



## Convention on Biological Diversity

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**Conference of the Parties to the  
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Agenda item 12  
**Capacity-building and development, technical  
and scientific cooperation, clearing-house  
mechanism and knowledge management**  
Working Group I

### **Clearing-house mechanism and knowledge management**

#### **Draft decisions submitted by the Chair of Working Group I**

##### **A**

##### **Clearing-house mechanism**

*The Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,*

*Recalling* decisions XI/2 of 19 October 2012, XII/2 B of 17 October 2014, XIII/23 of 17 December 2016, 14/19 and 14/25 of 29 November 2018 and 15/16 of 19 December 2022,

*Emphasizing* the critical importance of the clearing-house mechanism in supporting the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,<sup>1</sup>

*Recognizing* the importance of the clearing-house mechanism in supporting the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, the knowledge management strategy to support the implementation of the Framework, [as contained in the annex to decision 16/-- B, ]the communications strategy to support the implementation of the Framework<sup>2</sup> and the enhanced multidimensional approach to planning, monitoring, reporting and review,

*Recognizing also* that the clearing-house mechanism should be compatible with and supportive of relevant national policies and legislation and international [obligations][regulations] regarding data-sharing [and data sovereignty],

*[[Acknowledging]][Noting]* initiatives from relevant organizations, such as the United Nations Environment Programme-Global Environment Facility global biosafety clearing-house project and the outcomes of its third phase,]

1. *Adopts* the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism for the period 2024–2030, contained in the annex to the present decision;

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<sup>1</sup> Decision 15/4, annex.

<sup>2</sup> Decision 15/14, annex.

2. *Invites* Parties, other Governments, the global coordination entity, the regional and subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres and relevant initiatives and organizations to implement the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism in order to support the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>3</sup> and its Protocols and the Framework;

3. *Encourages* Parties to continue to take the steps necessary to establish or strengthen national clearing-house mechanisms and to ensure their sustainability, taking into consideration national legislation;

4. *Also encourages* Parties to nominate a national focal point or update information on, where applicable, their clearing-house mechanism national focal points and communicate the details on the national focal points to the Secretariat;

5. *Urges* Parties, in line with Articles 20 and 21 of the Convention, and invites other Governments and relevant organizations, to provide financial and technical support to biodiversity capacity-building and development activities, taking into consideration the specific situations of developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States among them, and Parties with economies in transition, to implement the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism for the period 2024–2030;

6. *Encourages* Parties to join relevant biodiversity-related networks and organizations, [such as the Global Biodiversity Information Facility,] with a view to developing capacities to manage and share data and information in order to manage and conserve biodiversity effectively;

7. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility, in accordance with its mandate, to consider funding requests from developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States among them, and Parties with economies in transition, to enable them to implement the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism for the period 2024–2030;

8. *Invites* the regional and subregional support centres and the global coordination entity of the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism to facilitate the implementation of the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism in collaboration with the Secretariat and relevant organizations and initiatives;

9. *Notes* the progress made on the development of the Bioland tool and interoperability features and the number of Parties that have used the tool to establish or strengthen their national clearing-house mechanism portals;

10. *Invites* Parties to use the Bioland tool to establish or strengthen their national clearing-house mechanism portals;

[11. *Requests* the United Nations Environment Programme to elaborate a global project to facilitate capacity-building and development related to using the clearing houses of the Convention and its Protocols (noting that they have been harmonized), establish national nodes for clearing houses using the Bioland tool and guide the exchange of information and cooperation among Parties in the implementation of their information-sharing obligations, and also requests the Programme to invite the Global Environmental Facility to provide support for that project.]

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

(a) To facilitate the implementation of the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism for 2024-2030 in collaboration with Parties, regional and subregional support centres, the global coordination entity of the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism and, as appropriate, indigenous peoples and local communities, [people of African descent], women and

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<sup>3</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

youth representatives and relevant initiatives and organizations, with the guidance of the Informal Advisory Group on Technical and Scientific Cooperation;

(b) To facilitate, in cooperation with the regional and subregional support centres, relevant organizations and initiatives, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, capacity-building and development activities to enable Parties to implement the programme of work;

(c) To further develop and strengthen the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism, including through the improvement of the accessibility of relevant information, in line with the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism;

(d) To enhance the organization and management of content in the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism in order to facilitate its accessibility, exchange and use across diverse applications and platforms;

(e) To further improve the Convention website and ensure that the content is available in all six official languages of the United Nations;

(f) To further develop the Bioland tool and build the capacity of Parties to use it effectively for developing or strengthening their national clearing-house mechanism portals in line with the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism and in collaboration with the global coordination entity and regional and subregional support centres, relevant initiatives and Parties that already use the Bioland tool.

