

Agenda item 11
Financial mechanism
Working Group 1

Financial mechanism

Non-paper*

The Conference of the Parties,

[*Reaffirming* the importance of the full application of the provisions of [Article 20](#) Article 21 of the Convention on Biological Diversity¹ and of access for all eligible Parties to the financial mechanism for the full implementation of the Convention,] ~~{remove bracket}~~

[*Welcoming* the valuable role of the Global Environmental Facility as the institutional structure operating the financial mechanism of the Convention on an interim and ongoing basis,] ~~{remove bracket}~~

~~*Recalling that paragraph 1 of Article 21 of the Convention provides that the financial mechanism is to operate within a democratic and transparent manner of governance,*~~

~~*Recalling also paragraph 3 of Article 21 of the Convention, which provides that the Conference of the Parties shall review the effectiveness of the financial mechanism,*~~

~~*Recalling further that paragraph 3 of Article 20 of the Convention provides that developed country Parties may provide financial resources related to the implementation of the Convention through bilateral, regional and other multilateral channels,*~~

Reaffirming the commitment of the Conference of the Parties to reviewing the effectiveness of the financial mechanism periodically, as reflected in the memorandum of understanding with the Council of the Global Environment Facility,²

Reaffirming also the importance of the review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism in the context of the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols, strategies and programmes,

Noting with concern the lack of financial voluntary contributions to finance the implementation of the terms of reference for a full assessment of the amount of funds needed for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols for the ninth replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund,³ resulting in the use of the core budget and in a limited report for the consideration of the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting,

~~*Taking note of Welcomes* the report of the Global Environment Facility for the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties⁴ and the report on the sixth review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism for the Convention on Biological Diversity⁵ and its Protocols,⁶~~

Welcoming ~~{with appreciation}~~ the actions taken by the Global Environment Facility to support developing country Parties, ~~in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States~~ and countries with economies in transition, ~~in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States,~~ and indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth in the implementation of the objectives of the Convention, its Protocols and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,⁷ including through its programming associated with the seventh and eighth

* The parts shaded in grey come from the draft decision contained in document CBD/COP/16/7.

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

² Decision III/8, annex.

³ Decision 15/15, annex III.

⁴ CBD/COP/16/8.

⁵ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

⁶ CBD/COP/16/INF/25.

⁷ Decision 15/4, annex.

replenishments of its Trust Fund and the establishment and ~~[steps taken to operationalize]~~ operationalization of ~~]~~ the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund,

Noting with appreciation the significant progress that the Global Environment Facility has made between the sixth and eighth replenishments of its Trust Fund in conforming with the guidance from the Conference of the Parties with regard to its role in resource mobilization and in supporting the implementation of activities for achieving the objectives of the Convention, including its policies and procedures,

~~*Noting that the effectiveness of the Global Environment Facility is limited by, among other things:*~~

- ~~(a) — The limited availability of financial resources from donor countries; [Canada, Norway]~~
- ~~(b) — Limited strategic direction from the Conference of the Parties, including a lack of prioritization of focus areas;~~
- ~~(c) — Limited sense of ownership by recipient countries within the Global Environment Facility system;~~

OR

Noting that the effectiveness of the Global Environment Facility is limited by, among other things:

- (a) The ~~limited~~ availability of financial resources from donor countries including those that are developed countries, and those that have the capacity to voluntarily assume the obligations of developed countries;
- (b) ~~Limited~~ Lack of strategic prioritisation of focus areas or priorities ~~direction~~ from the Conference of the Parties, including a lack of prioritization of focus areas;
- (c) ~~Limited sense of ownership by recipient countries within the Global Environment Facility system;~~ The need for more country ownership or a stronger country-driven approach to GEF-financing within the GEF system.

Recognizing the integrated and indivisible nature of the components of the Framework, which include considerations for its implementation (sect. C of the Framework), implementation and support mechanism and enabling conditions (sect. I) and responsibility and transparency (sect. J),

Noting with concern ~~the lack of project proposals~~ submitted in the first half of the GEF8 cycle from eligible countries to support the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention⁸ and the limited number of project proposals from eligible countries to support the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization to the Convention,⁹ **and the lack of information regarding their possible causes provided by the GEF in the reports to COP-15 and COP-16,**

~~*[Noting with concern also that the Global Environment Facility does not take into account in a balanced manner project proposals related to the Cartagena Protocol and the Nagoya Protocol,]*~~

~~*[Noting with concern further the [insufficiency of resources][lack of resources] made available to the [Global Environment Facility, including the] Global Biodiversity Framework Fund[, while recalling Article 20 of the Convention and Target 19 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,] in a manner commensurate with the challenges and needs of developing country Parties,]*~~

⁸ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

⁹ *Ibid.*, vol. 3008, No. 30619.

