



Convention on Biological Diversity

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Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework Sixth meeting

Cambridge, United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Northern Ireland, 12–15 March 2024

Item 2 of the provisional agenda*

Adoption of the agenda

Annotated provisional agenda

1. By its decision [15/4](#), the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. By its decision [15/5](#), it adopted a monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. The monitoring framework is composed of:

(a) *Headline indicators*. These indicators represent a minimum set of high-level indicators that capture the overall scope of the goals and targets of the Framework and are to be used for planning and monitoring progress, in compliance with decision [15/6](#). They are nationally, regionally and globally relevant indicators validated by Parties and can also be used for communication purposes;

(b) *Global-level indicators*. These indicators will be collated from “yes/no” responses to binary questions to be included in the national reporting template. They will provide a count of the number of countries that have undertaken specified activities;

(c) *Component indicators*. These indicators are optional indicators that, together with the headline indicators, will cover components of the goals and targets of the Framework. They may be applicable at the global, regional, national and subnational levels;

(d) *Complementary indicators*. These indicators are optional indicators for a thematic or in-depth analysis of each goal and target. They may be applicable at the global, regional, national and subnational levels;

2. In addition, the monitoring framework may be supplemented by additional national and subnational indicators.

3. The Conference of the Parties recognized in the monitoring framework that all goals and targets of the Framework would be monitored through headline and/or binary indicators and might be complemented by component and complimentary indicators and additional national and subnational indicators, as appropriate. However, some of the headline indicators that have been identified are not yet operational, and additional efforts are required to develop them so that they can be used by Parties.

* CBD/IND/AHTEG/2024/6/1.

4. In order to operationalize the monitoring framework, the Conference of the Parties established an ad hoc technical expert group on indicators in its decision 15/5. The terms of reference for the group are contained in annex II to the decision, and the group has four main tasks:

(a) To provide technical advice on remaining and unresolved issues relating to the monitoring framework, as outlined by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting, and to prioritize work on the following elements leading up to the sixteenth meeting:

- (i) Support the work to address critical gaps to improve the monitoring framework, in particular on headline indicators that do not have an existing methodology, and advise on their implementation at the national level. Attention should be paid to filling gaps under Goals B, C and D and Targets 2, 13 and 14 to 22, given the imbalance in available headline indicators and their interlinkages across goals and targets of the Framework;
- (ii) Support the identification of important aspects related to disaggregation and aggregation for each headline indicator, as applicable, including any methodological improvements, as appropriate;
- (iii) Identify gaps in terms of the operationalization of each headline indicator and the management of data flows, and advise on implementation at the national level;
- (iv) Keep the list of binary, component and complementary indicators under review;
- (v) Advise on the wording of questions to construct binary indicators to be used in national reports, building upon the table in annex II to decision 15/5;

(b) To provide guidance to Parties on the use of indicators in national planning and reporting, including by reviewing how indicators are proposed for capture in the Online Reporting Tool for national reporting;

(c) To provide guidance to Parties on ways to fill temporal and spatial data gaps, including through the use of big data, citizen science, community-based monitoring and information systems, remote sensing, modelling and statistical analysis, and other forms of data and other knowledge systems, recognizing the specific challenges faced by developing country Parties to develop and gain access to information tools;

(d) To provide advice on the existing capacity, gaps and needs in terms of capacity development, technology transfer and financing needs related to the monitoring of the Framework.

5. The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators for the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework has met five times to date. Information on the previous meetings is available on the Secretariat website.¹

Item 1

Opening of the meeting

6. The meeting will be opened at 9.30 a.m. on 12 March 2024. Statements will be made by the Co-Chairs of the Expert Group and the Secretariat.

Item 2

Adoption of the agenda

7. The provisional agenda has been prepared by the Secretariat in consultation with the Co-Chairs of the Expert Group. Participants will be invited to consider the provisional agenda for adoption and to approve the proposed organization of work (see annex).