## **Annex**

### **Programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism for the period 2024–2030**

1. The programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism for the period 2024–2030 is designed to support and facilitate the implementation of the Kunming Montreal- Global Biodiversity Framework<sup>4</sup> and the national biodiversity strategies and action plans. Building on the previous programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism for the period 2011–2020, it is aimed at facilitating the means of implementation, technical and scientific cooperation, capacity-building and development, knowledge management and communication,<sup>5</sup> resource mobilization, [the mainstreaming of biodiversity within and across sectors,] and other programmes and action plans, including the Gender Plan of Action (2023–2030),<sup>6</sup> and the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>7</sup> related to indigenous peoples and local communities [and people of African descent].<sup>8</sup>

2. The goals of the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism for the period 2024–2030 are the following:

(a) *Goal 1: to promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation.* The clearing-house mechanism will strengthen processes and services to promote and facilitate equitable technical and scientific cooperation, including matchmaking initiatives, and the development and strengthening of national capacities in line with the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building and development and in support of the work of the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism;

(b) *Goal 2: to facilitate the exchange of information.* The clearing-house mechanism will enable sustained and structured access to and exchange of data, information and knowledge through the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism and across global, regional, subregional, national

<sup>4</sup> Decision [15/4](#), annex.

<sup>5</sup> See decisions [15/8](#), [15/14](#) and 16/--.

<sup>6</sup> Decision [15/11](#), annex.

<sup>7</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>8</sup> Recommendation [12/2](#) of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Intersessional Working Group on Article 8 (j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity contains the draft programme of work on Article 8 (j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>8</sup> related to indigenous peoples and local communities.

and thematic information networks and the clearing houses, [in line with the knowledge management strategy of the Framework;]

(c) *Goal 3: to support planning, monitoring, reporting and review.* The clearing-house mechanism will provide tools and strengthen processes and the national clearing-house mechanisms to support and facilitate the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the enhanced approach to planning, monitoring, reporting and review;

(d) *Goal 4: to facilitate networking and collaboration among Parties and partners.* The clearing-house mechanism will facilitate cross-sectoral interactions, networking, the sharing of expertise and exchanges among Parties, partner organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, [people of African descent,] women and youth representatives and relevant stakeholders, supporting the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols and the Framework.

3. The outcomes expected under each of the four goals, the strategic actions to achieve the outcomes, the key actors that will lead or contribute to the implementation of the strategic actions and the indicative delivery time frames are defined in the updated programme of work.

4. The programme of work will be implemented primarily by the Parties to the Convention, in accordance with the Convention, in particular Articles 16, 17, 18 and 20, and the Secretariat, with the support of the global coordination entity of the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism and the regional and subregional support centres of the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, as well as global, regional, subregional and thematic organizations, in line with the whole-of government and whole-of-society approach and the considerations for the implementation of the Framework.<sup>9</sup>

5. The implementation of the programme of work will be supportive of, and in accordance with, national legislation and regulations pertaining to information exchange.

6. The programme of work will be reviewed and assessed in 2029 in conjunction with the global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Framework to be conducted at the nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

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<sup>9</sup> Decision 15/4, annex, sect. C.

**Goals, outcomes and strategic actions of the programme of work**

| <i>Goal</i>                                                       | <i>Outcome</i>                                                                                                                                                      | <i>Strategic actions</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  | <i>Time frame</i> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| 1. To promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation | 1.1. Mechanisms to facilitate technical and scientific cooperation at the global, regional, subregional and national levels are developed or strengthened.          | 1.1.A. Develop or strengthen collaborative platforms <sup>10</sup> to promote technical and scientific cooperation, technology transfer and innovation. <sup>11</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  | 2025–2030         |
|                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                     | 1.1.B. Facilitate events <sup>12</sup> for collaboration and sharing of knowledge, best practices and lessons learned.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  | 2025–2030         |
|                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                     | 1.1.C. Facilitate the establishment or strengthening of communities of practice and other knowledge exchange platforms and initiatives, including traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, where culturally appropriate, and with the free, prior and informed consent <sup>13</sup> of traditional knowledge holders, to enable the sharing of relevant experiences, expertise and know-how. |  | 2025–2030         |
|                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                     | 1.1.D. Establish or strengthen mechanisms to promote joint research programmes and joint ventures for the development of technologies and solutions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  | 2025–2030         |
|                                                                   | 1.2. Matchmaking among Parties with specific technical and scientific needs and other Parties or institutions able to provide the necessary support is facilitated. | 1.2.A. Strengthen tools and processes to enable Parties and stakeholders to identify, prioritize and communicate their biodiversity-related technical and scientific needs and requests for assistance.                                                                                                                                                                                                |  | 2025–2030         |
|                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                     | 1.2.B. Take stock of expertise, tools, technologies and other relevant technical and scientific assets that can be shared with Parties.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  | 2025–2030         |
|                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                     | 1.2.C. Develop or strengthen tools and services, including online platforms <sup>14</sup> to facilitate matchmaking among Parties that need support with stakeholders that can provide that support.                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  | 2025–2030         |

<sup>10</sup> The collaborative tools may include dialogues, round tables, forums, knowledge fairs, expositions, symposiums and conferences.

<sup>11</sup> Through traditional and digital channels, including the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism, the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House, the Biosafety Clearing-House and national clearing-house portals.