OR

[*Noting with concern further* the [insufficiency of resources][lack of resources] made available to the ~~{Global Environment Facility, including the}~~Global Biodiversity Framework Fund[, while recalling Article 20 of the Convention and Target 19 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,] in a manner commensurate with the challenges and needs of developing country Parties,]

~~[*Noting with concern the exclusion of that* a number of eligible Parties from have not yet accessed access to support from the Global Environment Facility, including through its programming associated with the seventh and eighth replenishments of its Trust Fund and System for Transparent Allocation of Resources, in particular for the revision and updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national biodiversity finance plans aligned with the Framework,]~~

OR

~~[*Noting with concern the exclusion of a number of eligible Parties from access to support from the Global Environment Facility, including through its programming associated with the seventh and eighth replenishments of its Trust Fund and System for Transparent Allocation of Resources, in particular for the revision and updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and national biodiversity finance plans aligned with the Framework,]*~~

Noting the contributions of the integrated programmes of the Global Environment Facility towards achieving the targets of the Framework and that all of the integrated programmes contribute towards achieving Targets 8, 10, 11, 20, 21, 22 and 23,

Welcoming the significant portion of other focal area resources under the Global Environment Facility that contribute to the implementation of the Framework,

Welcoming also the efforts by the Global Environment Facility to harness synergies among other biodiversity-related conventions and to address multiple environmental challenges in a holistic manner,

Highlighting the contribution of indigenous peoples and local communities to the implementation of the Convention, and welcoming the support that the Global Environment Facility currently provides to them,

Noting [with appreciation] the ~~enhanced~~ support provided by the Global Environment Facility to indigenous peoples and local communities for the implementation of the Framework, including through the aspirational programming share of at least 20 per cent at portfolio level by 2030 in the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund,

~~*Acknowledging* the importance of strategic making further efforts to enhance the guidance for the ~~financial mechanism~~Global Environment Facility provided by the Conference of the Parties ~~and the need to better guide the Global Environment Facility,~~ OR delete whole para~~

Noting with appreciation the significant progress that the Global Environment Facility has made between the sixth and eighth replenishments of its Trust Fund in conforming with the guidance from the Conference of the Parties with regard to its role in resource mobilization and in supporting the implementation of activities for achieving the objectives of the Convention, including its policies and procedures,

Recognizing that the resources of the financial mechanism are provided in a relatively predictable manner through the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund as a result of the implementation of the System for Transparent Allocation of Resources, that improvements have been made in terms of the timely disbursements of funds to eligible countries and that the streamlining of the Global Environment Facility project cycle is also likely to have a positive impact on the timely disbursements of funds,

Welcoming the efforts by the Global Environment Facility to support policy coherence and streamlining measures,

Recognizing also the importance of need to further strengthen country leadership, ownership and accountability with regard to activities supported by the Global Environment Facility,

Recognizing further that, over the years, the Global Environment Facility has taken steps to enhance the quality of its reports,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the report of the Council of the Global Environment Facility to the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting;

Global Environment Facility Trust Fund

2. [Invites] Encourages ~~[Invites]~~ ~~[Encourages]~~ [Instructs] Instructs the Global Environment Facility, in collaboration with the Executive Secretary, to ~~encourage~~ ~~[invite]~~ ~~[all eligible]~~ [recipient] recipient countries to submit project proposals in support of the implementation of Target 17 of the Framework and the Implementation Plan¹⁰ and Capacity-building Action Plan¹¹ for the Cartagena Protocol;

3. *Invites* relevant Parties to the Cartagena Protocol to access proactively the notional allocations available for the Protocol from the eighth replenishment programming directions;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary and the Global Environment Facility to promote the sharing of experience and knowledge in project development and implementation in support of the implementation of Target 13 of the Framework;

5. *Invites* relevant Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization to access proactively the notional allocations available for the Protocol from the eighth replenishment programming directions;

5bis. Requests the Global Environment Facility to identify, in collaboration with eligible countries, the causes for the underutilization of the notional allocations available for the Protocols and to propose adequate measures to address those issues in order to increase their use and include the related information in its next report of the Council to the Conference of the Parties;

6. *Encourages* the Global Environment Facility to continue to explore potential opportunities for maximizing the contribution of its integrated programmes to the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including through dedicated support to indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth;

7. *Encourages* the Global Environment Facility and recipient countries to maintain the contribution of the international waters focal area to the implementation of the Framework and to extend that practice to other focal areas, including climate change, land degradation, and chemicals and waste, in line with different national circumstances and priorities;

8. *Invites* all Parties in a position to do so ~~[, in particular developed country Parties,]~~ and other Governments that are in a position to do so to participate in the ninth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund to support eligible developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States as well as countries with economies in transition;

Requires the Global Environmental Fund (GEF) and its Council to integrate in the current and future GEF funding allocations and in the operationalization of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF), the full consideration of Mother Earth Centric Actions as pivotal part of its vision, goals, guidelines, indicators,

¹⁰ Decision CP-10/3, annex.

¹¹ Decision CP-10/4, annex.

and key media communication messages, to address the implementation of the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework based on the different value systems.

