

Non-paper submitted by the Co-chairs of the discussion group¹

POSSIBLE ELEMENTS OF A POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION

I. Introduction

1. The present note has been prepared to further facilitate the discussions on the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. The views expressed herein should be considered by the Co-Chairs of the Open-ended Working Group when preparing further documentation related to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework for the Open-ended Working Group. However, the issues raised in the present note should not be taken to mean that an agreement was reached on any particular issue. Further, the present note should be considered alongside the official statements made by Parties during the first meeting of the Open-ended Working Group and is not intended to replace them.

2. Some of the issues raised under the sections below could be relevant and/or placed under different headings depending on how the discussions on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework evolve. To facilitate future discussions on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework an organizational structure for the possible elements of the framework should be developed.

II. Possible Elements of a post-2020 global biodiversity framework for further discussion

3. Rationale and scope

- (a) Possible issues to reflect:
 - (i) The importance of biodiversity and ecosystem services;
 - (ii) The current state of biodiversity and the implications of this for human well-being;
 - (iii) The need for ambition in addressing the current challenges facing biodiversity;
 - (iv) The direct and indirect drivers of biodiversity loss;
 - (v) Transformative change;²
 - (vi) Theory of change;³
 - (vii) Principles;⁴
 - (viii) The challenges for implementation;
 - (ix) The results of the global assessment of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) and other relevant assessments.

4. 2050 Vision

- (a) Possible issues to reflect:
 - (i) The 2050 Vision for Biodiversity remains relevant and will be a part of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework (as per decision 14/2);

¹ The present note, which was not negotiated, reflects the efforts by the Co-Chairs of the discussion group on agenda item 4 to begin elaborating elements of a post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and is without prejudice to the rights of the Parties to make further amendments and additions. The note should be read in light of the views expressed by Parties and observers at the first meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global biodiversity framework in Nairobi, 27-30 August 2019 and with the report on that meeting.

² Some Parties requested a clear understanding of the difference between transformative change and theory of change.

³ Some Parties were not in favour of including theory of change and/or requested further clarification of what it referred to. Further, some Parties would like to exclude theory of change from this part of the framework.

⁴ Some Parties were not in favour of including principles and/or requested further details on what these would entail.

- (ii) The elements of the 2050 Vision could be used to inform the development of other parts of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;
- (iii) Linking other elements of the post-2020 global biodiversity to the 2050 Vision may require the consideration of timeframes beyond 2030;
- (iv) A better understanding of the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity may require an unpacking of the different issues it addresses.⁵

5. 2030 Mission and/or apex goal and milestones⁶

- (a) Possible issues to reflect:
 - (i) Statement on the status⁷ of biodiversity by 2030;
 - (ii) Action oriented statement related to a desired change;
 - (iii) Milestones;⁸
 - (iv) The three objectives of the Convention and the Protocols;
 - (v) Based on the elements of the 2050 Vision (biodiversity conserved, wisely used, restored, and ecosystem service maintained);⁹
 - (vi) Desired state of biodiversity in 2030;
 - (vii) Sustainable use;
 - (viii) Sustainable consumption and production;¹⁰
 - (ix) The Sustainable Development Goals;¹¹
 - (x) Addressing the drivers of biodiversity loss;
 - (xi) Effective adaptation to climate change;
 - (xii) Simple, easy to communicate, actionable and measurable;
 - (xiii) A pressure state impact response model.

6. Goals, targets, sub-targets, and indicators

- (a) Possible issues that could be reflected in Goals:^{12,13}

⁵ Some Parties felt that the 2050 Vision was sufficiently clear and did not require unpacking. Other felt that if it was to be unpacked or further explained. This could be done in the element of the post-2020 global biodiversity related to rationale and scope.

⁶ Parties expressed a range of views on if the post-2020 global biodiversity framework should have a mission, apex goal and/or milestones, and expressed varying levels of support for one of the three options. Some felt that the post-2020 global biodiversity framework should only incorporate one of these options. Others felt that it should reflect all three or a combination of two of them.