<sup>12</sup> The events may include workshops, dialogues, round tables, forums, knowledge fairs, expositions, symposiums and conferences.

<sup>13</sup> All references to “free, prior and informed consent” refer to the tripartite terminology of “prior and informed consent”, “free, prior and informed consent” and “approval and involvement”.

<sup>14</sup> To be made available through the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism and national clearing-house mechanism portals.

| <i>Goal</i>                                  | <i>Outcome</i>                                                                                                                                         | <i>Strategic actions</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |  | <i>Time frame</i> |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|-------------------|
|                                              |                                                                                                                                                        | 1.2.D. Identify, map, link and promote existing matchmaking services at the global, regional, subregional and national levels.                                                                                                                 |  | 2025–2030         |
| 2. To facilitate the exchange of information | 2.1. The central portal of the clearing-house mechanism is providing effective information services to facilitate the implementation of the Framework. | 2.1.A. Develop, implement and promote the user workspace in the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism to enable Parties and relevant stakeholders to contribute information easily, keep in contact, share ideas and work together.   |  | 2024–2026         |
|                                              |                                                                                                                                                        | 2.1.B. Further develop and implement the online submission system to enable Parties and relevant stakeholders to submit information related to their implementation of the Convention and the Framework. <sup>15</sup>                         |  | 2024–2028         |
|                                              |                                                                                                                                                        | 2.1.C. Further develop and improve the user interface of the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism to make the data, information and knowledge available in the portal easily discoverable and accessible.                            |  | 2024–2025         |
|                                              |                                                                                                                                                        | 2.1.D. Further develop tools for making the national clearing-house mechanisms and the information systems of partner organizations interoperable and automatically displaying relevant information from the central clearing-house mechanism. |  | 2024–2025         |
|                                              |                                                                                                                                                        | 2.1.E. Further develop data aggregation tools to harness information from the national clearing-house mechanisms and information systems of partner organizations.                                                                             |  | 2024–2026         |
|                                              |                                                                                                                                                        | 2.1.F. Implement other information services, as requested by the Conference of the Parties.                                                                                                                                                    |  | 2025–2030         |
|                                              | 2.2. Systems for exchanging, integrating and visualizing information are strengthened.                                                                 | 2.2.A. Further develop and enhance the Convention website, including its design, functionality, accessibility and user-friendliness.                                                                                                           |  | 2024–2026         |
|                                              |                                                                                                                                                        | 2.2.B. Further develop and update common formats for collecting, organizing and sharing information and metadata to standardize the structure and organization of information.                                                                 |  | 2025–2030         |
|                                              |                                                                                                                                                        | 2.2.C. Further develop or modify controlled vocabularies, taxonomies and ontologies to facilitate information-sharing in                                                                                                                       |  | 2024–2026         |

<sup>15</sup> This would include invitations to submit views, nominate participants and peer-review documents.

| <i>Goal</i>                                              | <i>Outcome</i>                                                                                                                                                                                      | <i>Strategic actions</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  | <i>Time frame</i> |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|-------------------|
|                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                     | a consistent and standardized manner at the global, regional, subregional and national levels.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |  |                   |
|                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 2.2.D. Further strengthen data-sharing mechanisms, including the application programming interface, to facilitate interoperability of relevant information systems with the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism, the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House, the Biosafety Clearing-House and national clearing-house mechanism portals. |  | 2025–2030         |
|                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 2.2.E. Strengthen data visualization tools, such as dashboards and interactive maps, to enable presentation of complex information in easy-to-understand formats                                                                                                                                                                                       |  | 2024–2030         |
|                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 2.2.F. Strengthen the capacity of the Secretariat to further develop and sustain the central clearing-house mechanism. <sup>16</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  | 2024–2030         |
|                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 2.2.G. Provide additional guidance and training to Parties and stakeholders on using the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism effectively for exchanging information.                                                                                                                                                                        |  | 2025–2030         |
| 3. To support planning, monitoring, reporting and review | 3.1. Tools and mechanisms to facilitate and support planning, monitoring, reporting and review of progress in the implementation of the Framework and the Convention are developed or strengthened. | 3.1.A. Further develop and operationalize the online reporting tool to enable Parties to report progress towards the achievement of the goals and targets of the Framework.                                                                                                                                                                            |  | 2024–2026         |
|                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 3.1.B. Further develop and operationalize the decision-tracking tool to track progress in implementing decisions of the Conference of Parties.                                                                                                                                                                                                         |  | 2025–2026         |
|                                                          | 3.2 National clearing-house mechanisms are strengthened and are facilitating the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans effectively.                                   | 3.2.A. Prepare or update an implementation strategy for the national clearing-house mechanism as a component of national biodiversity strategies and action plans.                                                                                                                                                                                     |  | 2025–2030         |
|                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 3.2.B. Establish or strengthen institutional structures, including national focal points, and processes to enable national clearing-house mechanisms <sup>17</sup> to support national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the monitoring of progress towards achieving national and global targets.                                          |  | 2025–2030         |

<sup>16</sup> This includes all the tools and services that are required for technical and scientific cooperation, information exchange, knowledge management and monitoring towards the implementation of the Framework.

