		through bureaux and
					Make available the minutes of the		standing committees or
					meetings of the Liaison Group of		other mechanisms, to
					Biodiversity-related Conventions in		provide feedback on the
					timely manner.		work of the BLG.
					timely mainter.		WOLK OF THE BLG.
					Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related		
					Conventions could consult with the		
					bureaux regarding their agendas, and		
					share information such as minutes of		
					their meetings.		
					then meetings.		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup> Note that the Secretariat informed the IAG that the CBD Secretariat serves as the secretariat of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions.

Area/ expected outcome	Activity	Desirable key action	Timeline 2017- 2020	Potential lead organizatio ns	Notes of the IAG regarding their recommendations and future work	Implementation status and bottlenecks and difficulties to implementation	Advice to the Executive Secretary (ES), the bureau and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG)
		Key action #3  Participatio n at meetings of the Liaison Group of Biodiversit y-related Convention s	2017- 2020	Convention secretariats* and relevant organizatio ns	Recommendations of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24" d:  1. Consider when and how to communicate each of the project deliverables to the Informal Advisory Group (IAG) on Synergies and the Liaison Group of the Biodiversity-related Conventions, so as to both inform the discussion within those fora, and to get their feedback on next steps to be taken.	Meeting of BLG and other relevant organizations held September 2017 and will be repeated in 2018 and beyond involving wider set of relevant organizations.	See under key action #2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>d</sup> The project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24" is facilitated by CBD Secretariat and UNEP and conducted by UNEP-WCMC to support key actions of the Road Map 2017-2020. The results of the project are presented in full in CBD/SBI/2/INF/12.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>e</sup> The Secretariat informed the Group that the organizations that participated at the meeting of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions and other organizations held in September 2017 were FAO, IUCN, UNEP and UNESCO and that it had been agreed that the next such meeting would involve a larger group of relevant organizations.

Area/ expected outcome	Activity	Desirable key action	Timeline 2017- 2020	Potential lead organizatio ns	Notes of the IAG regarding their recommendations and future work	Implementation status and bottlenecks and difficulties to	Advice to the Executive Secretary (ES), the bureau and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related
				ns		implementation	Conventions (BLG)
in eccint w	ooperation n areas of ommon nterest and within the nandates of wo or more onventions	Key action #4  Continued developme nt and strengtheni ng of joint work programme s and memoranda of understandi ng.	2017-2020	Convention secretariats*	Avoid unecessary bureaucracy (if there is no need for an agreement) and focus on useful joint activities.  Take into account work of existing partnerships and coalitions (CPW, CPF, GSPC, IAS-LG), and invite them to share reports/outcomes.  Provide a full list of agreements between the convention secretariats.  Review current agreements between conventions to see if there is a need to update or not, or to include new activities, or if there is a need for new agreements.  IAG notes the relevance of regional joint preparatory meetings for COPs.  Compile information on successful joint initiatives between the secretariats, including joint work in preparing decisions for Parties (example of CMS and CITES).  This key action is linked to key actions #25 and #27.	This is needs- driven, ongoing, dependent on priorities of respective conventions and their secretariats. No particular difficulties or bottlenecks envisaged but relies on aforementioned conditions and capacities of the staff of the secretariats.	The IAG has the following elements of advice to the members of the BLG:  Taking into account work of existing initiatives and coalitions ((CPW, CPF, GSPC, IAS-LG);  (a) to continue to develop and strengthen joint work programmes and agreements, avoiding unnecessary bureaucracy and focusing on useful joint activities;  (b) to collaborate with existing partners hips and coalitions, and invite them to share relevant reports/outcomes;  (c) to make available a full list of agreements between the convention secretariats;  (d) to review current agreements, include new activities/ update existing agreements or establish new agreements, as needed.

Area/ expected outcome	Activity	Desirable key action	Timeline 2017- 2020	Potential lead organizatio ns	Notes of the IAG regarding their recommendations and future work	Implementation status and bottlenecks and difficulties to implementation	Advice to the Executive Secretary (ES), the bureau and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG)
	4. Enhancing the work of the Chairs of the Scientific Advisory Bodies of Biodiversity related Conventions (CSAB)	Key action #5  Coordinati on of the CSAB including to enable the CSAB to serve as a mechanism between the convention s, IPBES and their secretariats	2017-2020	Convention secretariats, * IPBES Secretariat	The IAG encourages the role of the CSAB.  CSAB could identify is sues with potential for synergies, such as the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, biodiversity mainstreaming, post-2020 frame work, and Scenarios for the 2050 Vision for biodiversity, consult with the bure aux regarding their agendas, and share information such as minutes of their meetings.  CSAB could meet at the margins or back-to-back with IPBES, and via cost-efficient means of communication  Chairs could participate as observers in multilateral expert panels.	CBD Secretariat encouraged informal consultation among chairs/secretariats of conventions present at the last IPBES Plenary. BLG recognizes potential value of CSAB. Financial resources are necessary for enabling formal meetings of CSAB with full participation.	The IAG has the following elements of advice to the BLG:  1/To utilize the work of the Chairs of the Scientific Advisory Bodies of Biodiversity-related Conventions (CSAB) as a mechanism between the conventions, IPBES and their secretariats;  2/To facilitate the CSAB: (a) to meet at the margins or back-to-back with IPBES Plenary; (b) to participate as observers in multilateral expert panels; (c) to further identify issues with potential for synergies; (d) to consult with the bureaux regarding their agendas and share information such as minutes of their meetings.

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Area/	Activity	Desirable	Timeline	Potential	Notes of the IAG regarding their	Implementation	Advice to the Executive
expected		key action	2017-	lead	recommendations and future work	status and	Secretary (ES), the bureau
outcome			2020	organizatio		bottlenecks and	and the Liaison Group of
				ns		difficulties to	Biodiversity-related
						implementation	Conventions (BLG)
B.	1.	Key action	2017-	UNEP	IAG recognizes the importance of	The work of the	The IAG has the following
Enhancing	Collaboratio	#6	2020	MEA-	accessing information and of	project,	elements of advice to ES
manageme	n in the			IKM/Infor	interoperability and standardization of	"Supporting	and members of the BLG:
nt of and	management	(a)		MEA and	information, in particular on areas of	implementation of	
avoiding	of	Undertake		the UNEP	importance to more than one	CBD COP	Taking into account the
duplication	information	an analysis		WCMC, in	convention.	decision XIII/24"	outputs and outcomes of
related to	and	of gaps and		collaboratio		has contributed to	the project, "Supporting
informatio	knowledge	duplication		n with the	Suggested addition to potential lead	advancing this.	implementation of CBD
n and	and	s of		secretariats	organizations for B.1.(a): Biodiversity	The development	COP decision XIII/24" and
knowledge	alignment in	existing		of the	Indicators Partnership (BIP)	of the	the 'Sixth National Report:
, national	national data	tools and		biodiversity	indicators rarthership (Bir)	compendium of	Technical reporting
reporting,	gathering,	approaches		related	Recommendations of the project	guidance for	guidance' and other
monitoring	_	. * *		convention	"Supporting implementation of CBD		relevant tools and
_	reporting,	in informatio			COP decision XIII/24":	capturing,	
and	monitoring			S		managing and	initiatives,
indicators	and	n			4.c. Carry out a gap analysis of where	using data and	(a) to continue to
	indicators	manageme			additional guidance is needed related to	information serves	collaborate with UNEP
		nt and			data management systems in the	as a first step to	MEA-IKM/InforMEA,
		knowledge			context of synergies among the	prepare for the	UNEP WCMC and the
		manageme			biodiversity-related conventions, either	gap analysis.	BIP in the management
		nt and an			through the development of new		of information and
		assessment			material or through the strengthening	Financial	knowledge and
		of their			of existing guidance. The aim would be	resources are	alignment in national
		effectivene			to promulgate the guidance in order to	required to	data gathering,
		SS			support the further development of	undertake the	reporting, monitoring
					national systems for biodiversity	study (i.e. analysis	and indicators;
					information management and reporting	of gaps and	(b) to catalyse funding
					in part as a means for supporting	duplications and	appropriate
					imple mentation of conventions at the	assessment of their	imple mentation
					national level. This would help to fulfil	effectiveness).	arrangements to
					key action C2(a).	Consultancy,	undertake an analysis
f Relevant	omponents of the r	roject "Supporti	ng imp lementa	tion of CBD COP	decision XIII/24", managed by managed by CBD Sec	rdiarieti and Wink Band exe	uted by GNES-WEMMentications
Compendi	m of guidance for	capturing, managi	ng and using	data and informati	This actionalist related to Replactions	drawing	of existing tools and
					#15 and #10.	information from	approaches in
					"IO alla "I IV.	the convention	information
						secretariats.	management and
						secicialiais.	knowledge management
							and an assessment of