⁷ Some Parties noted the need to define what is meant by status in the context of this element of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

⁸ Some Parties felt that milestones, for example to 2050, could be reflected in the element of the framework referring to rationale and scope. Further, some Parties would like to add ecosystem-based adaptation and mitigation to this element of the framework.

⁹ Some Parties felt that repeating the 2050 Vision in this element of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework may cause confusion.

¹⁰ Some Parties were not in favour of including this as part of the mission and/or apex goal and milestones in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Some Parties would like to rephrase it to also include mainstreaming.

¹¹ Some Parties were unclear as to what this meant and/or how it could be reflected under this element of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

¹² Some Parties noted that wording is required to explain the relationship between the possible goals, targets and sub-targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Some felt that goals could be used to help structure and organize the targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. It was also noted that goals and targets are interrelated.

- (i) Three objectives of the Convention (conservation, sustainable use, and access and benefit-sharing);
 - (ii) The Protocols;
 - (iii) Based on the elements of the 2050 Vision (biodiversity valued, conserved, restored, wisely used, and ecosystem service maintained);
 - (iv) Five direct drivers of biodiversity loss (changes in land and sea use; direct exploitation of organisms; climate change; pollution; and invasion of alien species) noted in the IPBES Global Assessment;¹⁴
 - (v) Indirect drivers of biodiversity loss, including those noted in the IPBES Global Assessment (production and consumption patterns, human population dynamics, and trends, trade, technological innovations and local through global governance);¹⁵
 - (vi) Facilitating/enabling implementation;¹⁶
 - (vii) Be informed by the conclusions of the fifth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*;
 - (viii) Implementation.
- (b) Possible issues that could be reflected in targets:
- (i) Themes from the Aichi Biodiversity Targets as a starting point but potentially simplified;
 - (ii) Targets should be specific, measurable, achievable, results-based, and time-bound (SMART);
 - (iii) Consistent, coherent, compatible and mutual supportive of other relevant multilateral environmental agreements and processes;
 - (iv) Not duplicative of other processes;
 - (v) Informed by the fifth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*;
- (c) Possible issues that could be reflected in sub-targets:¹⁷
- (i) Address more specific elements of the targets;
- (d) Possible issues that could be reflected in indicators:
- (i) Use the existing indicators identified by the Conference of the Parties, those for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, those used in the IPBES assessments, indicators identified through the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership and by other relevant processes as a starting point in order to monitor progress;
 - (ii) Indicators and baselines should be identified at the same time as the targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

¹³ Some Parties asked to include the concept of mainstreaming in this element of the framework.

¹⁴ Some Parties felt that the direct drivers of biodiversity loss should be reflected in the element of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework related to rationale and scope and not as goals.

¹⁵ Some Parties felt that the indirect drivers of biodiversity loss should be reflected in the element of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework related to rationale and scope and not as goals to not overreach the mandate of the Convention.

¹⁶ Some Parties felt that implementation issues might not need to be reflected as goals in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

¹⁷ Some Parties noted that sub-targets might not be necessary. However, they also noted that, if the number of targets is kept small, sub-targets might be needed to reflect all desired issues.

- (iii) Provisions should be made to review the list of indicators and baselines once the post-2020 global biodiversity framework is adopted in order to make any necessary refinements.

7. Means of implementation and enabling conditions¹⁸

- (a) Possible issues to reflect:
 - (i) Resource mobilization;
 - (ii) Provision of financial resources;
 - (iii) Financial mechanism;
 - (iv) Capacity-building;
 - (v) Traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use;
 - (vi) Science and evidence from relevant knowledge systems, including the natural and social sciences and lessons learned from the implementation to date of the Convention and its Protocols;
 - (vii) Technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer;
 - (viii) Knowledge generation, management and information sharing;
 - (ix) Communication and awareness-raising;
 - (x) Promoting synergies with other relevant multilateral environmental agreements and processes;
 - (xi) Promoting the greater participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth, civil society, local and subnational authorities, the private sector and academia and scientific institutions in implementation;
 - (xii) Science based and standardize measures, natural capital accounting¹⁹ and wholistic approaches to valuation;
 - (xiii) Strengthened environmental governance, and policy processes;²⁰
 - (xiv) Ecosystem based management;
 - (xv) National biodiversity strategies and action plans;
 - (xvi) Levers of transformation change in the scope of the Convention.