<sup>17</sup> This may include national focal points, multi-stakeholder coordination bodies, networks and systems, and inter-institutional steering committees involving the participation of relevant biodiversity-related organizations and stakeholders; and defining roles and responsibilities for collecting, reviewing and disseminating information and managing website content and for outreach activities.

| <i>Goal</i>                                                              | <i>Outcome</i>                                                                                                                 | <i>Strategic actions</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |  | <i>Time frame</i> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|-------------------|
|                                                                          |                                                                                                                                | 3.2.C. Strengthen systems for information exchange, including through the development of links and interoperability between the national clearing-house mechanism and the central portal, and other networks and databases.                                                                                                                   |  | 2025–2030         |
|                                                                          |                                                                                                                                | 3.2.D. Promote the use of the national clearing-house mechanism as a tool for facilitating dialogue with relevant stakeholders, in line with the whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach.                                                                                                                                           |  | 2025–2030         |
|                                                                          |                                                                                                                                | 3.2.E. Develop or strengthen the information infrastructure for national clearing-house mechanisms, including user interface design, interoperability services, vocabularies and taxonomies, metadata standards and common reporting formats and standards, aligned with the standards of the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism. |  | 2024–2026         |
|                                                                          |                                                                                                                                | 3.2.F. Further develop and strengthen national clearing-house mechanism portals using the Bioland tool or other solutions in response to the needs of users and relevant technological developments.                                                                                                                                          |  | 2024–2026         |
|                                                                          |                                                                                                                                | 3.2.G. Publish and promote tool kits, technical specifications, guidelines and training material to assist Parties in the use of new information technology and systems.                                                                                                                                                                      |  | 2024–2030         |
|                                                                          |                                                                                                                                | 3.2.H. Develop or strengthen capacity to use modern digital technologies, including natural language processing, machine learning and other artificial intelligence tools.                                                                                                                                                                    |  | 2025–2030         |
|                                                                          |                                                                                                                                | 3.2.I. Facilitate the mobilization of financial resources for strengthening national clearing-house mechanisms.                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  | 2025–2030         |
|                                                                          |                                                                                                                                | 3.2.J. Continue the process of recognizing and granting awards to the Parties that have made the most significant progress in the establishment or further development of their national clearing-house mechanisms.                                                                                                                           |  | 2025–2030         |
| 4. To facilitate networking and collaboration among Parties and partners | 4.1 The network of global, regional, subregional and national partner organizations and networks is expanded and strengthened. | 4.1.A. Identify, map and publicize existing global, regional, subregional and national networks, communities of practice and partnerships related to biodiversity.                                                                                                                                                                            |  | 2025–2030         |
|                                                                          |                                                                                                                                | 4.1.B. Strengthen structures, processes and platforms to link existing biodiversity networks, partnerships and initiatives.                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  | 2025–2030         |

| <i>Goal</i> | <i>Outcome</i>                                                                                                                                       | <i>Strategic actions</i>                                                                                                                                                        |  | <i>Time frame</i> |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|-------------------|
|             | 4.2. Partners are actively networking and exchanging information, expertise, ideas and other resources through the clearing-house mechanism network. | 4.1.C. Promote and facilitate cross-disciplinary interactions to leverage expertise, good practices and ideas derived from diverse networks.                                    |  | 2025–2030         |
|             |                                                                                                                                                      | 4.2.A. Further develop and update tools and procedures for linking the central clearing-house mechanism with relevant organizations and information networks.                   |  | 2025–2030         |
|             |                                                                                                                                                      | 4.2.B. Further develop tools to facilitate networking and technical exchanges with partner organizations through the central portal and the national clearing-house mechanisms. |  | 2025–2030         |
|             |                                                                                                                                                      | 4.2.C. Maintain the database and network of practitioners through the central portal and the national clearing-house mechanisms.                                                |  | 2025–2030         |

**B****Knowledge management**

*The Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,*

*Recalling decisions 14/25 of 29 November 2018 and 15/16 of 19 December 2022,*

*Recalling also Target 21 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,<sup>18</sup>*

*Taking note of the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism (2024–2030) contained in the annex to decision 16/-- A, the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, the communications strategy to support the implementation of the Framework<sup>19</sup> and the enhanced multidimensional approach to planning, monitoring, reporting and review,*

*Emphasizing the critical importance of ensuring easy and timely access to good quality data, information and knowledge to support the implementation of the Framework,*

*Stressing that the capacities to generate, collect, organize and share biodiversity-relevant data are uneven and that developing country Parties in particular, and especially the least developed countries and small island developing States among them, require enhanced international support, through capacity-building and development, technical and scientific cooperation and access to and transfer of technology, to strengthen national information and monitoring systems,*

*Recognizing that knowledge management activities should be compatible with and supportive of relevant national policies and legislation and international [obligations] [regulations] regarding data-sharing [and data sovereignty],*