¹ www.cbd.int/conferences/indicators-ahteg.

Item 3**Review of comments made in the online forum**

8. The Secretariat will present the comments made in the online forum, which mostly relate to the gap analysis (agenda item 10), but also to other items. The Expert Group will be invited to review the comments, for further consideration under the relevant items.

Item 4**Finalization of the metadata for the headline indicators**

9. The Expert Group on Indicators will review the metadata for each of the headline indicators, including the finance indicators provided by the Technical Expert Group on Financial Reporting. All metadata include a list of the organizations that have been supporting the methodology work. The Expert Group on Indicators will be invited to finalize the metadata for all indicators, including with regard to headline indicators identified by the Conference of the Parties as not having a methodology, aspects related to disaggregation, gaps in the operationalization of each headline indicator and the management of data flows, and implementation at the national level.²
10. The discussion will be aimed at summarizing future developments needed to address gaps related to the operationalization.

Item 5**Finalization of the metadata and aggregation methods for the binary indicators**

11. Work under agenda item 5 will include a review of the metadata for each binary indicator,³ as well as inputs related the four traditional knowledge indicators, the study on access and benefit-sharing indicators as they relate to Target 13 and Goal C of the Framework, advice from the Liaison Group on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety regarding indicators for Target 17, and advice from the Informal Advisory Group on Technical and Scientific Cooperation regarding indicators for Target 20. The Expert Group will be invited to agree on a proposed methodology for the aggregation of the binary indicators and additional explanatory information related to the binary indicators, in compliance with the request made by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice in its recommendation 25/1.
12. The Expert Group will be also invited to consider the outstanding issues for each headline indicator in breakout groups.

Item 6**Review of the glossary of key terms**

13. The Expert Group will be invited to review the glossary of key terms prepared in response to recommendation 25/1 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice. The Group will also be invited to agree on any additional explanatory information on the use of the glossary, as the glossary is provided for information only and for use by Parties, where relevant.
14. On the basis of the discussions held under agenda item 4, the Expert Group will be further invited to consider implications for the further use of the online discussion forum for the monitoring framework.

Item 7**National planning and reporting**

15. The Expert Group will be invited to provide guidance on the use of the indicators, including in national reports required under the Convention and submitted through the Online Reporting Tool.⁴ The development of reporting templates will be based on metadata developed under the previous

² As requested in decision 15/5, annex II, paras. 1 (a) (i)–(iii).

³ As requested in decision 15/5, annex II, paras. 1 (a) (iv) and (v).

⁴ As requested in decision 15/5, annex II, para. 1 (b).

agenda items. The Group will also be invited to identify the next steps for the Secretariat in incorporating information into the Online Reporting Tool.

Item 8

Overarching issues with the implementation of the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including the consideration of section C of the Framework in that implementation

16. The Expert Group will be invited to provide guidance on how section C of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework may be considered in the implementation the monitoring framework. The Group may also wish to consider identifying any other necessary cross-cutting guidance. Agenda item 8 is linked to item 10, on the gap analysis.

Item 9

Approach for the monitoring of ecosystems across the framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

17. The Expert Group will be invited to provide guidance on how ecosystems are considered across the monitoring framework, including in relation to the use of Nature Global Ecosystem Typology level 3 of the International Union for Conservation across the framework.

Item 10

Gap analysis and review of component and complementary indicators

18. The Expert Group will be invited to discuss how well each target is covered by the headline, binary, component and complementary indicators in the monitoring framework and to provide guidance for addressing gaps therein.⁵ Results from the gap analysis survey will be made available, and the Group will be invited to exchange views on how to address gaps and future needs in the review of the list of indicators in the monitoring framework. In that regard, the Group may wish to consider the previous discussions to inform the current discussion on the gap analysis.