Global Biodiversity Framework Fund

{9. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Global Environment Facility for the ~~{progress made in the}~~ ~~{timely}~~ ~~{Guatemala}~~ timely establishment and operationalization of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund;

~~10. — *Regrets that the Council of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund did not adopt terms of reference for the auxiliary body and the advisory group at its first meeting;*^{12}}~~

OR deletion para 10

{11. *Recognizes ~~Notes with appreciation~~* the contributions made to the capitalization of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund by ~~several~~ some donor countries, namely, Canada, Germany, Japan, Luxembourg, Spain and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and New Zealand which amount to ~~{about 231.0 million United States dollars;~~^{13,14}}

12. *Invites ~~Urges~~ Invites* ~~{all Parties at all levels, in particular developed country Parties}~~ in a position do so and other Governments that are in a position to do so, as well as invites the private and financial sectors and philanthropic organizations, non-governmental organizations and non-sovereign entities and other stakeholders, to make contributions or further contributions to the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund in order for it to continue its rapid capitalization to support the implementation of the Framework, to complement existing support and to scale up financing to ensure the timely implementation of the Framework, taking into account the need for adequacy, predictability and the timely flow of funds, ~~{commensurate with the quantitative ambition set in Target 19}~~;

{13. *Urges Invites* the Secretariat of the Global Environment Facility to continue to strengthen its resource mobilization efforts, including efforts directed towards new contributors, in accordance with funding needs identified through the assessment referred to in paragraph 20 below; }

14. *Welcomes* the aspirational programming share of 20 per cent by 2030 from the total amount of resources allocated under the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund to support actions by indigenous peoples and local communities and *urges* the Global Environment Facility to ensure that country-driven projects contributing to that target are designed and implemented in consultation and partnership with indigenous peoples and local communities;

14bis. Welcomes that a share of 25 per cent of the GBFF's resources is to be programmed through International Finance Institutions that are GEF implementing agencies;

{15. *Emphasizes* that guidance from the Conference of the Parties in accordance with paragraphs 1 and 3 of Article 21 of the Convention is also applicable to the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund; } while taking into account the need for specific guidance for the Programming Directions under the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund and the need to ensure complementarity between the two funds

OR deletion para 15

¹² This would be subject to review by the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting in the light of developments at the second meeting of the Council of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, to be held in Washington, D.C. on 19 June 2024.

¹³ Amount as at 27 May 2024 based on the exchange rate at the time.

¹⁴ The list of donors and the total amount of contributions to the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund would be updated to reflect the situation at the time of the adoption of the decision by the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting.

Requires in the GBFF to open a specific window called “Mother Earth Centric Actions” for the financing of Mother Earth Centric Actions as established in paragraph 19f of the Kunming Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, starting initial allocations in 2025, and report the progress to the COP 17.

Four-year outcome-oriented framework of biodiversity programme priorities of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols

{16. *Adopts* the four-year outcome-oriented framework of biodiversity programme priorities of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols for the ninth replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund (July 2026–June 2030), aligned with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, as contained in annex I to the present decision; }

17. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to include in its report to the Conference of the Parties information on its responses to the four-year outcome-oriented framework of biodiversity programme priorities of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols and how those responses contribute to the achievement of each target of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, as well as considerations for its implementation (sect. C of the Framework), and the achievement of the objectives of the Convention and its Protocols;

18. *Encourages* the governing bodies of the various biodiversity-related conventions to include a standing item in the agenda of their meetings for the provision of strategic advice, as appropriate, concerning national actions that may support collaboration, cooperation and synergies, as appropriate, to achieve the objectives of the Convention and its Protocols and the goals and targets of the Framework, which may be referred to the Global Environment Facility through the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, and to request their respective secretariats to communicate such advice to the Executive Secretary of the Convention;

19. [*Encourages*][*Invites*] the secretariats of the biodiversity-related conventions to participate in and provide input to the inter-secretariat consultation to be convened by the Executive Secretary when developing the inputs of the Secretariat to draft programming directions and policy recommendations for the negotiations of the ninth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund, in which the Facility will participate in line with paragraph 7 of the memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties and the Council of the Global Environment Facility;¹⁵

Funding needs assessment

[20. *Takes note* of the report on estimated funding needs for the ninth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund, based on information received to date;¹⁶]

{21. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to compile and transmit, as soon as practical, the information on funding needs received from all eligible country Parties to the Secretariat of the Global Environment Facility and the participants in the negotiations of the ninth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund; }

22. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to draw upon the experience and lessons learned in implementing the terms of reference for the assessment of funding needs from the Global Environment Facility for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols and prepare draft terms of reference for conducting the fifth determination of funding needs for the period of the tenth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund, for the period from July 2030 to June 2034, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its sixth meeting and the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth meeting;

¹⁵ Decision III/8, annex.

¹⁶ This is a placeholder for consideration at the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties of the report on funding needs for the ninth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund, which will be based on whatever information is available at that time.