1. *Adopts the knowledge management strategy to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,<sup>20</sup> contained in the annex to the present decision;<sup>21,22</sup>*

2. *Recognizes that nothing contained in the knowledge management strategy should be understood as modifying the rights and obligations of a Party under the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>23</sup> or any other international agreement;*

3. *Invites Parties to enhance capacity-building and development, scientific and technical cooperation and access to and transfer of technology, which are critical to enabling the implementation of the knowledge management strategy, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation;*

4. *Takes note of the draft indicative workplan for the implementation of the knowledge management strategy to support the implementation of the Framework for the period 2025-2030, contained in document CBD/SBI/4/INF/9;*

5. *Invites Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, scientific and academic institutions, women and youth representatives, the private sector, other relevant stakeholders and relevant organizations to implement the knowledge management strategy with the effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities[, people of African descent] and women and youth representatives;*

6. *Urges Parties in line with Articles 20 and 21 and invites other governments and relevant organizations to provide financial and technical support to biodiversity capacity-building and development activities, taking into consideration the specific situations of developing country*

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<sup>18</sup> Decision 15/4, annex.

<sup>19</sup> Decision 15/14, annex.

<sup>20</sup> Decision 15/4, annex.

<sup>21</sup> The source of the text of the annex to the present decision is the annex to document CBD/SBI/4/7/Add.2.

<sup>22</sup> Pending agreement on the strategy.

<sup>23</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States among them, and Parties with economies in transition, to implement the knowledge management strategy;

7. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility, in accordance with its mandate, to provide support for knowledge management within country-driven projects;

8. *Invites* the regional and subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres and the global coordination entity of the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism to support the implementation of the knowledge management strategy in collaboration with the Secretariat, relevant organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, [people of African descent], women and youth representatives and relevant initiatives;

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

(a) To support the implementation of the knowledge management strategy, with the guidance of the Informal Advisory Group on Technical and Scientific Cooperation;

(b) To further implement the Knowledge Management for Biodiversity Initiative, in collaboration with the regional and subregional support centres, relevant initiatives, organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, [people of African descent] and women and youth representatives, to strengthen the capacities of Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, [people of African descent,] women and youth in knowledge management, including by facilitating the organization of training courses, global workshops, webinars and knowledge fairs and catalysing the establishment and strengthening of biodiversity networks and communities of practice;

(c) To further develop, with the guidance of the Informal Advisory Group on Technical and Scientific Cooperation, biodiversity-related vocabularies, taxonomies, ontologies and metadata standards through the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism to improve the classification, standardization, search and retrieval of information on biodiversity, in direct relation with the goals, targets and indicators of the Framework;

(d) To further classify the available information relating to the targets and other elements of the Framework, including the guidance and tools, best practices and lessons learned submitted by Parties and observers in documents CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/15 and CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/16, using the appropriate metadata standards and taxonomies as currently defined in the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention and the clearing houses of the Protocols;

(e) To submit a report on the implementation of the aforementioned activities for consideration and provision of further guidance by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its sixth meeting and the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth meeting.

## **Annex**

### **Knowledge management strategy to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework**

#### **I. Background and context**

1. Knowledge management is one of the key strategic means of implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>24</sup> and its Protocols which will underpin the achievement of the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,<sup>25</sup> as recognized in Target 21 and section K of the Framework, as well as Article 17 of the Convention.

<sup>24</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>25</sup> Decision [15/4](#), annex.

2. The knowledge management strategy supports the effective implementation of the Framework and complements the monitoring framework for the Framework,<sup>26</sup> the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building and development,<sup>27</sup> the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism, the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention and the clearing houses of its Protocols.

## **II. Components**

3. Knowledge management encompasses a range of processes, strategies and practices through which biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge are generated and collected; organized, curated, stored and shared; and used or applied to achieve biodiversity-related objectives and outcomes.

4. While various definitions of knowledge management exist, the knowledge management strategy to support the implementation of the Framework considers four interdependent components, namely: (a) people, including knowledge holders, researchers and practitioners, indigenous peoples and local communities, [people of African descent], women, youth, managers, curators and users; (b) processes, that is to say, the relevant procedures, standards and policies; (c) technology and technological tools, systems, infrastructures and platforms; and (d) content, that is to say, biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge, including how it is managed, for example, through cataloguing, tagging and indexing, digitization and organization.

## **III. Overarching considerations**

5. The knowledge management strategy recognizes that, to contribute to the achievement of the 2050 vision, goals and targets of the Framework, it is important for data, information and knowledge, including the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities that are made available with their free, prior and informed consent<sup>28</sup> and awareness of further application, possible benefits and potential consequences, to be available and accessible in a timely manner to decision makers, practitioners and the public. Moreover, it is important for knowledge to be fit for purpose in terms of content and format of transmission. In this regard, the strategy acknowledges the approach of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services to recognizing and working with indigenous and local knowledge.<sup>29</sup>

6. It is important for Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth representatives and other relevant stakeholders to foster a culture of knowledge-sharing, the co-production of knowledge, continuous learning from experience and diverse knowledge systems and knowledge retention and reuse to improve decision-making, implementation processes and practices.