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Area/	Activity	Desirable	Timeline	Potential	Notes of the IAG regarding their	Implementation	Advice to the Executive
expected		key action	2017-	lead	recommendations and future work	status and	Secretary (ES), the bureau
outcome			2020	organizatio		bottlenecks and	and the Liaison Group of
				ns		difficulties to	Biodiversity-related
						implementation	Conventions (BLG)
		Key action	2017-	UNEP-	Suggested addition to potential lead	Action pending.	The IAG has the following
		#7	2020	WCMC,	organizations for B.1.(b): IUCN. Note:		elements of advice to the
				Convention	relates also to C2.	Dedicated	ES and members of the
		(b)Provide		secretariats*		financial resources	BLG:
		support in			Recommendations of the project	required. Could	
		designing			"Supporting implementation of CBD	be delivered	Taking into account the
		data			COP decision XIII/24":	through a project	outputs and outcomes of
		collection				aimed at the	the project, "Supporting
		and			4.a. Facilitate easy access to the	national level and	imple mentation of CBD
		monitoring			guidance material through	informed by the	CÔP de cision XIII/24", in
		systems			development of an online interactive	needs of the	collaboration with UNEP,
					database. Regardless of where the	various	UNEP-WCMC and IUCN,
					online database would be hosted, it will	conventions:	catalyse funding and
					be important to promote it via relevant	project	appropriate
					websites, including the convention	development,	imple me ntation
					websites. Part of the work on this has	funding and	arrangements for a project
					already been undertaken, with	imple mentation	facilitate easy access to the
					development of a wire frame.		guidance material and
							provide support in
					15. Develop a programme for		designing data collection
					supporting national biodiversity data		and monitoring systems
					management, which will support		aimed at the national level
					national efforts in data gathering,		and informed by the needs
					reporting, monitoring and indicators,		of the various conventions.
					including with regard to the		
					development of national reports to		The IAG has the following
					CBD. This could include organizing		elements of advice to the
					activities to foster experience sharing,		<u>ES:</u>
					taking into account and utilizing		
					relevant initiatives including those		To include action above in
					under the CBD CHM, InforMEA and		the proposed activities for
					GBIF. This builds on the compendia		the 2019-2020 biennium
					described above and relevant case		and associated voluntary
					studies, any new guidance developed,		budget for consideration
					and would include capacity-building		and approval at COP14.
					activities, and conducting pilot studies		
					on database planning and management.		
		I	l	I	This would respond to key actions	l .	

Area/	Activity	Desirable	Timeline	Potential	Notes of the IAG regarding their	Implementation	Advice to the Executive
	Activity	key action	2017-	lead	recommendations and future work	status and	Secretary (ES), the bureau
expected		key action	2017-		recommendations and future work	bottlenecks and	and the Liaison Group of
outcome			2020	organizatio			Biodiversity-related
				ns		difficulties to	•
		T7	2015	INED	D. Cd.	implementation	Conventions (BLG)
		Key action	2017-	UNEP-	Recommendations of the project	This is positively	The IAG has the following
		#8	2020	WCMC,	"Supporting implementation of CBD	progressing under	elements of advice to ES
		(a)		Convention	COP decision XIII/24":	the project,	and members of the BLG:
		(c)		secretariats*	4 35 334 4	"Supporting	D 1111 41 141
		Advance			4.a. Facilitate easy access to the	implementation of	Building on the positive
		and make			guidance material through	CBD COP	outputs and outcomes of
		use of			development of an online interactive	decision XIII/24",	the project "Supporting
		relevant			database. Regardless of where the	which is	imple mentation of CBD
		case			online database would be hosted, it will	supporting key	COP decision XIII/24"s: to
		studies on			be important to promote it via relevant	actions of the	catalyse funding and
		informatio			websites, including the convention	Road Map 2017-	appropriate
		n			websites. Part of the work on this has	2020. Additional	imple mentation
		manageme			already been undertaken, with	resources are	arrangements for a project
		nt, such as			development of a wire frame.	being sought for	to further support the
		those				the online library	online library of case
		described			6.a. Increase access to case studies by	of case studies,	studies, conceived as
		in the			building a user-friendly online	conceived as	a"living" and updateable
		UNEP			interactive database. The aim would be	a"living" and	resource/tool.
		Sourceboo			to create or make use of a structure that	update able	
		k of			ensures owners hip of all of the	resource/tool.	The IAG has the following
		opportuniti			biodiversity-related conventions as well		elements of advice to the
		es for			as regular updating once new case		<u>ES:</u>
		enhancing			studies become available. This could,		
		cooperatio			for example, be achieved through a		To include action above in
		n among			joint conventions we bsite or by adding		the proposed activities for
		the			another dimension to a future online		the 2019-2020 biennium
		biodiversit			database for the guidance included in		and associated voluntary
		y-related			the three compendia. It should be		budget for consideration
		convention			highlighted that the maintenance of an		and approval at COP14.
		s at			online library of case studies on		
g Relevant of	omponents of the j	r <b>nætiona:</b> ] Comp	endium of gui	dance for capturi	s yneasie said minsedresand reformteins chanca	dium of key global database	s; Making available further case
studies based	d on national expe	rienge of delivering	ig synergies.		the maintenance of a database for the		
		regional			type of information included in the		
		levels (the			compendia, since it requires active		
		UNEP			sourcing of additional case studies and		
		Sourceboo			support for their development, as well		
		k)			as review of submitted case studies to		
		<i>′</i>			ansure their quality/us of ulness. This		

Area/	Activity	Desirable	Timeline	Potential	Notes of the IAG regarding their	Implementation	Advice to the Executive
expected	, in the second	key action	2017-	lead	recommendations and future work	status and	Secretary (ES), the bureau
outcome			2020	organizatio		bottlenecks and	and the Liaison Group of
				ns		difficulties to	Biodiversity-related
						implementation	Conventions (BLG)
		<b>Key action</b>		UNEP	Note: also relates to	The work of the	The IAG has the following
		#9		MEA-	C2.Recommendations of the project	project,	elements of advice to the
				IKM/Infor	"Supporting implementation of CBD	"Supporting	ES and members of the
		(d) Provide		MEA and	COP decision XIII/24":	implementation of	BLG:
		guidance		the UNEP		CBD COP	
		on national		WCMC, in	6.a. Increase access to case studies by	decision XIII/24"	In collaboration between
		databases,		collaboratio	building a user-friendly online	has contributed to	the secretariats of the
		data access		n with the	database. The aim would be to create or	advancing this	biodiversity-related
		and use,		secretariats	make use of a structure that ensures	through the	conventions, and building
		and share		of the	ownership of all of the biodiversity-	development of	on the online library
		experience		biodiversity	related conventions as well as regular	the compendium	prepared under the project
		in national		related	updating once data is available. This	of guidance for	"Supporting
		database		convention	could, for example, be achieved through	capturing,	imple mentation of CBD
		developme		s*	a joint conventions website or by	managing and	COP de cision XIII/24" and
		nt and use,			adding another dimension to a future	using data and	other relevant initiatives: to
		taking into			online database. This would help to	information.	catalyse funding and
		account			fulfil key action C1(b) of the road map.		appropriate
		and				The focus of the	imple me ntation
		utilizing			15. Develop a programme for	key action is to	arrangements for a project
		relevant			supporting national biodiversity data	support national	to develop guidance on
		initiatives			management, which will support	databases etc.	national databases, data
		including			national efforts in data gathering,	Dedicated	access and use through a
		those under			reporting, monitoring and indicators,	financial resources	dedicated project.
		the			including with regard to the	are required.	
		clearing-			development of sixth national reports to		The IAG has the following
		house			CBD. This would respond to key	The above-	elements of advice to the
		mechanism			actions B1(d), B1(e), B1(h), B2(a) and	mentioned online	<u>ES:</u>
		of the			B2(b) of the road map.	library of case-	
		Convention				studies (see key	To include action above in
h		<del>- on -</del>			This action also related to key actions	action #8) will	the proposed activities for
n Relevant o	components of the	20BABABBCABD S	ecretariat/UN	Environment/ Ul	#8,#9% are: Compendium of guidance for		
Compendiu	m of key global d		ivaliable furth	ier case studies ba	sed on national experience of delivering synergies.	sharing of	and associated voluntary
		MEA				national	budget for consideration
		IKM/Infor				experience.A	and approval at COP14.
		MEA and				guidance	
		the Global				facility/me chanis	
		Biodiversit				m could perhaps	
1	İ	¥ 7				l l	

