

**GUIDANCE FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF WORK OF THE CONTACT GROUPS UNDER THE WORKING GROUP ON THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK AT PART II OF ITS THIRD MEETING**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. The following document was developed by the Co-Chairs of the Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework in order to provide additional guidance to the Parties and stakeholders in terms of the organization of work of the five contact groups under the Working Group, such that Parties and stakeholders can prepare accordingly. More information and updates will be shared on an ongoing basis, as and when they become available. Parties and stakeholders should note that the proposed approach may evolve in order to adapt to the situation on the ground.

2. Each contact group is expected, to the extent possible, to develop agreed text for the issues being addressed by their group. In the event that a consensus cannot be reached, the groups should work towards the development of text with a limited set of options or alternatives. The text from each of the contacts group will be compiled at the end of the meeting and made available for further deliberations at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

3. During the first session of the third meeting of the Working Group we established four contact groups to discuss the different elements of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. The results from these discussions are available in the reports by the co-leads. These reports should be born in mind during the resumed session of the working group.

**II. COMMONALITIES BETWEEN THE APPROACHES OF THE CONTACT GROUPS UNDER THE TWO SUBSIDIARY BODIES AND UNDER THE WORKING GROUP**

4. The guidelines for the proceedings of WG2020, SBI and SBSTTA contact groups share common principles. These include:

- (a) In the interest of time, delegates are encouraged not repeat previous interventions;
- (b) Delegates are encouraged to avoid duplicating discussions between the three bodies;
- (c) Nothing will be agreed on before everything is agreed on;
- (d) The co-leads will be given the autonomy to prioritise work and adapt the proceedings of their contact group, as appropriate;
- (e) Where there are linkages between agenda items, efforts will be made to coordinate, as much as possible;
- (f) Regarding the participation of observers, Parties should be reminded:
  - (i) To leave time for interventions by observes; and
  - (ii) To express their support of specific observer interventions.

**III. COMMONALITIES BETWEEN THE CONTACT GROUPS UNDER THE WORKING GROUP**

(a) During the first sessions of each contact group, the Co-Chairs of the Working Group will remind delegates of the evolution of the draft post-2020 global biodiversity framework since 2018, as well as key takeaways from the Co-Chairs' reflections document (CBD/WG2020/3/6);

(b) Regarding new ideas and new general statements, while Parties and observers have the prerogative to introduce new ideas, they are encouraged to focus on resolving existing issues;

(c) Note that the modification of existing definitions (or the addition of new ones) to the Glossary may be helpful to form consensus on the text of the framework;

(d) The co-leads may choose to form Friends of the Co-leads groups (FOC), if deemed useful (e.g. to discuss keeping the milestones);

(e) In case of positive COVID test of one of the co-leads of a contact group, the other one will take over;

(f) Non-papers will be issued after the first session of each contact group. The scope of the non-papers will depend on the discussion that took place during the first session. Further, the co-leads will add on to the non-papers as the sessions progress.

#### IV. SPECIFICS OF THE CONTACT GROUPS UNDER THE WORKING GROUP

##### A. Contact group 1

5. Prior to beginning the negotiations, the Co-Chairs of the Working Group will explain the architecture of the framework including the relative roles and linkages between the goals, milestones and targets.

Session 1: The aim is to review sections A-D, including, as well as the relationship between 2050 goals, 2030 milestones and targets and the timeframe for implementation, as well as preliminary views on the proposed new section B.*bis*. If time permits, a brief review of goals and milestones will be initiated. On the basis of these discussions, the co-leads will prepare a non-paper for consideration in subsequent sessions.

Session 2: This session is intended to complete discussions on goals and milestones (if needed) and discuss in detail the sections presented in the non-paper.

Session 3: This session would cover outstanding issues.

##### Contact group 1 - potential timetable (indicative – will be confirmed later)

Session	Topic	
Session 1 (15 March)	Intro by Co-Chairs	
	Preliminary review of sections A-D including proposed new section B. Bis.	
	Relationship between goals, milestones and targets	
	Preliminary review of mission (section E)	
	Timeframe of GBF (8 or 10 years)	
	Preliminary review of Goal A	
	Preliminary review of Goal B	
	Preliminary review of Goal C	
	Preliminary review of Goal D	

### B. Contact group 2

6. The intent is for this contact group to look at targets in groups (e.g. T1-3). A quick review of all targets will be done during the first session in order to produce a non-paper.

7. Parties may be asked by the co-leads to discuss the main issues under each target, one at a time (similar to how they were identified in the Co-Chairs’ reflections document).

#### Contact group 2 - potential timetable (indicative – will be confirmed later)

Session	Topic
Session 1 (March 15)	Intro by co-chairs
	Target 4
	Target 5
	Target 6
	Target 1
	Target 2
	Target 3
	Target 7
	Target 8

### C. Contact group 3

8. One of the issues Parties will be asked to discuss under this contact group is where to place the One Health Approach.

#### CG3 - potential timetable (indicative – will be confirmed later)

Session	Topic
Session 1 (March 16)	Intro by Co-Chairs
	Target 9
	Target 10
	Target 11
	Target 12
	Target 13

### D. Contact group 4

- Session 1: Will focus on scoping, rather than resolving divergences.
  - The co-leads will be going through all the targets, starting with targets 18 and 19.
  - Note: target 17 will be left to session 2, to accommodate delegates who may still be at the BBNJ negotiations during the first session.
- Sessions 2-3: Will focus on the divergences, using the non-paper as the basis of the negotiations.

**Contact group 4 - potential timetable (indicative – will be confirmed later)**

<b>Session</b>	<b>Topic</b>
<b>Session 1</b> (March 17)	Targets 18, 19
	Targets 14,15, 16
	Targets 20, 21
	Section H to K

**E. Contact group 5**

9. During the plenary on 21 March, delegates will be briefed on the work of the Informal Advisory Group. They will also be asked to consider the draft recommendation in document CBD/WG2020/3/4/Add.1 based on the report of the co-leads.

10. The work of the contact group will focus on discussing policy options, narrowing options, roadmap and developing the recommendation.

### 5. Timing of the contact groups under WG2020-3 and SBSTTA-24 (Monitoring framework)

Contact group	Co-leads	Session Dates	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
1	Structure, sections A-E, Goals	Vinod Mathur (India), Norbert Baerlocher (Switzerland)	15, 18, 25	1			2						3	
2	T1-8	Teona Karchava (Georgia), Rosemary Paterson (New Zealand)	15, 19, 26	1				2						3
3	T9-13	Gillian Guthrie (Jamaica), Gabriele Obermayr (Austria)	16, 21, 26		1				2					3
4	T14-21, sections H-K	Anne Teller (European Union), Jorge Murillo (Colombia)	17, 22, 26			1				2				3
5	DSI	Lacticia Tshitwamulomoni (South Africa), Gaute Voigt-Hanssen (Norway)	23, 24								1	1		

**Note:** A red line denotes SBSTTA CG on performance indicators.