7. The knowledge management strategy recognizes that effective knowledge management requires acknowledgement and optimization of the contributions of various governmental and non-governmental institutions, regional and international organizations, infrastructures, researchers, practitioners, indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders.<sup>30</sup>

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<sup>26</sup> Decision 15/5, annex I.

<sup>27</sup> Decision 15/8, annex I.

<sup>28</sup> All mentions of “free, prior and informed consent” refer to the tripartite terminology of “prior and informed consent”, “free, prior and informed consent” or “approval and involvement”.

<sup>29</sup> See decision [IPBES-5/1, annex II](#).

<sup>30</sup> Inclusive knowledge societies may be considered to be those societies that value the creation, dissemination and utilization of knowledge as key drivers for development, fostering collaboration, innovation and the empowerment of individuals and groups. See, for example, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and United Nations University, *Knowledge Societies Policy Handbook* (2016).

8. The strategy recognizes the importance of embracing new technologies and encourages an innovative and forward-looking approach to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of knowledge management processes.

9. The strategy promotes the principles of findability, accessibility, interoperability and reusability (FAIR principles), with a view to promoting the open sharing of data, information and knowledge and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the utilization of knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities related to conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity.

10. In order to ensure that access to the traditional knowledge, innovations, practices and technologies of indigenous peoples and local communities is given with their free, prior and informed consent, the strategy promotes the principles of collective benefit, authority to control by indigenous peoples and local communities, responsibility, reciprocity and ethics (CARE principles) and the strengthening of their technical capabilities, skills and knowledge.

#### **IV. Purpose**

11. The strategy is intended to foster the mutual exchange and use of relevant data, information and knowledge, including traditional knowledge, with the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples and local communities, for informed policy development, planning, decision-making and action at both the policy and practitioner levels to support the implementation and monitoring of the Framework at all levels. It also seeks to promote the development or strengthening of tools and systems to enhance communication, awareness-raising, education, knowledge-sharing and organizational learning among policymakers, practitioners and other relevant stakeholders, while respecting the rights and knowledge systems of indigenous peoples and local communities, in accordance with relevant national legislation and international instruments.

12. The strategy is aimed at addressing some of the challenges and needs identified by Parties related to biodiversity knowledge, information and data management in order to facilitate the effective implementation of the Framework and related decisions of the Conference of the Parties, including by:

(a) Addressing disparities in data and information availability and accessibility across countries and the barriers to the effective use of existing biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge, taking into account the specific challenges faced by developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small islands developing States among them, and Parties with economies in transition;

(b) Strengthening regional, subregional, national and, as appropriate, subnational capacities, systems and mechanisms for biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge management to support evidence-based, inclusive and gender-responsive decision-making and action and for the monitoring and reporting of progress towards the achievement of national targets as contributions to the goals and targets of the Framework;

(c) Increasing the level of standardization for greater harmonization and interoperability among regional, subregional, national and subnational biodiversity information systems, tools and platforms in accordance with national legislation and regulations;

(d) Leveraging existing biodiversity data, information and knowledge and biodiversity knowledge management initiatives and networks by bridging the gaps that prevent their full and effective usage;

(e) Developing appropriate national and subnational policies and strategies to support the generation of data and information and knowledge management;

(f) Fostering cooperation and coordination among biodiversity-related conventions and multilateral agreements to streamline information management processes, including national

reporting, data-sharing and knowledge exchange, in accordance with the respective mandates, legal authority and responsibilities under those conventions;

(g) Enhancing coordination and collaboration among various regional, subregional and national biodiversity knowledge initiatives, tools and platforms to prevent their duplication and foster efficiency and sustainability.

13. The strategy promotes a regional approach to knowledge management through the regional and subregional support centres of the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism<sup>31</sup> to encourage the sharing of relevant data, information and knowledge, resources, best practices and expertise among stakeholders to optimize the implementation of the Framework, in accordance with national legislation and regulations.

## **V. Expected outcomes**

14. The implementation of the strategy is expected to result in: the increased capacity of Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, scientific and academic institutions, women and youth representatives, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders to capture, manage and use biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge; an expanded knowledge base; and the increased availability, accessibility and uptake of relevant data, information and knowledge at all levels, with a view to facilitating evidence-based programming and policy design, informed decision-making and the effective implementation, monitoring and reporting of the Framework.

15. The strategic objectives, component actions and main actors associated with achieving those outcomes are presented in a tabular format in section VIII below.

## **VI. Implementation (2024–2030)**

16. The strategy will be implemented in an inclusive and gender-responsive manner by Parties and other Governments, with the engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities, scientific and academic institutions, women and youth representatives, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders<sup>32</sup> and support provided by the Secretariat. The implementation will be in line with the priorities outlined in national biodiversity strategies and action plans, the Framework and relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties<sup>33</sup> by making full use of existing resources and cooperation with relevant organizations and processes, with the understanding that any new and additional activities by the Secretariat will need to be conducted subject to the availability of resources.