Further guidance to the Global Environment Facility

~~[23. Takes note of the consolidated previous guidance to the Global Environment Facility contained in the annex to document CBD/COP/16/6/Add.1;~~

24. *Adopts* the additional guidance to the Global Environment Facility contained in the annex II to the present decision, and requests the Council of the Global Environment Facility to include information regarding the implementation of the additional guidance in its reports to the Conference of the Parties;]

OR deletion para 24

25. *Recalls* paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of decision XII/30 of the Conference of the Parties of 17 October 2014 and requests the Executive Secretary to continue to liaise with the various biodiversity-related conventions and the Global Environment Facility in order to explore opportunities to enhance support from the Facility for countries with regard to activities relevant to the implementation of the various biodiversity-related conventions;

26. ~~{Requests}{Instructs}~~ the Global Environment Facility to continue to support partnerships with indigenous peoples and local communities, [people of African descent,] women and youth and recognize and promote their contributions to the implementation of the targets of the Framework;

27. *Also* ~~{requests}{instructs}~~ the Global Environment Facility to inform the Conference of the Parties on how it is taking into account the {voluntary} guidelines on safeguards in biodiversity financing mechanisms developed under the Convention, recalling in that regard paragraph 6 of decision 14/15 of 29 November 2018;

28. *Further* ~~{requests}{instructs}~~ requests the Global Environment Facility to explore ways to further improve, facilitate access to and increase ~~{direct}~~ direct funding for indigenous peoples and local communities, ~~{people of African descent,}~~ women and youth;

Review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism

~~29. Decides to establish a standing committee on the financial mechanism at its seventeenth meeting, with a view to enhancing the strategic direction provided by the Conference of the Parties to the financial mechanism, including by prioritizing its guidance and developing guidance that is more actionable and measurable;~~

30. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to ~~redouble~~ strengthen continue its efforts to mobilize resources to support the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity, its Protocols and, in particular, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including by mobilizing voluntary contributions from all countries in a position to contribute from all Parties and other governments from Parties, in particular developed country Parties and other Parties in a position to contribute, and other sources, such as multilateral development banks, the private sector and philanthropic organizations, as well as through sustainable finance instruments, in order ~~to improve the adequacy of funds and contribute to~~ address addressing support closing the financing gap for biodiversity;

31. *Also requests* that the Global Environment Facility:

(a) ~~Further consider increasing~~ While maintaining a high level of risk management, further consider flexibility in ~~project proposal processes, including with regard to~~ co-financing requirements, in particular for least developed countries and small island developing States;

Japan: delete 31 (a)

(b) Consider increasing support for ~~sustained~~ programmatic approaches and capacity-building;

(c) Promote country and local leadership and ownership and Review the role and operational effectiveness nature of its implementing agencies in these respects, with a view to promoting more direct engagement ownership of national entities in the identification, preparation and execution of projects and to enhancing capacity building in developing countries, and consider broadening the base of implementing agencies to include additional national, subregional and regional entities;

c.alt Continue to enhance country and local leadership and ownership, including through addressing the capacity support available to operational focal points and the role of the implementing agencies in these respects, with a view to promoting more direct engagement of national entities in developing countries;

(c bis) Further promote the strengthening and review of the role of Implementing Agencies to promote more direct engagement of partners in recipient countries resulting in increased country leadership and ownership

(d) Further explore modalities to enhance the effectiveness of processes for funding activities under the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization and to encourage take-up by countries, ~~and~~ and as part of this exploration of modalities, consider setting up a stand-alone window for biosafety to enhance the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol;

(e) Further promote support for indigenous peoples and local communities, including by promoting their leadership of and partnership in projects, recognizing indigenous knowledge as a basis for activities supported by the Global Environment Facility and using targeted indicators to monitor projects, and consider establishing a funding target to support the priorities of indigenous peoples and local communities across the biodiversity programme of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund as whole;

(f) Contribute to the implementation of the whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach for the Framework by continuing to enhance effective engagement with civil society organizations, women and youth, indigenous peoples and local communities, the private sector, philanthropic and conservation organizations and other major stakeholder groups;

32. *Further requests* that the Global Environment Facility:

(a) Consider linking implementation outcomes in the Results Measurement Framework of the ninth replenishment of its Trust Fund, annual performance reviews and strategic country cluster evaluations to the objectives of multilateral environment agreements, such as those of the Convention;

(b) Make additional efforts to ~~share~~ meet all its reporting requirements, and in that regard include information on projects on biological diversity that it funds outside the Convention and on its response to the needs assessments prepared by the Conference of the Parties under the memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties and the Council of the Global Environment Facility,¹⁷ so as to enable the Conference of the Parties to ~~improve~~ maintain the quality of its guidance;

33. *Requests* the Council of the Global Environment Facility ~~to explore ways to enhance equitable geographical representation within and between its constituencies, taking also into consideration the level of biodiversity of countries, and to ensure the meaningful participation in decision-making of indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth among them, given their contribution to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity;~~

¹⁷ Decision III/8, annex.