19. The Expert Group will be invited to review the list of component and complementary indicators.⁶ The Group will be also invited to provide guidance on how the list of complementary indicators can be kept under review as one mechanism for filling gaps, including guidance on the role that other bodies or processes could potentially play in developing or helping to vet additional indicators, in view of the requests for further developing indicators made by other bodies, such as the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice in its recommendation [25/4](#) on plant conservation; the development of indicators on biodiversity and health;⁷ decision MC-5/17 on mercury and the Framework recently adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Minamata Convention on Mercury at its fifth meeting, in which the need for indicators related to mercury is highlighted; work on marine indicators;⁸ and the Bern Process,⁹ in which the need for indicators and collaboration on indicators was also highlighted.

20. The role that existing partnerships and organizations specialized in biodiversity monitoring may have in developing or helping to vet additional indicators will also be discussed, including that of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and its monitoring assessment, the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership, the Group on Earth Observations Biodiversity Observation Network and the Statistics Division of the United Nations.

21. Discussions under agenda item 10 will be held in breakout groups and plenary session.

⁵ As requested in decision 15/5, annex II, para. 1 (a) (i), and in recommendation 25/1 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.

⁶ As requested in decision 15/5, annex II, para. 1 (a) (iv).

⁷ See Notification No. [2024-002](#).

⁸ See [CBD/SBSTTA/24/INF/23](#).

⁹ See www.unep.org/events/conference/bern-iii-conference-cooperation-among-biodiversity-related-conventions.

Item 11**Filling temporal and spatial data gaps and gaps in capacity**

22. The Expert Group will be invited to provide guidance to Parties on ways to fill temporal and spatial data gaps, including through the use of big data, citizen science, community-based monitoring and information systems, remote sensing, modelling and statistical analysis, and other forms of data and other knowledge systems, recognizing the specific challenges faced by developing country Parties in developing and getting access to information tools, and existing capacity, gaps and needs in terms of capacity development, technology transfer and financing needs related to the monitoring of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.¹⁰

23. Two documents will be made available to facilitate the discussion: a draft analysis of capacity needs and opportunities (prepared by the United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC); and draft advice on filling temporal and spatial data gaps, prepared by the Group on Earth Observations Biodiversity Observation Network, regarding the need for a global biodiversity information system. The capacity needs analysis is based on a survey prepared at the request of the Expert Group by UNEP-WCMC to assess the needs of Parties for using the headline indicators of the monitoring framework.¹¹

Item 12**Review of guidance for the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice**

24. The Expert Group will be invited to identify specific information that should be provided for consideration to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to support the monitoring framework. Such inputs will form the basis for the proposal from the Executive Secretary on elements of a draft recommendation of the Subsidiary Body for consideration at its twenty-sixth meeting.

25. The Expert Group will be invited to collate information from all previous meetings and discussions to provide advice.

Item 13**Adoption of the report**

26. The Expert Group will be invited to adopt the report of the meeting. In accordance with established practice, it will also be invited to authorize the Co-Chairs to finalize the report after the meeting, with the assistance of the Secretariat.

Item 14**Closure of the meeting**

27. The meeting is expected to be closed at 5 p.m. on 15 March 2024.

¹⁰ As requested in decision 15/5, annex II, paras. 1 (c) and (d).

¹¹ See notification No. [2024-013](#).