Area/ expected outcome	Activity	Desirable key action	Timeline 2017- 2020	Potential lead organizatio ns	Notes of the IAG regarding their recommendations and future work	Implementation status and bottlenecks and difficulties to	Advice to the Executive Secretary (ES), the bureau and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related
		Key action #10  (e) Support national efforts in national data gathering, reporting, monitoring and indicators, building on the work of InforMEA and the mapping exercises identified in the UNEP Sourcebook		Convention secretariats, * BLG** in collaboratio n with UNEP	Recommendations of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24":  15. Develop a programme for supporting national biodiversity data manage ment, which will support national efforts in data gathering, reporting, monitoring and indicators, including with regard to the development of sixth national reports to CBD. This could include organizing activities to foster experience sharing, taking into account and utilizing relevant initiatives including those under the CBD CHM, InforMEA and GBIF. This would respond to key actions B1(d), B1(e), B1(h), B2(a) and B2(b) of the road map.  This action also related to key actions #8, #9 and #13	implementation Action pending.  Relates to key action #9. Could be delivered through a dedicated project. Financial resources for such would be required.	The IAG has the following elements of advice to the ES and members of the BLG:  Building on key action #9, and the positive outputs and outcomes of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24", catalyse funding and appropriate implementation arrangements for a project to develop a programme to support national efforts in national data gathering, reporting, monitoring and indicators.  The IAG has the following elements of advice to the ES:  To include action above in the proposed activities for the 2019-2020 biennium and associated voluntary budget for consideration and approval at COP 14.

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Area/	Activity	Desirable	Timeline	Potential	Notes of the IAG regarding their	Implementation	Advice to the Executive
expected		key action	2017-	lead	recommendations and future work	status and	Secretary (ES), the bureau
outcome			2020	organizatio		bottlenecks and	and the Liaison Group of
				ns		difficulties to	Biodiversity-related
						implementation	Conventions (BLG)
		<b>Key action</b>	2017-	Convention	Suggested addition to potential lead	Action pending.	The IAG has the following
		#11	2020	secretariats,	organizations for B.1.(f): UNDP		elements of advice to the
				* BLG**	(GEOBON). InforMEA and UNEP-	Dedicated	ES and members of the
		(f)		and	WCMC with regards to online	financial support	BLG:
		Maximize		relevant	reporting systems	for staff effort of	
		data		reciprocal		convention	Building on the outputs and
		compatibili		organizatio	Recommendations of the project	secretariats.	outcomes of the project
		ty and		ns	"Supporting implementation of CBD	Establishment of	"Supporting
		enhance			COP decision XIII/24":	an agreed	implementation of CBD
		links			5.d.Make recommendations on how to	initiative among	COP decision XIII/24",
		between			maximize data compatibility and links	them and with	and in collaboration with
		the data			between databases by engaging in	custodians of	UNDP (GEOBON).
		systems of			relevant discussion of the IKM	relevant global	InforMEA and UNEP-
		the			initiative (re InforMEA) and the CHM	knowledge	WCMC: to consider
		convention			network. This would draw on the work	products.	supporting the
		s and			done in compiling the compendium and	<b>P</b>	establishment of an agreed
		relevant			take this further in developing		initiative in support of key
		global			understanding on how links could be		action #11.
		knowledge			made to these databases in ways that		
		products;			increase their accessibility and utility		
		improve			for conventions and their		
		harmonizat			imple mentation.		
		ion, links					
		and					
		interoperab					
		ility of all					
		relevant					
		biodiversit					
		y-related					
		data_					
i Relevant o	omponents of the ?		ecretariat/LIN	Environment/ LIN	  EP-WCMCproject are: Compendia of Guidance; Con	nnendium of key global, date	hases: and Overview of
	n synergies at the i				22 West of project are. Compendia of Guidance, Con-	p sharam of hey globar date	outes, una overview or

initiatives on synergies at the international and regional levels.

Area/	Activity	Desirable	Timeline	Potential	Notes of the IAG regarding their	Implementation	Advice to the Executive
expected	11000,000	key action	2017-	lead	recommendations and future work	status and	Secretary (ES), the bureau
outcome			2020	organizatio		bottlenecks and	and the Liaison Group of
				ns		difficulties to	Biodiversity-related
						implementation	Conventions (BLG)
		<b>Key action</b>		Convention	IAG encourages joint and coordinated	This is ongoing.	The IAG has the following
		#12		secretariats'	work.	Convention	elements of advice to the
				* BLG**		secretariats (and	BLG:
		(g)			Suggested addition to potential lead	their host	
		Contribute			organizations for B.1.(g): BIP, IAEG	organizations)	Building on the positive
		to the			(interagency and expert group on SDG	have participated	outputs and outcomes of
		ongoing			indicators), Environment-Live	in the meetings of	the project "Supporting
		processes				the Inter-agency	implementation of CBD
		on			Recommendations of the project	and Expert Group	COP decision XIII/24", in
		indicators			"Supporting implementation of CBD	on	collaboration with BIP,
		for the			COP decision XIII/24":	SDG Indicators	IAEG (interagency and
		Sustainable				(IAEG-SDGs) and	expert group on SDG
		Developme			14. Enhance synergies in the	contributed to this	indicators) and
		nt Goals,			development and use of biodiversity	ongoing process.	Environment-Live: to
		including			indicators and the SDGs. Creation of a	Several	continue joint and
		their			mapping of BIP indicators currently	convention	coordinated work on key
		refinement,			used to measure progress in achieving	secretariats serve	action #12.
		and to the			the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, the	as custodian	
		discussion			Sustainable Development Goals and	agencies or	
		of			biodiversity-related convention targets	partner agencies	
		biodiversit			and goals, as well as identifying suitable	for indicators for	
		y-related			indicators to measure progress under	specific SDG	
		indicators			the different processes in the future that	targets. For	
		under each			are not currently used for this purpose.	example, Ramsar	
		of the other			Among other things, this would	is custodian	
		convention			contribute to implementing key action	agency for	
		S			B1(g) of the road map.	indicator 6.6.1	
						together with	
					This action also related to key action	UNEP; CITES is	
					#10.	custodian agency	
						for indicators	
						15.7.1 and 15.c.1	
						together with	
						UNODC; CBD is	
						custodian agency	
						for indicators	
						15.6.1 and 15.9.1;	
						FAO (bost of	

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Area/	Activity	Desirable	Timeline	Potential	Notes of the IAG regarding their	Implementation	Advice to the Executive
expected		key action	2017-	lead	recommendations and future work	status and	Secretary (ES), the bureau
outcome			2020	organizatio		bottlenecks and	and the Liaison Group of
				ns		difficulties to	Biodiversity-related
						implementation	Conventions (BLG)
		Key action		Convention	Note: Relates also to section C.2	Action pending.	The IAG has the following
		#13		secretariats,			elements of advice to and
				* UNEP	Recommendations resulting from the	This would need	members of the BLG:
		(h)		and other	project "Supporting implementation of	to be provided	
		Provide, at		internationa	CBD COP decision XIII/24":	through a	Taking into consideration
		the		1		dedicated	the outcomes and outputs
		regional		organizatio	4.a. Facilitate easy access to the	capacity-building	of the project "Supporting
		and		ns that have	guidance material through	project endorsed	implementation of CBD
		subregional		a mandate	development of an online interactive	by participating	COP decision XIII/24",
		levels,		in	database. Regardless of where the	countries: project	catalyse funding and
		capacity-		addressing	online database would be hosted, it will	development,	appropriate
		building		biodiversity	be important to promote it via relevant	funding and	implementation
		related to		-related	websites, including the convention	imple mentation.	arrangements for a
		data		matters	websites. Part of the work on this has	imprementation.	dedicated capacity-building
		manageme		111111111111111111111111111111111111111	already been undertaken, with		project endorsed by
		nt and			development of a wire frame.		participating countries to
		national			de veropment of a wife if ame.		provide, at the regional and
		reporting,			This action also related to key actions		subregional levels,
		including			#9 and #16.		capacity-building related to
		training on			#9 and #10.		
		database					data management and
							national reporting,
		systems					including training on
							database systems.
							The IAG has the following
							elements of advice to the
							<u>ES:</u>
							To include action above in
							the proposed activities for
							the 2019-2020 biennium