~~34.— Invites the Assembly of the Global Environment Facility, as part of the ninth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund, to consider reforms to its governance, with a view to improving the balance between developing countries and developed countries, taking also into consideration the level of biodiversity of countries, and to ensure the meaningful participation in decision-making of indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth among them, given their contribution to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity;~~

OR

34. *Invites* the Assembly of the Global Environment Facility, as part of the ninth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund, to consider reforms to its governance, ~~as appropriate with a view to improving the balance between developing countries and developed countries, taking also into consideration the level of biodiversity of countries, and to ensure the meaningful participation in decision-making of indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth among them, given their contribution to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity;~~

~~35.— Requests the Subsidiary Body on Implementation to develop draft terms of reference for the standing committee referred to in paragraph 29 above on the basis of a draft prepared by the Secretariat;~~

36. *Requests/ Invites* the Executive Secretary, ~~in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer of the Global Environment Facility, to liaise with the Secretariat of the Green Climate Fund, with a view to enhancing collaboration and support for the Convention within existing mandate of the GEF and the GCF as relevant as stated in the Long-Term Vision, and continue implementing the joint action plan on complementary and coherence with the Green Climate Fund, the Adaptation Fund and the Climate Investment Fund;~~

~~37.— Also requests the Executive Secretary to prepare draft terms of reference for the standing committee referred to in paragraph 29 above, taking into consideration the experience of the Standing Committee on Finance of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.¹⁸~~

38. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare draft terms of reference for the seventh review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism, ensuring that the review includes the views from [and possible impacts on the rights of] indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its sixth meeting and the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth meeting[, to be implemented with resources from the core budget].

{Annex I

Four-year outcome-oriented framework of biodiversity programme priorities of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols for the ninth replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund (2026–2030)

A. Objective

1. The present four-year outcome-oriented framework of biodiversity programme priorities serves as guidance related to the Convention on Biological Diversity¹⁹ and its Protocols for the Global Environment Facility for the ninth replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund (2026–2030).
2. The framework is provided by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention based on the expectation that it will be used by the Secretariat of the Global Environment Facility and the

¹⁸ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

¹⁹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

participants in the replenishment negotiations in determining the programming directions and policy recommendations for the ninth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund.

3. The framework is provided within the context of the mandate of the Global Environment Facility to provide resources for achieving global environmental benefits and the mandate provided to the Facility by the Conference of the Parties in the memorandum of understanding between the Conference of the Parties and the Council of the Global Environment Facility.²⁰

4. The framework uses the Convention and its Protocols and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework²¹ to set the strategic priorities for the financial mechanism of the Convention, which are expected to be operationalized by the Global Environment Facility through its programming directions for the ninth replenishment period.

5. It is recognized that, in the present framework of programme priorities, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework should be used as a strategic plan for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols over the period 2022–2030.

6. In particular, the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework provide the direction for the outcomes of the present four-year framework, bearing in mind that the ninth replenishment period coincides with the four-year period leading up to the 2030 deadline for achieving the targets, while recognizing that each of the three objectives of the Convention should be addressed by the Global Environment Facility in a balanced manner when designing and implementing its programming directions and policy recommendations for the ninth replenishment.

7. The integrated and indivisible nature of the components of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, which include considerations for its implementation (sect. C of the Framework), implementation and support mechanism and enabling conditions (sect. I) and responsibility and transparency (sect. J), are recognized in the present framework, as is the operationalization of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund and its complementary support for the Global Environment Facility in ~~facilitating-contributing to~~ the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

8. Recognizing that the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework is relevant to all biodiversity-related conventions and other multilateral environmental agreements, the present framework seeks to promote the implementation of complementary measures that may enhance programmatic synergies and efficiencies among the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols and other biodiversity-related conventions, multilateral environmental agreements and frameworks, relevant to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the mandate of the Global Environment Facility, ~~in a manner consistent with the existing mandate, improving transparency and avoiding double counting.~~

B. Elements

9. The four-year outcome-oriented framework of biodiversity programme priorities for the period 2026–2030 includes the following elements under the Convention and its Protocols to which effective implementation support is to be provided:

- (a) The balanced implementation of the three objectives of the Convention;
- (b) The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including each of its goals and all of its targets, which define the outcomes being sought;
- (c) National biodiversity strategies and action plans and National Targets on Biodiversity;
- (d) National biodiversity finance plans;

²⁰ Decision III/8, annex.

²¹ Decision 15/4, annex.

(dbis) The conservation and restoration of vital ecosystems to obtaining environmental goods and services of particular importance to humanity, such as freshwater ecosystems, mountains, marine and coastal environments, among others.