Annex

Proposed organization of work

<i>Date</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Relevant material</i>
Tuesday, 12 March 2024		
8.30–9.15 a.m.	Registration	
9.15–10.15 a.m.	Item 1. Opening of meeting Item 2. Adoption of the agenda	
10.15–10.30 a.m.	Item 3. Review of comments made in the online forum – Presentation by the Secretariat – Discussion	
10.30–11.10 a.m.	Item 4. Finalization of the metadata for the headline indicators High-level discussion on possible key issues that the Expert Group needs to bring to the attention of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice	Headline indicator metadata Report of the Technical Expert Group on Financial Reporting on its second meeting Study on access and benefit-sharing indicators Informal update on the scientific and technical review of the traditional knowledge indicators by the Secretariat
11.10–11.30 a.m.	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11.30 a.m.–1 p.m.	Item 4 (<i>continued</i>)	
1–2 p.m.	<i>Lunch</i>	
2–4 p.m.	Item 4 (<i>continued</i>) Provision of guidance to support the identification of important aspects of disaggregation and aggregation for each headline indicator, as applicable, including any methodological improvements, as appropriate	
4–4.20 p.m.	<i>Coffee break</i>	
4.20–5 p.m.	Item 4 (<i>continued</i>) Agreement on guidance to be provided to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice	Headline indicator metadata

Wednesday, 13 March 2024		
9–9.30 a.m.	Item 5. Finalization of the metadata and aggregation methods for the binary indicators Item 6. Review of the glossary of key terms Plenary session to agree on working groups, followed by breakout sessions using a “world café” approach (participants will be split into three groups and circulate around three stations to review and finalize guidance on the binary indicators)	Explanatory guidance on binary indicators and glossary of key terms Input from the Liaison Group on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety Input from the Informal Advisory Group on Technical and Scientific Cooperation Review of the four traditional knowledge indicators
9.30–11 a.m.	Items 5 and 6 (<i>continued</i>) World café sessions	
11–11.20 a.m.	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11.20 a.m.–12.20 p.m.	Items 5 and 6 (<i>continued</i>) Report of the working groups and finalization of guidance	
12.20–1 p.m.	Item 7. National planning and reporting – Provision of guidance on the use of the indicators in national reports submitted under the Convention and in the Online Reporting Tool, and development of reporting templates – Discussion on next steps for the Secretariat in incorporating information into the Online Reporting Tool	
1–2 p.m.	<i>Lunch</i>	
2–2.45 p.m.	Item 8. Overarching issues with the implementation of the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including the consideration of section C of the Framework in that implementation	Guidance on overarching issues for implementation of the monitoring framework, including an approach for considering section C of the Framework
2.45–3 p.m.	<i>Coffee break</i>	
3–5 p.m.	Individual work (the meeting room is not available)	
Thursday, 14 March 2023		
9–10 a.m.	Item 9. Approach for the monitoring of ecosystems across the framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework	Approach for the monitoring of ecosystems across the framework

10–11.10 a.m.	Item 10. Gap analysis and review of component and complementary indicators – Presentation and discussion of the results of the gap survey. – Provision of guidance to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice on addressing gaps in the monitoring framework	Initial gap analysis
11.10–11.30 a.m.	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11.30 a.m.– 1 p.m.	Item 10 (<i>continued</i>)	
1–2 p.m.	<i>Lunch</i>	
2–4 p.m.	Item 11. Filling temporal and spatial data gaps and gaps in capacity Provision of guidance to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice on filling data and capacity gaps	Analysis of capacity needs and opportunities Advice on filling temporal and spatial data gaps – the need for a global biodiversity information system.
4–4.20 p.m.	<i>Coffee break</i>	
4.20–6 p.m.	Item 11 (<i>continued</i>) Plenary discussion	
Friday, 15 March 2024		
9–11 a.m.	Item 12. Review of guidance for the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice Definition and prioritization of draft recommendations for the Subsidiary Body for consideration at its twenty-sixth meeting	
11–11.20 a.m.	<i>Coffee break</i>	
11.20 a.m.– 1 p.m.	Item 12 (<i>continued</i>)	
1–2 p.m.	<i>Lunch</i>	
2–4 p.m.	Item 12 (<i>continued</i>)	
4–4.20 p.m.	<i>Coffee break</i>	
4.20–4.50 p.m.	Item 13. Adoption of the report Consideration and provision of comments on the report to be finalized by the Secretariat	
4.50–5 p.m.	Item 14. Closure of the meeting Closing statements by the Co-Chairs and a representative of the Secretariat	