8. Cross-cutting issues and approaches^{21,22}

- (a) Possible issues to reflect:
 - (i) Mainstreaming, particularly for issues related to agriculture, forestry, fisheries, aquaculture, tourism, energy and mining, infrastructure, manufacturing and

¹⁸ The possible issues identified under this element could also be relevant to the element of the framework related to cross-cutting issues and approaches and/or reflected in goals and targets depending on how they are formulated in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

¹⁹ Some Parties were not in favor of including references to natural capital accounting.

²⁰ Some Parties felt this was too broad and were not in favour of including it in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

²¹ The issues noted in this section could also be reflected in other elements of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, such as in goals or targets or under the element related to means of implementation and enabling conditions, depending on how they are phrased. Some Parties noted that these issues should not be considered peripheral issues.

²² Some Parties suggested to add multilateral collaboration mechanism to this element of the framework.

processing sectors and could address both the direct and indirect pressures on biodiversity;

- (ii) Gender equality, women's empowerment and gender responsive approaches;
- (iii) Indigenous peoples and local communities;
- (iv) Rights based approaches;
- (v) Partnerships;
- (vi) Intergenerational equity;
- (vii) Connectivity.

9. Transparent implementation, monitoring and reporting mechanism²³

- (a) Possible issues to reflect:
 - (i) Keep and strengthen NBSAPs as the main mechanism for implementing the Convention at the national level;
 - (ii) Enhance guidance for national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
 - (iii) Build from and strengthen the national reports;
 - (iv) Improve comparability and the quality of the national reports and national biodiversity strategies and action plans;
 - (v) Improve consistency/synergy across reporting processes within and outside the Convention;
 - (vi) Improved collaboration among Conventions for the development of common reporting frameworks, and modular reporting systems;
 - (vii) Lessons learned from the Convention and other international environmental instruments;
 - (viii) The relationship between this element and the other elements of the post-2020 global biodiversity;
 - (ix) Monitoring;
 - (x) Voluntary commitments;²⁴
 - (xi) Compliance mechanisms and transparency;²⁵
 - (xii) Measurements, reporting, review, and verification system, transparent and global biodiversity stock take, iterative synchronized, coordinated review process and ratcheting mechanism;²⁶

²³ Another suggestion for the title of this element was accountability framework. However, some Parties did not agree with this term. Another suggestion was implementation structure. It was also emphasized that any mechanisms should not be punitive but aim to support implementation.

²⁴ Some Parties felt that voluntary commitments would be better reflected under the element of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework related to means of implementation and enabling conditions. Other Parties indicated that they were unclear as to what this term meant. Others noted that clear guidance for voluntary commitments would be needed. Some Parties also expressed the view that voluntary commitments were for non-State actors while others felt that they could be relevant to national Governments as a complement to the commitments in the national biodiversity strategies and action plans. Others felt that national voluntary commitments could undermine the national biodiversity strategies and action plans.

²⁵ Some Parties noted that the purpose of a compliance mechanism in the context of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework was unclear. Others objected to the word "compliance".

²⁶ Some Parties felt that the reference to a ratcheting mechanism would be better placed in the element related to means of implementation and enabling conditions. It was also noted by some that this issue should be limited to measurements, reporting and verification.

- (xiii) Existing review processes, including peer review, under the Convention;
- (xiv) Guidance.

10. Outreach, awareness and uptake²⁷

(a) Possible elements:

- (i) A coherent, comprehensive, and innovative communication strategy for the global biodiversity framework itself;
 - (ii) Raising awareness of the framework to ensure its alignment with other relevant international processes and strategies.
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²⁷ Some Parties felt that the issues addressed under this element could be included under the element of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework addressing means of implementation and enabling conditions. Others noted that provisions for communication and outreach related to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework are already contained in decision 14/34.