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Convention on Biological Diversity

Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity
Seventeenth meeting
Yerevan, 19–30 October 2026
Agenda item 10 (b) (ii)
Implementation of Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity related to indigenous peoples and local communities: process to review and update the Voluntary Glossary of Key Terms and Concepts Within the Context of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention (Task 5.4)
Working Group I

Process to review and update the Voluntary Glossary of Key Terms and Concepts Within the Context of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention

Draft decision submitted by the Chair of Working Group I

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling Task 5.4 of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity[1] related to indigenous peoples and local communities to 2030,[2]

1. *Decides* to endorse the process for reviewing and updating the Voluntary Glossary of Key Terms and Concepts Within the Context of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity,[3] as outlined in annex I to the present decision;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to convene, subject to the availability of resource, an ad hoc technical expert group on the review and update of the voluntary glossary, with the terms of reference set out in annex II to the present decision, and to submit the results of the expert group's work to the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, for consideration at its second meeting;

3. *Requests* the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities to make a recommendation for updating the voluntary glossary on the basis of the outcome of the review, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its eighteenth meeting.

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.
[2] Decision 16/4, annex.
[3] Decision 14/13, annex.

Annex I

Process for reviewing and updating the Voluntary Glossary of Key Terms and Concepts Within the Context of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity

The process for reviewing and updating the Voluntary Glossary of Key Terms and Concepts Within the Context of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity[4,5] shall be as follows:

Step 1. The Executive Secretary shall invite Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant stakeholders to submit views and experiences on possible elements of the Voluntary Glossary of Key Terms and Concepts Within the Context of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention that should be reviewed or updated, and invite relevant Parties, in line with national legislation and circumstances, to include the views and experiences of people of African descent, comprising collectives embodying traditional lifestyles, in their submissions.

Step 2. The Executive Secretary shall prepare a synthesis of the views received.

Step 3. The Executive Secretary shall convene an ad hoc technical expert group on the review and update of the voluntary glossary, which shall review the synthesis of the views received and formulate technical advice and proposals on which elements of the glossary should be updated. [The process should ensure that any revised definitions reflect the diversity of legal and cultural contexts across Parties and allow for national adaptation.]

Step 4. The Executive Secretary shall make available the technical advice and proposals formulated by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on the Review and Update of the Voluntary Glossary of Key Terms and Concepts Within the Context of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity, for peer review, and also make the technical advice, proposals and results of the peer review available as an information document to the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities at its second meeting.

Step 5. The Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities shall consider at its second meeting the advice and proposals formulated by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group and prepare a recommendation for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its eighteenth meeting.

Annex II

Terms of Reference for the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on the Review and Update of the Voluntary Glossary of Key Terms and Concepts Within the Context of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity

1. The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on the Review and Update of the Voluntary Glossary of Key Terms and Concepts Within the Context of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity shall:

(a) Review the synthesis of the views received and formulate advice and proposals on which elements of the voluntary glossary should be updated in the light of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;[6]

[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.
[5] Decision 14/13, annex.
[6] Decision 15/4, annex.

(b) Submit reviewed and updated elements of the voluntary glossary for the consideration of the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities at its second meeting.

[2. alt.1 The Expert Group shall be composed of 35 experts, as follows:

(a) Fourteen experts from indigenous peoples and local communities, representing the seven sociocultural regions recognized by the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (two per region), nominated and selected through an agreed process;

(b) Fifteen experts from Parties, representing the five United Nations regional groups (three per group);

(c) Six experts nominated by relevant stakeholders.]

[2. alt.2 The Expert Group shall be composed of 29 experts, as follows:

(a) Fifteen experts from Parties, representing the five United Nations regional groups (three per group);

(b) Ten experts from indigenous peoples and local communities, representing the five United Nations regional groups (two per group);

(c) Four experts nominated by relevant stakeholders.]

[2. alt.3 The Expert Group shall be composed of 14 experts, as follows:

(a) Seven experts from indigenous peoples and local communities, representing the seven sociocultural regions recognized by the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (one per region), nominated by their own procedures;

(b) Five experts from Parties, representing the five United Nations regional groups (one per group);

(c) Two experts nominated by relevant stakeholders.]

3. The Co-Chairs of the Subsidiary Body will be invited to participate, ex officio, in meetings of the Technical Expert Group.

4. Experts shall be selected taking into consideration relevant expertise, including on gender perspective, gender balance and geographical distribution, ensuring a diversity of knowledge systems, including traditional knowledge and relevant policy development.