(e) The mechanisms and strategies adopted under the Convention to strengthen the means of implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework ~~for: mobilizing sufficient resources towards implementing the Framework and achieving its goals and targets; capacity building and development, while noting the obligations set out in Articles 20 and 21 of the Convention; the generation, management and sharing of knowledge for effective biodiversity planning, policy development and coherence, decision making and implementation; and technical and scientific cooperation, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and innovation, in particular activities eligible under~~ the following ~~mechanisms~~:

- (i) ~~[The strategy for resource mobilization;~~^{22]}
- (ii) The long-term strategic framework for capacity-building and development;²³
- (iii) ~~The technical and scientific cooperation mechanism;~~²⁴
- (iv) The knowledge management strategy to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;²⁵

(f) Activities eligible under the plans of action adopted under the Convention to support the effective and inclusive implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including:

- (i) The Plan of Action on Subnational Governments, Cities and Other Local Authorities for Biodiversity (2023–2030);²⁶
- (ii) The Gender Plan of Action (2023–2030);²⁷
- (iii) ~~The global action plan on biodiversity and health;~~²⁸

(g) The monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework²⁹ and the enhanced multidimensional approach to planning, monitoring, reporting and review;³⁰

(h) The Implementation Plan³¹ and Capacity-building Action Plan³² for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity;³³

(i) The capacity-building and development action plan³⁴ for the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity;³⁵

(j) The guidance on programme priorities to support the implementation of the Protocols, adopted by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol

²² Decisions 15/7 and 16/--.

²³ Decision 15/8, annex I.

²⁴ ~~Decisions 15/8 and 16/--.~~

²⁵ Decision 16/--.

²⁶ Decision 15/12, annex.

²⁷ Decision 15/11, annex.

²⁸ ~~Decision 16/--.~~

²⁹ Decisions 15/5 and 16/--.

³⁰ Decision 15/6.

³¹ Decision CP-10/3, annex.

³² Decision CP-10/4, annex.

³³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

³⁴ Decision NP-5/--.

³⁵ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 3008, No. 30619.

at its fifth meeting and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol at its eleventh meeting, contained in enclosures I and II, respectively.³⁶

C. Strategic considerations

10. The programming directions and the policy recommendations for the ninth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility, as they relate to the Convention and its Protocols and their financial mechanism established under Article 21 of the Convention, ~~operated by the Facility on an interim basis, in accordance with Article 39 of the Convention,~~ should:

(a) Be developed in a fully transparent and inclusive manner, with a view to ensuring that the projects funded by the Global Environment Facility during its ninth replenishment period to support biodiversity objectives are developed on a context-specific and country-driven basis, addressing the priority needs identified by the recipient countries;

(b) Support the rapid and effective implementation of the Framework, ~~including by contributing to a significantly enhanced mobilization of resources, including Global Environment Facility funding that is adequate, predictable, sustainable, timely and accessible to all Parties eligible to receive support through the financial mechanism of the Convention and its Protocols,~~ as determined under the Convention itself and by the Conference of the Parties. While such funding may be provided to eligible Parties by the Global Environment Facility primarily through allocations under programming directions dedicated to the biodiversity focal area, there can be co-benefits for biodiversity arising from other focal areas and global programmes and through the integrated programmes, heightening the need for streamlined programming and an approval process that enables the timely disbursement of resources;

(c) Build upon support being provided under the eighth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility and the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund;

(d) Take into account coherence with, and synergies among, country-driven programmes and priorities set out in national biodiversity strategies and action plans to support the implementation of the Framework;

(e) Promote engagement with eligible recipient countries to support national resource mobilization and the ~~development and~~ implementation of national biodiversity finance plans;

(f) Promote the achievement of global environmental benefits and sustainable development pathways which ensure the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and are carbon-neutral and pollution-free, including by encouraging coherence and complementarity among the Global Environment Facility focal areas of biodiversity, land degradation, international waters, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and chemicals and waste, and its integrated programmes, within the context of country-driven priorities and programmes;

(g) Reflect the fact that the implementation of biodiversity-related conventions and multilateral environmental agreements, in the context of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, may contribute to the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols and the goals and targets of the Framework;

(h) Promote cooperation, ~~and~~ complementarity ~~and synergies~~ in the implementation of the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the related objectives of the other conventions served by the Global Environment Facility, as well as those of other biodiversity-related conventions and multilateral environmental agreements, while recognizing the potential contributions of those instruments to the objectives of the Convention, its Protocols and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and the reciprocated contributions to their own objectives;

³⁶ Subject to any additional guidance on programme priorities for the ninth replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility that is adopted by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meetings of the Parties to the Protocols.

(i) Reinforce the efforts of the Global Environment Facility to mobilize and engage with all stakeholders, including the private sector, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth;

(j) Take into account the important contribution that can be made by transboundary, multi-country, regional and global projects to the implementation of the objectives of the Convention, its Protocols and the Framework, including towards the implementation of global initiatives adopted under the Convention and its Protocols, and transboundary, multi-country, regional and global initiatives that leverage contributions from biodiversity-related conventions and multilateral agreements.

(k) Promote and implement, as appropriate, the ecosystem approach³⁷ and/or “nature-based solutions” as defined by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its fifth session.³⁸

11. The outcome and indicators for the ninth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility and associated monitoring processes should be effective in their ability to assess the contribution of programming to the attainment of the three objectives of the Convention, the implementation of its Protocols and the implementation of the Framework, including by measuring the co-benefits for biodiversity across all relevant activities of the Facility.

