Agenda item 8 (a)
Resource mobilization and financial mechanism: resource mobilization
Working Group I

Resource mobilization

Non-paper

Results of the work of the drafting group on Monday 26 October 2026, 7.30–10.30 p.m., for further consideration by the contact group on agenda item 8 (a) resource mobilization

[Annex[i]

Criteria for the institutional structure operating the financial mechanism envisaged under Article 21 of the Convention on Biological Diversity

The operation of the financial mechanism envisaged under Article 21 of the Convention on Biological Diversity[1] can be entrusted to one or more entities, be they new, reformed or existing, which would form an institutional structure fulfilling at least the following criteria:[[2]]

(a) It functions for the purpose of implementing the Convention and its Protocols;

(b) It is under the authority and guidance of, and accountable to, the Conference of the Parties;

(c) It operates within a democratic and transparent system of governance, ensuring a structure that is fair, equitable, inclusive, efficient and representative;

(d) It is accessible by all eligible Parties to the Convention in a fair, timely, simplified, equitable, inclusive and non-discriminatory manner;

[Annex: [additional] criteria for the financial mechanism]

The [additional elements][criteria] set out in this annex are [supplementary][complementary] to the criteria contained in paragraph 21 of decision 16/34 and Article 21 of the Convention. [Accordingly these elements [should][shall] [may] also be considered [as appropriate] by the Conference of the Parties at its eighteenth meeting to inform the decision on whether to establish a new entity to operate the financial mechanism either on its own or alongside an existing entity or entities or to confirm an existing entity or entities]]

Alt. The institutional structure would also fulfill the following complementary criteria, which elaborate on the above criteria.

[[(e) Its policy, strategy, programme priorities and eligibility criteria related to the access to, and utilization of, financial resources[, for the purposes of the Convention,] are as determined by the Conference of the Parties [and consistent with the principles and provisions of the Convention];]

[(f) It includes robust accountability, transparency, monitoring, reporting and evaluation of disbursement and utilization of resources, to the Conference of the Parties, including accountability by the trustee for its performance of its fiduciary and administrative responsibilities to the governing body of the institutional structure operating the financial mechanism, as well as grievance and redress arrangements;]

[(g) It provides access to predictable, adequate, and timely financing [funded by developed Parties], on a grant and concessional basis, [to enable developing country Parties to meet the cost of implementing measures which fulfill their obligations of the Convention.] [[through direct allocation

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

[[2] The criteria listed [are non-exhaustive and non-prescriptive and] do not pre-judge the entity or entities to which the operation of the financial mechanism may be entrusted, the modalities of their operation or the outcome of the reviews referred to in paragraph 6 above.]

[programmes and/]or project-based disbursement [or both]], [that responds to the needs and priorities of all eligible Parties, consisting of all developing country Parties, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, taking full account of their specific needs and circumstances, and Parties with economies in transition;]]]

[(g)alt. It provides predictable, adequate, and timely access to financial resources on a grant or concessional basis to all eligible Parties, [in particular Least Developed Countries and Small Island Developing States, and Parties with economies in transition] to enable them towards meeting the agreed full incremental costs of implementing measures which fulfill their obligations of the Convention through [direct allocation] [programmes and/]or project-based disbursement [or both] / through [[differentiated or different] mechanisms];]

[(h) It [upholds][ensures] country ownership by all eligible Parties, including through national and/or regional accredited entities, and the effective participation and involvement of relevant national authorities in all relevant phases of the funding allocation process, and the programme and project cycle;]

[(i) It [ensures][enables] the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, [in decision-making] [including [direct] access to finance [through government authorities or institutions identified by them] [as appropriate and in accordance with national legislation and circumstances, [on the basis of a letter of support from the national focal point for the Convention]]

[(j) It [demonstrates complementarity to the biodiversity finance landscape], [and] operates in a cost-effective manner, including by capitalizing on [voluntary synergies] [integrated approaches] relevant to biodiversity and it has modalities that allow it to receive and/or mobilize financing from all sources [on a voluntary basis];]

[(k) It designs its financial instruments and access modalities taking full account of the provisions in paragraphs 5, 6, and 7 of Article 20 of the Convention;]

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Explanatory note on co-chairs' streamlined text and provenance for the financial mechanism criteria		
New Criterion #	Theme heard	Original provenance
(e)	Authority of the COP	(e), unchanged
(f)	Accountability	(n), first alternative; (p), trustee element
(g)	Nature of finance; eligibility	(f), whole; (q), whole; (o), whole; (h), merged
(h)	Access and Country ownership	(l), first alternative, with elements of the second
(i)	Participation and inclusion	(m), whole; (g), merged
(j)	Complementarity, synergies	(i) , (j), (k), merged