17. The implementation of the strategy will be supportive of and in accordance with national legislation and regulations pertaining to knowledge management.

18. The strategy will consider the capacity, technical, technological and financial gaps that undermine the capabilities of countries, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States among them, and countries with economies in transition, to produce and gain access to biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge. The strategy will prioritize the need to engage indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth and groups in vulnerable situations in research programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.

19. The implementation of the strategy by Parties will be in accordance with the Convention, in particular Article 16, 17, 18 and 20.

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<sup>31</sup> See decision [15/8](#).

<sup>32</sup> These may include subnational governments, cities, other local authorities, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, faith-based organizations, networks and the private sector.

<sup>33</sup> In particular decisions [14/25](#) and [15/16](#) related to knowledge management, and decision 15/8, as related in particular to the global coordination entity and the regional and subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres of the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism.

## **VII. Monitoring**

20. The implementation of the strategy will be monitored at subnational, national and regional levels using the information provided by Parties, in collaboration with indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth representatives and relevant stakeholders, in their national reports. Subject to the availability of funding and resources, the Secretariat, the regional and subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centre and relevant organizations will provide support to Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth representatives and other relevant stakeholders in implementing the strategy and monitoring its progress. The information generated from the monitoring process will be used, as appropriate, to inform the review and update of the strategy in 2030.

## VIII. Strategic objectives and actions

| <i>Strategic objectives</i>                     | <i>Component actions</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| A. Scoping and framing of situation and needs   | 1. Map existing knowledge assets, knowledge holders, curators, sources <sup>a</sup> and platforms relevant to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and national biodiversity strategies and action plans.                             |  |
|                                                 | 2. Identify knowledge gaps, needs and priorities of Parties.                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |
|                                                 | 3. Identify options and mechanisms for addressing the identified knowledge gaps and needs.                                                                                                                                                          |  |
|                                                 | 4. Develop national and regional knowledge management strategies and action plans based on the needs and priorities identified by Parties.                                                                                                          |  |
|                                                 | 5. Evaluate the effectiveness of existing knowledge management systems and platforms at the global, regional, national and subnational levels.                                                                                                      |  |
| B. Promoting knowledge generation and synthesis | 1. Establish multi-stakeholder processes and mechanisms for knowledge co-creation and production.                                                                                                                                                   |  |
|                                                 | 2. Enhance collaboration among government institutions, organizations, scientific and academic institutions, the private sector and relevant initiatives to promote knowledge generation.                                                           |  |
|                                                 | 3. Engage and encourage research and academic institutions, holders of traditional knowledge and other knowledge institutions and communities to undertake research and share relevant data, information and knowledge.                             |  |
|                                                 | 4. Strengthen national and regional capacity for knowledge generation, including the collection of data, information and knowledge by private citizens at the subnational and local levels.                                                         |  |
|                                                 | 5. Promote the use of digital technology to collect data and information.                                                                                                                                                                           |  |
|                                                 | 6. Identify and collect the traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities, with particular attention to the knowledge of indigenous women, with their free, prior and informed consent and clear acknowledgement of the source. |  |
|                                                 | 7. Establish and convene communities of practice on thematic and cross-cutting areas relevant to the implementation of the Framework and knowledge management, including knowledge generation, storage, dissemination and application.              |  |
|                                                 | 8. Promote the documentation and publication of traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities in research publications, with their free, prior and informed consent and the participation of traditional knowledge holders.     |  |

| <i>Strategic objectives</i>                        | <i>Component actions</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |  |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| C. Facilitating knowledge discovery and collection | 1. Develop, enhance and use web-based tools to discover and collect data, information and knowledge from various sources, including through the promotion of already existing tools, platforms and services available.                                                                                                                                                                            |  |
|                                                    | 2. Promote the use of tools and technology for knowledge discovery.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  |
|                                                    | 3. Engage relevant stakeholders, including knowledge holders, generators, creators, brokers and private citizens, in the discovery and collection of knowledge.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |
| D. Enhancing knowledge organization and sharing    | 1. Review metadata and enhance the tagging and mapping of knowledge objects from various sources to increase findability, accessibility, interoperability and reuse of data, information and knowledge.                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |
|                                                    | 2. Develop and promote data-, information- and knowledge-sharing standards and protocols and best practices to ensure good quality data, harmonization compatibility and interoperability across biodiversity information systems, tools and platforms. <sup>b</sup>                                                                                                                              |  |
|                                                    | 3. Strengthen the capacity of Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth representatives and other relevant stakeholders, including the private sector, to manage and share data, information and knowledge efficiently across conventions <sup>c</sup> and the programme to implement the Framework, the Sustainable Development Goals and other related strategies. |  |
|                                                    | 4. Promote a culture of sharing data, information and knowledge and their application at the global, regional, subregional, national, subnational and local levels, including through entering into data-sharing agreements.                                                                                                                                                                      |  |
|                                                    | 5. Develop, showcase, disseminate and promote tailored knowledge products, including through workshops, webinars, knowledge fairs, community meetings and open access online resources.                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |
|                                                    | 6. Promote compliance of data users with relevant access and benefit-sharing legislation related to access to traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources in order to prevent the misuse and misappropriation of such knowledge.                                                                                                                                                      |  |
|                                                    | 7. Develop a national repository or portal for biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge, as part of or linked to the national clearing-house mechanism, to promote access and use.                                                                                                                                                                                                    |  |
|                                                    | 8. Encourage peer-to-peer learning on the Framework, thematic and cross-cutting areas related to implementation, and knowledge management, including through the regional and/ subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres and the global coordination entity of the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism.                                                         |  |