12. The Global Environment Facility, in its ninth replenishment period, should:

(a) ~~Ensure that the level of funding to be made available to recipient countries is commensurate with the ambition of the Framework and the needs and challenges faced by recipient countries;~~

(b) Explore ways to continue to significantly improve access to funding ~~by for~~ eligible countries;

(c) Explore ways to further support capacity-building and to improve ~~direct~~ access to funding by indigenous peoples and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles and holding traditional knowledge, innovations and practices relevant to the conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of its components and to support activities and initiatives of women and youth that enhance biodiversity;

(d) ~~Establish simplified application processes, Provide capacity-building initiatives and dedicated funding streams and support for eligible Parties- to support enhance~~ the full and effective representation and participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth in the implementation of the Framework;

(e) Further interact and cooperate with multilateral development banks and other public and private financial institutions with the aim of ~~effecting-facilitating their~~ integration of the objectives of the Convention and its Protocols, the goals and targets of the Framework and the contributions of other biodiversity-related conventions and multilateral environmental agreements into their activities and having encourage these institutions to report on funding contributing to the implementation of those objectives ~~OR these institutions report on funding contributing to the implementation of those objectives;~~

(f) Continue to enhance its policies regarding governance and the standards that its implementing partners are held to in order to improve its efficiency and effectiveness in delivering sustainable results.

D. Reporting

13. Following the conclusion of the ninth replenishment of its Trust Fund, the Global Environment Facility will include in its reports to the Conference of the Parties a description of how the ninth replenishment has responded to the four-year outcome-oriented framework of biodiversity programme priorities and, through the elements of its programming directions, is contributing to the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols and each goal and target of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the monitoring framework for the Framework.³⁹

Enclosure I⁴⁰

Additional elements for the four-year outcome-oriented framework of biodiversity programme priorities of the Convention on Biological Diversity for the ninth replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund (2026–2030) to support the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization

Elements for the four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities for the ninth replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund (2026–2030) to support the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity,⁴¹ adopted by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its fifth meeting, comprise:

- (x) [Placeholder for elements of guidance];

Enclosure II⁴²

Additional elements for the four-year outcome-oriented framework of biodiversity programme priorities of the Convention on Biological Diversity for the ninth replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund (2026–2030) to support the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

Elements for the four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities for the ninth replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund (2026–2030) to support the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity,⁴³ adopted by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol at its eleventh meeting, comprise:

- (x) [Placeholder for elements of guidance];

One proposal for deletion of Annex II

Annex II

Additional guidance to the Global Environment Facility

[Placeholder heading]

1. [Placeholder for additional elements of guidance adopted in decisions on other items of the agenda of the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological

³⁹ Decision 15/5, annex I.

⁴⁰ Subject to the adoption of additional guidance on programme priorities for the ninth replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol.

⁴¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 3008, No. 30619.

⁴² Subject to the adoption of additional guidance on programme priorities for the ninth replenishment period of the Global Environment Facility by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol.

⁴³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

Diversity and in decisions adopted by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety at its eleventh meeting and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization at its fifth meeting.]

One proposal to delete from here onward

Additional guidance to support the implementation of section C and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework that have not been covered specifically or comprehensively in any previous guidance to the Global Environment Facility

2. Recognizing that, subject to national circumstances, needs and priorities, the implementation of all elements of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework⁴⁴ reflected in national biodiversity strategies and action plans should be considered as eligible for support, the elements of guidance below are provided to support the implementation of those sections and targets of the Framework that have not been covered specifically or comprehensively in any previous guidance to the Global Environment Facility, namely, section C and Targets 1, 2, 7, 9, 11, 16, 22 and 23. In this regard, the Global Environment Facility is requested to provide support to the following elements of the Framework in accordance with its established procedures and on the basis of country-driven proposals for such support.

Section C

Considerations for the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

3. The Global Environment Facility should provide support to eligible Parties to enable them to implement the Framework, and achieve its goals and targets, in a manner that:

(a) Ensures that the rights, knowledge, including traditional knowledge associated with biodiversity, innovations, world views, values and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities are respected, documented and preserved, with their free, prior and informed consent,⁴⁵ including through their full and effective participation in decision-making, in accordance with relevant national legislation, international instruments, including the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,⁴⁶ and human rights law;

(b) Recognizes and considers diverse value systems and concepts, including, for those countries that recognize them, the rights of nature and rights of Mother Earth;

(c) Engages the whole of government at all levels and the whole of society, including all actors, and mobilizes broad public support;

(d) Is in accordance with national circumstances, priorities and capabilities and enables responsible and sustainable socioeconomic development that, at the same time, contributes to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity;

(e) Follows a human rights-based approach, respecting, protecting, promoting and fulfilling human rights, including the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment;

(f) Ensures gender equality, the empowerment of women and girls and the reduction of inequalities;

⁴⁴ Decision 15/4, annex.

⁴⁵ All references to “free, prior and informed consent” refer to the tripartite terminology of “prior and informed consent”, “free, prior and informed consent” and/or “approval and involvement”.

⁴⁶ General Assembly resolution 61/295, annex.