Area/ expected outcome	Activity	Desirable key action	Timeline 2017- 2020	Potential lead organizatio ns	Notes of the IAG regarding their recommendations and future work	Implementation status and bottlenecks and difficulties to implementation	Advice to the Executive Secretary (ES), the bureau and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG) and associated voluntary budget for consideration
		Key action #14  (i) Keep under review opportunities for cooperation in reporting under the conventions, in line with CBD COP decision XIII/27 on national reporting, and for ensuring interoperability between reporting systems or	2017-2018	CBD Secretariat, convention secretariats, * UNEP and other relevant internationa l organizatio ns	Recommendations of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24":  13. Further explore options for enhancing synergy on national reporting with regard to the post-2020 agenda for biodiversity, including with regard to common sets of indicators and modular approaches to reporting. As the process for a post-2020 global biodiversity frame work proceeds, work needs to progress in parallel on indicator and reporting processes, so that these are defined as soon as possible after the post-2020 global biodiversity frame work is approved to allow for a very active process for review of implementation. All as pects—the frame work itself, the indicators and the reporting—should be considered in the context of all biodiversity-related conventions so as to reinforce opportunities for consistent approaches and collaboration in implementation. This is anticipated in COP decision XIII/24 on cooperation and COP	Work under implementation of CBD decision XIII/27 is contributing to this. Action would require direction from the governing bodies of each of the conventions. Further dedicated financing would be required for IT development. Financial support may be required to each of the convention secretariats to enable dedicated staff effort.	The IAG has the following elements of advice to the ES and members of the BLG:  Taking into consideration the outcomes and outputs of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24", and taking account of the work under implementation of CBD decision XIII/27: to seek direction from the governing bodies of the conventions to enable implementation of key action #14, including to provide funds for IT development and to enable dedicated staff effort.

Area/ expected outcome	Activity	Desirable key action	Timeline 2017- 2020	Potential lead organizatio ns	Notes of the IAG regarding their recommendations and future work	Implementation status and bottlenecks and difficulties to implementation	Advice to the Executive Secretary (ES), the bureau and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG)
		platforms (BLG), making use of and continuing the developme nt of approaches and possible toolsi			decision XIII/27 on national reporting, and in SBSTTA recommendation XXI/1 with respect to preparation for discussing the process for development of the post-2020 global biodiversity agenda. It would help to fulfil key action key action B1(i) of the road map.		
	2.Provide countries with capacity-building at the national level in the area of information and knowledge management	Key action #15  (a) Provision of appropriate tools and technology for database developme nt		UNEP, UNDP and other relevant internationa l organizatio ns	Note: Relates also to C2.  Refer to existing guidance from GEF.  Refer to the "Connect" project by UNEP-WCMC.  Identify potential partners including from the private sector.  Suggested addition to potential lead organizations for B.2.(a): CBD Secretariat and UNEP-WCMC (i.e. UNEP including UNEP-WCMC)	Action pending.  Would need to be provided through a dedicated project endorsed by participating countries: project development, financing and implementation.	The IAG has the following elements of advice to the members of the BLG:  Taking into account the outcomes of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24"k, existing guidance from the GEF, the "Connect" project, in collaboration with UNEP, UNDP, UNEP-WCMC and other potential partners, and with the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>j</sup> Such as the modular approach to reporting in FOEN, UNEP-WCMC, NatureConsult (2016). Elements for a modular reporting against the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. UNEP-WCMC, Cambridge (UNEP/CBD/COP/13/INF/24).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>k</sup>Relevant components of the 2017 CBD Secretariat/UNEP-WCMC project are: Compendium of guidance for capturing, managing and using data and information; Compendium of key global databases; and Overview of initiatives on synergies at the international and regional level.

Area/ expected outcome	Activity	Desirable key action	Timeline 2017- 2020	Potential lead organizatio ns	Notes of the IAG regarding their recommendations and future work	Implementation status and bottlenecks and difficulties to implementation	Advice to the Executive Secretary (ES), the bureau and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG)
					Recommendations of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24":  4.a. Facilitate easy access to the guidance material through development of an online interactive database. Regardless of where the online database would be hosted, it will be important to promote it via relevant websites, including the convention websites. Part of the work on this has already been undertaken, with development of a wire frame.  4.b Research and incorporate additional information on guidance. Drawing on feedback received during the review phase, in particular from members of the CHM IAC and a number of focal points, include information on who should be using the guidance, and how.  15. Develop a programme for supporting national biodiversity data manage ment, which will support national efforts in data gathering, reporting, monitoring and indicators, including with regard to the development of sixth national reports to		endorsement of participating countries: catalyse funding and appropriate implementation arrangements for a dedicated project to implement key action #15.  The IAG has the following elements of advice to the ES:  To include action above in the proposed activities for the 2019-2020 biennium and associated voluntary budget for consideration and approval at COP 14.

Area/ expected outcome	Activity	Desirable key action	Timeline 2017- 2020	Potential lead organizatio ns	Notes of the IAG regarding their recommendations and future work	Implementation status and bottlenecks and difficulties to implementation	Advice to the Executive Secretary (ES), the bureau and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG)
					CBD. This could include organizing activities to foster experience sharing, taking into account and utilizing relevant initiatives including those under the CBD CHM, InforMEA and GBIF. This builds on the compendia of guidance and relevant case studies, any new guidance developed, and would include capacity-building activities, and conducting pilot studies on database planning and management. This would respond to key actions B1(d), B1(e), B1(h), B2(a) and B2(b) of the road map.		

Area/	Activity	Desirable	Timeline	Potential	Notes of the IAG regarding their	Implementation	Advice to the Executive
expected		key action	2017-	lead	recommendations and future work	status and	Secretary (ES), the bureau
outcome			2020	organizatio	-	bottlenecks and	and the Liaison Group of
				ns		difficulties to	Biodiversity-related
						implementation	Conventions (BLG)
		<b>Key action</b>		UNEP,	Note: Relates also to C2.	Action pending.	The IAG has the following
		#16		UNDP and			elements of advice to the
				other		Would need to be	members of the BLG:
		(b) Pilot		relevant		provided through	
		studies on		internationa		a dedicated	Building on the positive
		database		1		project endorsed	outputs and outcomes of
		planning		organizatio		by participating	the project "Supporting
		and		ns		countries: project	imple mentation of CBD
		manageme				development,	COP decision XIII/24", in
		nt, for				financing and	collaboration with UNEP,
		example in				imple mentation.	UNDP and other relevant
		two					organizations, and with the
		countries					endorsement of
		per region					participating countries: to
							consider supporting the
							development of a dedicated
							project to implement key
							action #16.

Area/ expected outcome	Activity	Desirable key action	Timeline 2017- 2020	Potential lead organizatio ns	Notes of the IAG regarding their recommendations and future work	Implementation status and bottlenecks and difficulties to implementation	Advice to the Executive Secretary (ES), the bureau and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG)
C. Enhanced provision of capacity-building and guidance	1. Make existing guidance material more widely known and readily available or prepare new materials to address any gaps	#17  (a) List of existing guidance materials on synergies	2017- 2018	UNEP- WCMC	Key action (a) "List of existing guidance materials on synergies", should include: -decisions and resolutions -guidance and documents provided by MEAs for other organizations (reporting, NBSAPs) -other resources such as web platforms Make guidance easily available. This action also related to key action #21.	This has been carried out in the context of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24" through the production of three compendia of guidance. Further financial resources would be nefit dissemination and maintenance.	The IAG has the following elements of advice to the ES and members of the BLG:  Building on the outputs and outcomes of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24", support the dissemination and maintenance of guidance material, and prepare new materials to address any gaps.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Relevant components of the 2017/2018 CBD Secretariat/UN Environment/ UNEP-WCMC project are: Compendium of guidance for capturing, managing and using data and information; Compendium of key global databases; Making available further case studies based on national experience of delivering synergies; and Overview of initiatives on synergies at the international and regional level.