| <i>Strategic objectives</i>                                            | <i>Component actions</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| E. Promoting the uptake and effective use and application of knowledge | 1. Develop and implement strategies to increase the uptake, use and application of existing biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge to inform biodiversity programming and policy- and decision-making.                                                                                                                    |  |
|                                                                        | 2. Promote and facilitate the sharing, replication, scale-up, adaptation and systematization of data, information and knowledge, including documented good practices and lessons learned, to improve processes and practices.                                                                                                           |  |
|                                                                        | 3. Create and use mechanisms to facilitate interactions and dialogue between policymakers and decision makers and the research community, practitioners and indigenous peoples and local communities.                                                                                                                                   |  |
|                                                                        | 4. Establish linkages between scientific networks and communication experts to enable the translation of scientific research outcomes into knowledge products.                                                                                                                                                                          |  |
| F. Conducting knowledge audits and reviews                             | 1. Undertake periodic surveys to assess, inter alia, the types of information and knowledge most frequently sought, the ease of access to the information needed, existing knowledge gaps, the level of knowledge-sharing and preferred channels and uptake, use and application of knowledge in decision-making.                       |  |
|                                                                        | 2. Analyse major knowledge gaps and identify options to address them.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |
|                                                                        | 3. Conduct a comprehensive review of the knowledge management strategy.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |
| G. Developing capacity in data, information and knowledge management   | 1. Undertake gap and need analyses of national knowledge management capacities in the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans.                                                                                                                                                                              |  |
|                                                                        | 2. Develop or strengthen the policies, strategies and programmes for biodiversity knowledge management, including traditional knowledge management.                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |
|                                                                        | 3. Strengthen the institutional capacity of relevant national agencies in biodiversity informatics and knowledge management, including to support efforts by indigenous peoples and local communities to strengthen indigenous knowledge systems of knowledge management.                                                               |  |
|                                                                        | 4. Strengthen national knowledge management systems and mechanisms for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |
|                                                                        | 5. Provide guidance on national database development and the sharing of experience in data access and use.                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |
|                                                                        | 6. Strengthen the capacities of decision makers, practitioners, the public, relevant stakeholders and knowledge holders to gain access to and use biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge, including traditional knowledge provided with the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples and local communities. |  |

| <i>Strategic objectives</i>                          | <i>Component actions</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |  |
|------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
|                                                      | 7. Develop targeted capacity-building initiatives to support the engagement of indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth representatives and other relevant stakeholders in the generation, management and use of biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge, through improved data infrastructure, training, guidance and technical support.                |  |
|                                                      | 8. Establish partnerships between universities and scientific institutions and indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth representatives and other relevant stakeholders to enhance the contributions of scientific and traditional knowledge to conservation and sustainable use research programmes, in line with the principle of free, prior and informed consent. |  |
|                                                      | 9. Mobilize funding to support knowledge management efforts and ensure sustainability in the generation, collection, management and sharing of biodiversity data, information, and knowledge.                                                                                                                                                                                          |  |
| H. Strengthening knowledge networks and partnerships | 1. Strengthen networks on biodiversity-related data, information and knowledge management.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |  |
|                                                      | 2. Link centres of expertise, communities of practice, indigenous peoples and local communities and other knowledge sources.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |  |
|                                                      | 3. Enhance collaboration among scientific institutions, public institutions and indigenous peoples and local communities in their work on traditional knowledge related to sustainable practices.                                                                                                                                                                                      |  |
|                                                      | 4. Enhance coordination and collaboration among various biodiversity knowledge initiatives, tools and platforms and community-based monitoring and citizen science programmes.                                                                                                                                                                                                         |  |
|                                                      | 5. Substantially increase the exchange of results of technical, scientific and socioeconomic research, as well as information on training and surveying programmes                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |

<sup>a</sup> Including tools identified in the *Compendium of Guidance on Key Global Databases Related to Biodiversity-related Conventions* (United Nations Environment Programme-World Conservation Monitoring Centre, March 2018).

<sup>b</sup> In the context of traditional knowledge, this involves the development and promotion of community protocols and biocultural community protocols for gaining access to and using traditional knowledge.

<sup>c</sup> An example of an applicable tool for managing data, information and knowledge at the national level is the Data Reporting Tool for Multilateral Environmental Agreements (available at <https://dart.informea.org>).