(g) Is in accordance with those objectives and the provisions of the Convention and its Protocols, as applicable, in accordance with relevant international obligations, and is guided by the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development;⁴⁷

(h) Is based on scientific evidence and traditional knowledge and practices, recognizing the role of science, technology and innovation;

(i) Is based on the ecosystem approach of the Convention;

(j) Is guided by the principle of intergenerational equity, which aims to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs and to ensure meaningful participation of younger generations in decision-making processes at all levels;

(k) Involves transformative, innovative and transdisciplinary education, formal and informal, at all levels, including science-policy interface studies and lifelong learning processes, recognizing diverse world views, values and knowledge systems of indigenous peoples and local communities;

(l) Facilitates the provision of adequate, predictable and easily accessible financial resources;

(m) Enhances collaboration, cooperation and synergies among the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols, other biodiversity-related conventions, other relevant multilateral agreements and international organizations and processes, in line with their respective mandates, including at the global, regional, subregional and national levels;

(n) Includes consideration of the One Health approach, among other holistic approaches that are based on science, mobilize multiple sectors, disciplines and communities to work together and are aimed at sustainably balance and optimizing the health of people, animals, plants and ecosystems.

(o) Recognizes and considers the living in harmony with nature and the living well in balance and harmony with Mother Earth to achieve human well-being, a healthy planet, and economic prosperity for all people.

(p) Facilitates the provision of financial resources for the implementation of Mother Earth Centric Actions as ecocentric and rights-based approach enabling the implementation of actions towards harmonic and complementary relationships between peoples and nature, promoting the continuity of all living beings and their communities and ensuring the non-commodification of environmental functions of Mother Earth.

Target 1

4. The Global Environment Facility should provide support to eligible Parties to enable them to undertake comprehensive participatory, integrated and biodiversity inclusive spatial planning and/or effective management processes addressing land- and sea-use change, to bring the loss of areas of high biodiversity importance, including ecosystems of high ecological integrity, close to zero by 2030, while respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities.

Target 2

5. The Global Environment Facility should provide support to eligible Parties to enable them to restore degraded terrestrial, inland water and marine and coastal ecosystems, in order to enhance biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, ecological integrity and connectivity.

Target 3

⁴⁷ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992, vol. I, Resolutions Adopted by the Conference (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

The GEF should provide support to eligible Parties to enable them to secure and enhance effective conservation and management of terrestrial, marine and coastal areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, strengthening the conservation of biodiversity in protected areas and the ancestral and territorial knowledge of Indigenous Peoples for the conservation of biodiversity in protected areas.

Target 7

6. The Global Environment Facility should provide support to eligible Parties to enable them to reduce pollution risks and the negative impact of pollution from all sources to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, considering cumulative effects, including: (a) by reducing excess nutrients lost to the environment by at least half, including through more efficient nutrient cycling and use; (b) by reducing the overall risk from pesticides and highly hazardous chemicals by at least half, including through integrated pest management, based on science, taking into account food security and livelihoods; and (c) by preventing, reducing, and working towards eliminating plastic pollution.

Target 9

7. The Global Environment Facility should provide support to eligible Parties to enable them to manage and use wild species sustainably, thereby providing social, economic and environmental benefits for people, especially those in vulnerable situations and those most dependent on biodiversity, including through sustainable biodiversity-based activities, products and services that enhance biodiversity, and protecting and encouraging customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities.

Target 11

8. The Global Environment Facility should provide support to eligible Parties to enable them to implement nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches to restore, maintain and enhance nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services, such as the regulation of air, water and climate, soil health, pollination and reduction of disease risk, as well as protection from natural hazards and disasters, for the benefit of all people and nature.

Target 16

9. The Global Environment Facility should provide support to eligible Parties to enable them to establish supportive policy, legislative or regulatory frameworks, improve education and access to relevant and accurate information and alternatives, and encourage and enable people to make sustainable consumption choices and reduce the global footprint of consumption in an equitable manner, including through halving global food waste, significantly reducing overconsumption and substantially reducing waste generation, in order for all people to live well in harmony with Mother Earth.

Target 19

The GEF should provide support to eligible Parties to enable them to enhance the role of collective actions, including by indigenous peoples and local communities, Mother Earth centric actions and non-market-based approaches including community based natural resource management and civil society cooperation and solidarity aimed at the conservation of biodiversity;

Target 22

10. The Global Environment Facility should provide support to eligible Parties to enable them to ensure the full, equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive representation and participation in decision-making and access to justice and information related to biodiversity by indigenous

peoples and local communities, respecting their cultures and their rights over lands, territories, resources and traditional knowledge, as well as by women and girls, children and youth, and persons with disabilities and to ensure the full protection of environmental human rights defenders.

Target 23

11. The Global Environment Facility should provide support to eligible Parties to enable them to implement the Framework through a gender-responsive approach, where all women and girls have equal opportunity and capacity to contribute to the three objectives of the Convention, including by recognizing their equal rights and access to land and natural resources and their full, equitable, meaningful and informed participation and leadership at all levels of action, engagement, policy and decision-making related to biodiversity.