Area/	Activity	Desirable	Timeline	Potential	Notes of the IAG regarding their	Implementation	Advice to the Executive
expected	11000,009	key action	2017-	lead	recommendations and future work	status and	Secretary (ES), the bureau
outcome		l liey dellari	2020	organizatio	Teednamentations and familie work	bottlenecks and	and the Liaison Group of
				ns		difficulties to	Biodiversity-related
				7.5		implementation	Conventions (BLG)
		<b>Key action</b>	2017-	BLG,**	Have available a yearly calendar of	Action pending	The IAG has the following
		#18	2018	convention	events and meetings of biodiversity-	rection pending	elements of advice to the
		#10	2010	secretariats,	related conventions including with	Need dedicated	members of the BLG:
		(b) A guide		* UNEP	regards to International Day on	time of convention	members of the BLG.
		and other		01,21	Biological Diversity (IDB).	secretariat staff or	<b>Building on the positive</b>
		communica			Biological Diversity (IDD).	additional funding	outputs and outcomes of
		tions			Recommendations of the project	for consultant.	the project "Supporting
		material			"Supporting implementation of CBD	Funding for	imple mentation of CBD
		about the			COP decision XIII/24":	production of	COP decision XIII/24" and
		biodiversit			COT WEEDSWIN ANTINZT .	guide/communicat	in collaboration with
		y-related			2. Follow-up activities to the three	ion material	UNEP:
		convention			compendia of guidance (3-5):	Important to do	(a) prepare and make
		s, their			a. Create a "one-stop shop" for all	this across	available yearly
		relationshi			guidance material identified in the	conventions, and	calendars of events and
		ps and			three compendia of guidance to	not just within	meetings of
		synergies			facilitate access and promote its use.	CBD.	biodiversity-related
		among			The aim would be to create a structure	CDD.	conventions;
		them			that ensures ownership by all of the		(b) support the production
		them			biodiversity-related conventions as well		of a guide and other
					as regular updating once new guidance		communication
					becomes available. This could, for		material about the
					example, be achieved through a joint		biodiversity-related
					conventions we bsite.		conventions, their
					b. Carry out promotional activities to		relations hips and
					advertise the existence of the materials		synergies among them.
					and a future online database/joint		synergies among them.
					website, for example via a joint		
					notification, producing a one-pager that explains the project.		
					c. Consider making available e.g. the Sourcebook and/or the future online		
					database itself in the other UN		
					languages. d.For each of the compendia consider		
					whether needs periodic update, and if		
					so how frequently. e. Review of the use of the available		
					e. Review of the use of the available		
				1	and notantally its		

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Area/	Activity	Desirable	Timeline	Potential	Notes of the IAG regarding their	Implementation	Advice to the Executive
expected		key action	2017-	lead	recommendations and future work	status and	Secretary (ES), the bureau
outcome			2020	organizatio		bottlenecks and	and the Liaison Group of
				ns		difficulties to	Biodiversity-related
						implementation	Conventions (BLG)
		<b>Key action</b>	2016-	BLG,**	Notes importance of 2018 regional	Action pending.	The IAG has the following
		#19	2018	CBD	workshops on synergies organized by		elements of advice to the
				Secretariat,	UN Environment.	Need dedicated	ES and members of the
		(c)		convention		time of convention	BLG:
		Guidance		secretariats,	Suggested addition to potential lead	secretariat staff or	
		on		* UNEP	organizations for C.1.(c): UNEP	additional funding	<b>Building on the positive</b>
		synergies			regional offices (i.e. UNEP including	for consultant.	outputs and outcomes of
		in			regional offices), other regional		the project "Supporting
		implementi			coordination mechanisms, UNDP	While NBSAPs	imple mentation of CBD
		ng the			,	are a key tool for	COP decision XIII/24",in
		national			Notes the existing guidance under other	synergies at the	collaboration with UNEP
		biodiversit			MEAs (e.g. CMS guidance for the	national level, the	(including UNEP regional
		y strategy			integration of migratory species in the	criticism is that	offices), other regional
		and action			NBSAPs)	nevertheless	coordination mechanisms
		plan and			11251215)	broader awareness	and UNDP, and taking into
		similar			Recommendations of the project	related to all	account existing guidance
		strategies			"Supporting implementation of CBD	convention	and activities under the
		and action			COP decision XIII/24":	planning tools	conventions and UNEP, to
		plans of			COT WCCISIONTIATIVET	(such as national	consider supporting the
		other			11. Develop guidance on synergies in	wetland policies	development of further
		biodiversit			implementing NBSAPs and similar	under the Ramsar	guidance material as
		y-related			strategies and action plans to	Convention) is	described in key action #19.
		convention			imple ment other biodiversity-related	crucial to identify	described in Key action #13.
					conventions. This recommendation		
		S				entry points for	
					responds to feedback by stakeholders	synergy.	
					involved in other biodiversity-related		
					conventions than CBD, that the focus of		
					the synergies discourse with respect to		
					biodiversity and ecosystem service		
					planning is always only on NBSAPs.		
					The target audience would be national		

Area/ expected outcome	Activity	Desirable key action	Timeline 2017- 2020	Potential lead organizatio ns	Notes of the IAG regarding their recommendations and future work	Implementation status and bottlenecks and difficulties to implementation	Advice to the Executive Secretary (ES), the bureau and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG)
					focal points of biodiversity-related conventions and other stakeholders involved in the implementation of the convention. This would help to fulfil key action C1(c) of the road map.  This action also related to key action #18.		
		(d) Guidance document on possible opportuniti es for a coordinate d approach to funding from the GEF and other multilateral systems including the Green Climate Fund where appropriate	2018-2020	CBD Secretariat in collaboratio n with GEF secretariat and consultatio n with the Secretariats of other biodiversity -related convention s, FAO	Notes the importance of synergies in the documents about GEF replenishment.  Notes the importance of the Source book of opportunities for enhancing cooperation among the Biodiversity-related Conventions at national and regional levels.  Recommends making use of BIOFIN and its note book, and exploring other opportunities including in the private sector.  Note: this key action could be under a) (key action #17)  Highlights the COP decision XII/30 inviting other MEA COPs to provide advice to GEF through the CBD COP and notes the need to discuss this in the BLG to fully take advantage of this structure. (see also action #26)	Action pending.  Need dedicated time of convention secretariat staff or additional funding for consultant/contract.	(relate to key action #26) The IAG has the following elements of advice to the ES:  Building on the positive outputs and outcomes of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24" and in collaboration with GEF and convention secretariats: develop a guidance document as described under key action #20 that would:  (a) note the importance of synergies in documents about GEF replenishment;  (b) note the importance of the Source book of opportunities for

Area/	Activity	Desirable	Timeline	Potential	Notes of the IAG regarding their	Immlamantation	Advice to the Executive
	Activity					Implementation	
expected		key action	2017-	lead	recommendations and future work	status and	Secretary (ES), the bureau
outcome			2020	organizatio		bottlenecks and	and the Liaison Group of
				ns		difficulties to	Biodiversity-related
						implementation	Conventions (BLG)
		and/or					enhancing cooperation
		possible			Recommendations of the project		among the
					"Supporting implementation of CBD		biodiversity-related
					COP decision XIII/24":		conventions at
							national and regional
					12. Develop a briefing note on possible		levels;
					opportunities for a coordinated		(c) recommend making
					approach to funding from GEF-7 and		use of BIOFIN and its
					other multilateral systems, where		notebook, and
					appropriate. This could be prepared in		exploring other
					time for CBD COP14. This work would		opportunities
					build up on section 6 of the UN		including in the
					Environment Sourcebook and in		private sector;
					particular Annex 3 on Opportunities		(d) highlight the COP
					for accessing GEF funds for the		de cision XII/30
					coherent implementation of the		inviting other MEA
					biodiversity-related conventions and		COPs to provide
					thus be targeted at national focal points		advice to GEF through
					of biodiversity-related conventions as		the CBD COP
					well as national GEF focal points. This		(e) note the need to
					would help to fulfil key action C1(d)		discuss this in the
					and contribute to key action C2(d) of		BLG.
					the road map.		DLG.
					the road map.		
					This action also related to key action		
					#26.		
		IZ ···	2010	CBD		Th:4:	The IACher (I. C.II.
		Key action	2018-		Success stories should be made	This action has	The IAG has the following
		#21	2020	Secretariat,	available on the CHM	been strongly	elements of advice to the
		(-) (		BLG,**		advanced through	ES and members of the
		(e) Success		convention	Explore location(s) for the online	the project	BLG:
		stories of		secretariats	library.	"Supporting	

Area/	Activity	Desirable	Timeline	Potential	Notes of the IAG regarding their	Implementation	Advice to the Executive
expected	Henvity	key action	2017-	lead	recommendations and future work	status and	Secretary (ES), the bureau
outcome		ney action	2020	organizatio	recommendations and juille work	bottlenecks and	and the Liaison Group of
			2020	ns		difficulties to	Biodiversity-related
				115		implementation	Conventions (BLG)
		synergies		* and GEF		implementation of	To collaborate to develop
		in the		una GEI	Note: relates also to section B 1 c).	CBD COP	and find an accessible
		implement			rote. Telaus also to seedon B 1 ej.	decision XIII/24",	location for the concept of
		ation of the			Recommendations of the project	including through	an online library developed
		biodiversit			"Supporting implementation of CBD	the development	under the project
		y-related			COP decision XIII/24":	of an online	"Supporting
		convention			COT uccision AIII/27.	repository.	implementation of CBD
		s are			6. Follow-up activities to further foster	repository.	COP decision XIII/24".
		compiled			experience exchange at the national	A future/ongoing	COI decision AIII/24 .
		and made			level	difficulty is that	
		available,			development of design options for an	the maintenance	
		including			online library of case studies/ success	of an online	
		through the					
		Clearing-			stories on synergies; and activities to further communicate the value of the	library of case studies on	
		house			UN Environment 'Sourcebook of		
		Mechanism				synergies is more	
		and the			opportunities for enhancing	resource-intense	
		NBSAP			cooperation among biodiversity-related	than the	
		Forum			conventions at national and regional levels'	maintenance of a	
		rorum				database for the	
					a. Increase access to case studies by	type of	
					building and making available a user-	information, since	
					friendly online database. The aim	it requires active	
					would be to create or make use of a	sourcing of	
					structure that ensures owners hip of all	additional case	
					of the biodiversity-related conventions	studies and	
					as well as regular updating of new case	support for their	
					studies. This could, for example, be	development, as	
					achieved through a joint conventions	well as review of	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>m</sup> Relevant components of the 2017/2018 CBD Secretariat/UN Environment/ UNEP-WCMC project are: Compendium of guidance for capturing, managing and using data and information; Compendium of key global databases; Making available further case studies based on national experience of delivering synergies and initial ideas for an online library of case studies; and Overview of initiatives on synergies at the international and regional level.

Area/ expected outcome	Activity	Desirable key action	Timeline 2017- 2020	Potential lead organizatio ns	Notes of the IAG regarding their recommendations and future work	Implementation status and bottlenecks and difficulties to implementation	Advice to the Executive Secretary (ES), the bureau and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG)
					website or by adding another dimension to a future online database. This would help to fulfil key action C1(b) of the road map.  b. Seek to update the existing case studies in the Sourcebook. In preparation for a future online library of case studies, case study contributors to the Sourcebook could be contacted in order to request updates to the 2015 information. As these 63 case studies have already been prepared for sharing with peers, it should be a straightforward exercise to get them updated for re-submission. This would help to fulfil key action C1(e) of the road map.  c. Organize further events to foster experience-sharing and sourcing of additional case studies. This can include sessions in the margins of relevant upcoming meetings. This could also include webinars, which would then be made available as a resource linked to the online library of case studies. This would help to fulfil key action C1(e) of the road map.  d. Consider creating a series of short inspiring videos on selected synergies success stories, either by country or by the me, showing how fostering	submitted case studies to ensure their quality/ us e fulness	

Area/ expected outcome	Activity	Desirable key action	Timeline 2017- 2020	Potential lead organizatio ns	Notes of the IAG regarding their recommendations and future work	Implementation status and bottlenecks and difficulties to implementation	Advice to the Executive Secretary (ES), the bureau and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG)
					collaboration be tween the biodiversity- related conventions is leading to new opportunities for biodiversity action. These videos would be available on relevant websites, a future online library of case studies, as well as shared on social media. This would help to fulfil key action C1(b) of the road map. This action also related to key actions #16, #19 and #22.		

Area/	Activity	Desirable	Timeline	Potential	Notes of the IAG regarding their	Implementation	Advice to the Executive
expected		key action	2017-	lead	recommendations and future work	status and	Secretary (ES), the bureau
outcome			2020	organizatio		bottlenecks and	and the Liaison Group of
				ns		difficulties to	Biodiversity-related
						implementation	Conventions (BLG)
		<b>Key action</b>	2017-	Convention	Notes on future work of the IAG and	Action pending.	The IAG has the following
		#22	2018	secretariats,	relevant ongoing work to support the key		elements of advice to the
				* BLG**	action:	Dedicated funding	members of the BLG:
		(f) Provide				required for	
		informatio			Gaps to be identified on the basis of the	establishment of	Building on the outputs and
		n on			outputs of the project "Supporting	central online hub	outcomes of the project
		synergies,			imple mentation of CBD COP decision	that could be	"Supporting
		such as the			XIII/24".	linked to by the	implementation of CBD
		UNEP				convention	COP de cision XIII/24":
		Sourceboo			Note: relates also to section B 1c).	we bsites.	(a) catalyse funding and
		k, the Aichi					appropriate
		Biodiversit			Recommendations of the project		imple mentation
		y Targets,			"Supporting implementation of CBD		arrange ments for the
		common			COP decision XIII/24":		development of a
		issues for					de dicate d "synergies"
		biodiversit			8. Follow-up activities to the document		online hub. Allocate
		y-related			'Improving access to existing guidance,		sufficient staff time to
		convention			data and information via biodiversity-		maintain it;
		s and			related convention websites':		(b)identify of gaps;
		sources of			a. Consider follow up on the		(c) follow-up activities to
		funding for			recommendations made on improving		the document
		biodiversit			access to information on synergies		'Improving access to
		y, on the			through the conventions' we bsites to		existing guidance, data
		websites of			increase recognition of what is already		and information via
		each of the			happening, as well as increasing access		biodiversity related
		biodiversit			to key materials.		convention we bsites'.
		y-related			b. Consider the potential value of		
		convention,			developing of a joint convention website		
		for			or webpage that would allow at a		
		example			minimum for easy access to all		
n * 1		through a			guidance material and potentially also		
<sup>n</sup> Idem.		dedicated			host databases such as for the		
		"synergies"			compendia of guidance, the case studies		
		page			and the overview of initiatives on		
					synergies.		
					Other recommendations of the project		
					"Supporting implementation of CRD		

Area/ expected outcome	Activity	Desirable key action	Timeline 2017- 2020	Potential lead organizatio ns	Notes of the IAG regarding their recommendations and future work	Implementation status and bottlenecks and difficulties to implementation	Advice to the Executive Secretary (ES), the bureau and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG)
	2. Capacity-building	Key action #23  (a) Identify common areas of national capacity-building needs, across the convention s	2018	Convention secretariats, * other relevant organizatio ns	The Secretariat will identify and prepare a proposal on initial and detailed common areas on the basis of the work it is conducting in follow-up to decision XIII/23, the 2016 CBD Secretariat/UNEP-WCMC study on capacity-building and awareness-raising needs. UN Environment project in Africa, and UNEP/IUCN project in relation to capacity-building on implementation of biodiversity-related targets, other relevant reports, the calendar of upcoming activities, and through the work of capacity-building coordinators with a target of submission to SBI 2 and COP 14. The list will be provided to IAG for review and comments, and disseminated through appropriate means (also with a view to engaging other biodiversity-related conventions).	Work for key action #23 is ongoing in the context of implementation of decision XIII/23 and agreement from meeting of BLG/meeting with agencies.	The IAG has the following elements of advice to the members of the BLG:  As agreed at the BLG meeting/meeting with agencies: to examine proposals resulting from the synergistic work conducted by the CBD Secretariat in follow-up to decision XIII/23.
					The matrix will refer to common themes, areas and target groups, if possible and relevant.  The list of common areas can support implementation of the Strategic Plan and serve in the development of the post-2020 frame work as-raising needs regarding cooperation among multilates Richard Plant Symeograpism activities are in ongoing.  (Possible thematic areas include: Invasive alien species, indicators, climate change)		at the national level

Area/ expected outcome	Activity	Desirable key action	Timeline 2017- 2020	Potential lead organizatio ns	Notes of the IAG regarding their recommendations and future work	Implementation status and bottlenecks and difficulties to implementation	Advice to the Executive Secretary (ES), the bureau and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG)
		Key action #24  (b) Share information on on ongoing, planned and upcoming capacity-building programmes, projects and initiatives relevant to the biodiversity-related conventions in order to facilitate a coordinate dapproach, avoid duplication, ensure coherence of their delivery, maximize their utilization and enable cooperations in in	2017-2020	Convention secretariats * other relevant organizations	Prepare an integrated calendar of capacity-building activities and use it in support of imple mentation.	Ongoing. This will be an eventual result of work being led by CBD in cooperation with other secretariats and organizations in follow-up to decision XIII/23 noted above.	The IAG has the following elements of advice to the members of the BLG:  To make use of the calendar of capacity-building activities resulting from the synergistic work conducted by the CBD Secretariat in follow-up to decision XIII/23 in support of imple mentation.

Area/	Activity	Desirable	Timeline	Potential	Notes of the IAG regarding their	Implementation	Advice to the Executive
expected	,	key action	2017-	lead	recommendations and future work	status and	Secretary (ES), the bureau
outcome			2020	organizatio		bottlenecks and	and the Liaison Group of
				ns		difficulties to	Biodiversity-related
						implementation	Conventions (BLG)
		<b>Key action</b>	2018-	Convention	Will be a product of C.2. a) and b).	Would be an	(relates to key actions #23
		#25	2020	secretariats,		eventual result of	and 24) The IAG has the
				* other	Recommendations of the project	ongoing work	following elements of
		(c) Deliver		relevant	"Supporting implementation of CBD	related to decision	advice to the members of
		coordinate		organizatio	COP decision XIII/24":	XIII/23 noted	the BLG:
		d capacity-		ns		above.	
		building,			6. c. Organize further events to foster	Dedicated	Building on the outputs and
		including			experience-sharing and sourcing of	financial resources	outcomes of the project
		through			additional case studies. This can include	may be required	"Supporting
		regional			sessions in the margins of relevant	for	implementation of CBD
		and			upcoming meetings such as CBD	delivery/implemen	COP decision XIII/24",
		subregional			SBSTTA-22, SBI-2 and COP14 and the	tation of capacity-	collaborate in the
		mechanism			Rams ar COP 13. This could also	building.	development and
		s and			include we binars, which would then be		imple mentation of
		online			made available as a resource linked to	It should be	capacity-building
		mechanism			the online library of case studies. This	highlighted that	programmes and activities
		s, taking			would help to fulfil key action C1(e) of	the maintenance	addressing common needs
		advantage			the road map.	of an online	and areas, according to the
		of existing			17.5	library of case	results of the synergistic
		networking			15. Develop a programme for	studies on .	work conducted by the
		opportuniti			supporting national biodiversity data	synergies is more	CBD Secretariat in follow-
		es for			management, which will support	resource-intense	up to decision XIII/23.
		capacity-			national efforts in data gathering,	than the	
		building and			reporting, monitoring and indicators,	maintenance of a	
					including with regard to the	database for the	
		addressing			development of national reports to	type of	
		common needs and			CBD. This could include organizing	information included in the	
		areas of			activities to foster experience sharing,		
					taking into account and utilizing	compendia, since	
		two or more			relevant initiatives including those under the CBD CHM, InforMEA and	it requires active	
		convention			GBIF. This builds on the compendia	sourcing of additional case	
		s and			described above and relevant case	studies and	
		including			studies, any new guidance developed,	support for their	
		building			and would include capacity-building	development, as	
		capacity			activities, and conducting pilot studies	well as review of	
		for			on database planning and management.	submitted case	
		synergistic			This would respond to key actions	studios to onsuro	

expected outcome    Rey action   2017   lead organization   lead o	Area/	Activity	Desirable	Timeline	Potential	Notes of the IAG regarding their	Implementation	Advice to the Executive
Second #26   Second half of 2018   Conduct webinars, regional workshops and other activities for the national focal points of biodiversit y-related convention s on accessing finds in the GEF biodiversit y focal area		Activity					*	
Key action #26   Second half of 2018   GEF 2018   GEF and chivities and wishes that Parties support the m. Secretariats, workshops and other activities for the national focal points of biodiversit y-related convention so na accessing funds in the GEF biodiversit y focal area   Pocal area      Mey action #26   Action pending.   The IAG has the following elements of advice to the ES and members of the ES and staff time of required: project development, financing, implementation.    Policiare to the MES AND AS and Strategic Plan 2011-2020 in the implementation. The objective is to support national focal points of biodiversity-related conventions and organization involved in the implementation. The objective is to support national focal points of biodiversity-related conventions and organization involved in the implementation.    Policiare to the MES AND AS and Strategic Plan 2011-2020 in COP 14 programme.	_		key action			recommendations and future work		
Key action #26	ouicome			2020	_			4 *
Reyaction   half of 2018   GEB   GEF   Generality, regional workshops and other activities   for the national focal points of biodiversit y-related convention s on accessing funds in the GEF   biodiversit y focal area   GEF					ns			
#26 half of 2018 (d) Conduct webinars, regional workshops and other activities for the national focal points of biodiversit y-related convention s on accessing funds in the GEF biodiversit y focal area  #26 half of 2018 (d) Conduct webinars, and other cactivities for the national focal points of biodiversit y-related convention s on accessing funds in the GEF biodiversit y focal area  #27 half of 2019  Secretariat, GEF mechanism and synergies with other conventions in implementation of GEF mechanism and synergies with other conventions in implementation of CD 201-2020 should be included in COP 14 programme.  #28 half of 2019  Secretariat, other conventions in implementing of GEF mechanism and synergies with other conventions on implementation of CDP 201-2020 should be included in COP 14 programme.  #29 hevelop appealing and practical communication material which focuses on key messages and practical steps for implementation.  #20 he free demnts of advice to the ES and members of the velopment, financing, implementation				~ .	CDD			, , ,
Conduct webinars, regional workshops and other activities for the national focal points of biodiversit y-related convention s on accessing funds in the GEF biodiversit y focal area			~				Action pending.	
Conduct webinars, regional workshops and other activities for the national focal points of biodiversit y-related convention s on accessing funds in the GEF biodiversit y focal area   Secretariat, other conventions of the project makes and the focal points of the conventions of the project "Supporting implementation of the project "Supporting implementation of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24":    AG recommends that a briefing on GEF mechanism and synergies with other conventions in implementing NBSAPs and Strategie Plan 2011-2020 in the other conventions of the project "Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIII/24":    Develop appealing and practical communication material which focuses on key messages and practical steps for implementation. The objective is to support national focal points of biodiversity-related conventions and organizations involved in the implementation of the conventions to easily grasp and communicate key messages and identify in the implementation of the conventions to easily grasp and communicate key messages and identify in the implementation of the conventions to easily grasp and communicate key messages and identify in the implementation of the conventions to easily grasp and communicate key messages and identify in the implementation of the conventions to easily grasp and communicate key messages and identify in the implementation of the conventions to easily grasp and communicate key messages and identify in the implementation of the conventions to easily grasp and communicate key messages and identify in the implementation of the conventions to easily grasp and communicate key messages and identify in the implementation of the conventions to easily grasp and communicate key messages and identify in the implementation of the conventions to easily grasp and communicate key messages and identify in the implementation of the conventions to easily grasp and communicate key messages and identify in the implementation of the conventions to eas			#26					
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secretariats, workshops and other activities for the national focal points of biodiversit y-related convention s on accessing funds in the GEF biodiversit y focal area  secretariats, * other conventions in implementing NBSAPs and Strategic Plan 2011-2020 should be included in COP14 programme.  **Recommendations of the project **Supporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIIIV24":  **Develop appealing and practical communication material which focuses on key messages and practical steps for implementation. The objective is to support national focal points of biodiversity y focal area  **Juporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIIIV24":  **Develop appealing and practical steps for implementation. The objective is to support national focal points of biodiversity-related conventions and organizations involved in the implementation of the conventions to easily grasp and communicate key messages and identify suitable practical approaches in an efficient manner in order to facilitate be havioural change of key stakeholders. This could involve visualizing entry points and popular/ promising options for cooperation at the national level, as well as the benefits*  **Juporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIIIV24":  **Juporting implementation of CBD COP development, financing, implementation.  **GEF** biodiversity focal area*  **Juporting implementation of CBD COP decision XIIIV24":  **Juporting implementation of CBD COP development, financing, implementation.  **GEF** biodiversity focal area*  **Juporting implementation of CBD COP development, financing, implementation.  **GEF** biodiversity focal area*  **Juporting implementation of CBD COP development, financing, implementation.  **GEF** biodiversity focal area*  **Juporting implementation of CBD COP development, financing, implementation.  **GEF** biodiversity focal area*  **Juporting implementation of CBD COP development, financing, implementation.  **GEF** biodiversity focal area*  **Juporting implementation of CBD COP development, financing, implement				2019				
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of biodiversit y-related convention s on accessing funds in the GEF biodiversit y focal area  of biodiversit y-related convention communication material which focuses on key messages and practical steps for implementation. The objective is to support national focal points of biodiversit y focal area  organizations involved in the easily grasp and communicate key messages and identify suitable practical approaches in an efficient manner in order to facilitate behavioural change of key stakeholders. This could involve visualizing entry points and popular/promising options for cooperation at the national level, as well as the benefits  organizations involved in the case of key stakeholders. This could involve visualizing entry points and popular/promising options for cooperation at the national level, as well as the benefits			national				imple mentation.	funds in the GEF
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implementation of the conventions to easily grasp and communicate key messages and identify suitable practical approaches in an efficient manner in order to facilitate behavioural change of key stakeholders. This could involve visualizing entry points and popular/ promising options for cooperation at the national level, as well as the benefits			biodiversit					1 8
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approaches in an efficient manner in order to facilitate be havioural change of key stakeholders. This could involve visualizing entry points and popular/ promising options for cooperation at the national level, as well as the benefits								
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visualizing entry points and popular/ promising options for cooperation at the national level, as well as the benefits								
promising options for cooperation at the national level, as well as the benefits								
the national level, as well as the benefits								
to be obtained. I inclided bite is could								
for example be developed building up								
on each section of the Sourcebook. The								
communication material could be								
developed and refined through global								
or regional works hops or similar								

Area/	Activity	Desirable	Timeline	Potential	Notes of the IAG regarding their	Implementation	Advice to the Executive
expected		key action	2017-	lead	recommendations and future work	status and	Secretary (ES), the bureau
outcome			2020	organizatio		bottlenecks and	and the Liaison Group of
				ns		difficulties to	Biodiversity-related
						implementation	Conventions (BLG)
		<b>Key action</b>	2018-	Convention	IAG encourages secretariats to	BLG has already	The IAG has the following
		#27	2020	secretariats,	continue to organize joint events at the	agreed the wish	elements of advice to the
				* BLG**	margins of COPs, including capacity-	and intent for	ES and members of the
		(e) To			building, and communication/-	joint events.	BLG:
		establish			aware ness-raising activities, as relevant	Appropriate time	
		joint			and depending on venue and resources.	of secretariat staff	To continue to organize
		events,				would be	joint events at the margins
		such as a			Recommendations of the project	provided.	of COPs, including
		pavilion for			"Supporting implementation of CBD	Dedicated	capacity-building,
		biodiversit			COP decision XIII/24":	financial resources	communication/awareness-
		y-related				would be required	raising activities, and
		convention			6.c. Organize further events to foster	for some	promotional activities to
		s to be			experience-sharing and sourcing of	s ce narios/activities	advertise the existence of
		convened			additional case studies. This can include	•	the materials and a future
		at			sessions in the margins of relevant		online database/joint
		internation			upcoming meetings such as CBD		website, as relevant and
		al			SBSTTA-22, SBI-2 and COP 14 and the		depending on venue and
		convention			Ramsar COP13. This could also		resources.
		s and			include we binars, which would then be		
		congresses;			made available as a resource linked to		
					the online library of case studies. This		
					would help to fulfil key action C1(e) of		
					the road map.		
					9. Develop appealing and practical		
					communication material which focuses		
					on key messages and practical steps for		
					implementation.		
					10. Prepare briefs to inform the		
					biodiversity mainstreaming agenda.		
					The objective would be to provide		
					guidance for enhancing sectorial		
					planning through the creation of		
					synergies, including to inform national		
					planning in implementation of the		
					SDGs. Targeted at national focal points		
					of biodiversity-related conventions and		
					organizations involved in the		
					implementation of the conventions the		

Annex 2
Membership of the informal advisory group on synergies, including aspects of relevant experience of Members

Region	Country	Conventions <sup>28</sup> to which	Name	Conventions with which Member								Ь	а		)	
Region	Country	country is a Party	Ivanie	has had direct experience / responsibility	CBD	CITES	CMS	Ramsa	IPPC	<b>V</b>	WHC	LW C	Nagova		UNITO	<b>IPBES</b>
				Number of Members:	1 9	6	6	6	1	3	4	0 8	8 8	2	6	5
Africa	Cameroon	Party to each of the treaties	Ms. Prudence Galega	CBD, Nagoya Protocol, Cartagena Protocol, IPBES	1								1 1			1
Africa	Madagasc ar	Party to each of the treaties except IWC	Ms. Voahangy Raharimalala	CBD, IPBES, UNCCD, CITES, CMS, Ramsar, IPPC, Cartagena Protocol, Nagoya Protocol, UNFCCC	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		1 1	1	1	1
Africa	Sudan	Party to each of the treaties except CMS and IWC	Ms. Sawsan Khair Elsied Abdel Rahim Mustafa	CBD, UNFCCC, ITPGRFA, Nagoya Protocol	1					1			1		1	
Africa	Eswatini	Party to each of the treaties except IWC	Ms. Hlobsile Sikhosana-Shongwe	CBD, UNFCCC	1										1	
Asia-Pacific	China	Party to each of the treaties except CMS and ITPGRFA	Ms. Gu Li	CBD and its Protocols and BRS	1								1 1			
Asia-Pacific	India	Party to each of the treaties	Dr. Vinod B. Mathur	CBD, CITES, CMS, WHC, Ramsar	1	1	1	1			1					1
Asia-Pacific	Japan	Party to each of the treaties except CMS	Mr. Atsuhiro Yoshinaka	CBD, Ramsar, WHC, UNFCCC	1			1			1		1 1		1	
Asia-Pacific	Kuwait	Party to each of the treaties except CMS and IWC	Mrs. Leina Alawadhi	CBD	1											
GRULAC	Colombia	Party to each of the treaties except CMS, ITPGRFA and Nagoya Protocol	Ms. Jimena Nieto Carrasco	CBD, Cartagena Protocol, UNFCCC, BRS, etc.	1								1		1	
GRULAC	Mexico	Party to each of the treaties except CMS and ITPGRFA	Mr. Hesiquio Benítez	CBD, CITES, IPBES	1	1										1
GRULAC	Peru	Party to each of the treaties	Ms. Miriam Cerdán Quiliano	CBD, CBD Protocols, Ramsar	1			1					1 1			
GRULAC	Brazil	Party to each of the treaties except Nagoya Protocol	Ms. Iona'i Ossami de Moura <sup>29</sup>	CBD	1											

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> CBD and its Protocols, biodiversity-related conventions and the Rio Conventions: i.e. CBD, CITES, CMS, Ramsar, IPPC, ITPGRFA, WHC, IWC, Cartagena Protocol, Nagoy a Protocol, UNCCD, UNFCCC

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Was replaced by Mr. Ugo Eichler Vercillo in April 2018.

Region	Country	Conventions <sup>28</sup> to which country is a Party	Name	Conventions with which Member has had direct experience / responsibility	CBD	CITES	CMS	Ramsar	IPPC 11 T GINT	WHC	IWC	cui mgc	Nagoya	Divice	IPBES
Eastern Europe	Georgia	Party to each of the treaties except ITPGRFA, IWC and Nagoya Protocol	Ms. Teona Karchava	CBD, CITES, and Bern Convention	1	1									
Eastern Europe	Slovakia	Party to each of the treaties	Dr. Ján Kadlečík	CBD, CMS, AEWA, EUROBATS, Ramsar	1		1	1							
CEE and WE members of EU	European Commissi on	EU is Party to each of the treaties except ITPGRFA, WHC & IWC	Mr. Anne Theo Seinen	CBD, CMS	1		1								
WEOG	Belgium	Party to each of the treaties	Ms. Ines Verleye	CBD & Protocols, CITES, CMS, UNFCCC	1	1	1					1	1	1	
WEOG	Finland	Party to each of the treaties	Ms. Marina von Weissenberg	CBD, IPBES, coordination among BD-related conventions	1										1
WEOG	Switzerlan d	Party to each of the treaties	Mr. Norbert Bärlocher	CBD, UNFCCC, UNCCD, CITES, CMS, UNESCO, ITPGRFA, Cartagena Protocol, Nagoya Protocol, IPBES	1	1	1		1	1		1	1	1	1
WEOG	Norway	Party to each of the treaties	Ms Maja Stade Aarønæs <sup>30</sup>	CBD, Ramsar	1			1							

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Left her position in the Norwegian Environment Agency (and therefore the Group) on 31 March 2018. Was replaced by CBD focal point Ms. Tone Solhaug.