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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION
ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY SERVING AS THE
MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CARTAGENA
PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY

Ninth meeting

Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, 17-29 November 2018

Item 14 of the provisional agenda*

**PREPARATION FOR THE FOLLOW-UP TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR BIODIVERSITY
2011-2020 AND THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON
BIOSAFETY FOR THE PERIOD 2011-2020**

Note by the Executive Secretary

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting, in 2020, is expected to consider for adoption the [post-2020 global biodiversity framework](#).¹ To facilitate this process, the Conference of the Parties, in its decision XIII/1, paragraph 34, requested the Executive Secretary to prepare, in consultation with the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties and for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its second meeting, a proposal for a comprehensive and participatory preparatory process and timetable for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, taking into consideration that this work must cover the Convention on Biological Diversity and also consider its Protocols, as appropriate, including options for fostering commitments and strengthened implementation.

2. Further, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol, in its decision [CP-VIII/15](#), agreed to improve the linkages between the outcomes and indicators in the follow-up to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the period 2011-2020, and noted that the indicators in the follow-up to the Strategic Plan should be simplified, streamlined and made easily measurable with a view to ensuring that progress towards achieving operational objectives can be readily tracked and quantified.

3. The Subsidiary Body on Implementation, in its recommendation 2/19, took note of the proposed preparatory process for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and requested the Executive Secretary to update it, and the indicative chronology of key activities, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fourteenth meeting. In doing so, the Executive Secretary was requested to take into account, among other things, views submitted and the need to make provisions to promote, and plan for, the active engagement of the Protocols to the Convention.² In the same recommendation, the Subsidiary Body on

* CBD/CP/MOP/9/1.

¹ The term “framework” is used in the present document so as not to prejudge a decision by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety 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 as to what form the follow-up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 will take.

² An updated proposal for the preparatory process for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework pursuant to recommendation 2/19 of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation is contained in CBD/COP/14/9.

Implementation recommended that the Conference of the Parties, at its fourteenth meeting, adopt the preparatory process for the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

4. In part B of the same recommendation, the Subsidiary Body on Implementation recommended that the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol (a) take note of the proposed preparatory process for the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, (b) welcome the decision by which the Conference of the Parties is expected to adopt the preparatory process, (c) decide to develop a specific follow-up to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the period 2011-2020 that is complementary to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and (d) request the Executive Secretary to facilitate the development of its elements.

5. The Compliance Committee at its fifteenth meeting discussed on a preliminary basis, and in the context of its consideration of its role in the final evaluation of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the period 2011-2020,³ the inclusion of biosafety in the development of the post-2020 biodiversity framework and the development of a specific follow-up to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol for the period 2011-2020.

6. The Liaison Group on Capacity-Building for Biosafety at its twelfth meeting considered, among other things, possible ways to contribute to the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and provided advice on the process for the development of a follow-up to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the period 2011-2020.

7. The present document provides, in section II, a summary of issues raised by the Compliance Committee in the context of the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and specific follow-up to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the period 2011-2020; in section III, an overview of the conclusions drawn by the Liaison Group on Capacity-Building for Biosafety at its twelfth meeting; and, in section IV, suggested elements for a draft decision, incorporating, inter alia, the relevant elements from recommendation 2/19 of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation and relevant conclusions from the Liaison Group.

II. ISSUES RAISED BY THE COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE WITH REGARD TO THE PREPARATORY PROCESS FOR THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK AND FOR THE FOLLOW-UP TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON BIOSAFETY FOR THE PERIOD 2011-2020⁴

8. At its fifteenth meeting, held from 8 to 10 May 2018, the Compliance Committee considered, among other things, a preliminary draft of the proposal for a comprehensive and participatory preparatory process and timetable for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and the need for a specific follow-up to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol.⁵

9. The Committee recognized that it would be essential for biosafety to be explicitly included in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and that inclusion of biosafety could be beneficial for a number of reasons, including raising awareness and enhancing the visibility of biosafety issues. The Committee took the view that biosafety experts should be involved in the process in order to ensure that biosafety is adequately addressed in the framework.

10. Furthermore, the Committee emphasized that the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol had been a very useful tool for guiding Parties in their implementation of the Protocol. Some members of the Committee suggested that a specific and detailed programme setting out activities to reach the objectives of the Protocol should be considered as part of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

³ In accordance with decision [CP-VIII/15](#).

⁴ As set out in the report of the Compliance Committee, at its fifteenth meeting: [CBD/CP/CC/15/5](#), para. 43-46.

⁵ A preliminary draft of the proposal for a comprehensive and participatory preparatory process and timetable for the follow-up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 was available for peer review from 23 November 2017 to 16 February 2018.

11. The Committee decided to include an item on the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework on the agenda of its sixteenth meeting, to be held in 2019.

III. CONCLUSIONS BY THE LIAISON GROUP ON CAPACITY-BUILDING FOR BIOSAFETY

12. The Liaison Group on Capacity-Building for Biosafety was established at the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.⁶ Since then, the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol has expanded the mandate of the Liaison Group beyond matters related to capacity-building on biosafety, including by requesting the Liaison Group to provide input into the third assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Cartagena Protocol and the mid-term evaluation of its Strategic Plan.

13. The Liaison Group at its twelfth meeting, held from 5 to 7 September 2018, welcomed recommendation 2/19 of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, noted the value of including biosafety in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and of developing a specific follow-up to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, and provided advice to the Executive Secretary concerning the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and follow-up to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety.

14. The Liaison Group agreed that the possible biosafety component in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and the specific follow-up to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol should be developed by biosafety experts, including those with expertise on the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress.

15. In developing the biosafety component within the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, the Liaison Group noted the importance of aligning it with the relevant sustainable development goals and other global strategies.

16. With regard to the development of a specific follow-up to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol, the Liaison Group agreed that it would be advisable if such a follow-up was developed as a programme of work or similar implementation tool, while placing strategic biosafety elements in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, as appropriate. In developing the follow-up to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol, the Liaison Group noted the importance of maintaining the elements of the current Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol that are still relevant while ensuring sufficient flexibility to account for new developments. The Liaison Group agreed on the need for reviewing the indicators in the current Strategic Plan with a view to assessing their relevance for measuring implementation of the Protocol.

17. The wide range of expertise available within the Liaison Group was noted as well as the potential to contribute to the various processes for the development of post-2020 strategies. In this context, the Liaison Group provided advice on a tentative process for the development of the biosafety component in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and of the specific follow-up to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, comprising submissions from Parties, inputs from the Liaison Group through online discussions and face-to-face meetings, the global consultation workshop on biosafety foreseen in CBD/COP/14/9, and peer review by Parties.

18. The Liaison Group also advised the Executive Secretary to ensure that dedicated sessions are convened to discuss biosafety matters during the global consultation workshop(s) referred to in recommendation 2/19 of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, as well as to ensure that an adequate number of biosafety experts, including those with expertise on the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress, are supported to participate in the preparatory process for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, including but not limited to the global consultation workshop(s).

⁶ Decision BS-I/5, annex IV.

19. Pending the relevant decisions by the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol, the Liaison Group agreed that, at its thirteenth meeting, it could focus on the development of, inter alia, the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and the specific follow-up to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and that the final draft of the follow-up to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol would be considered at its fourteenth meeting, taking into account information submitted through the fourth national reports under the Protocol.⁷

20. The Liaison Group noted that the order of the elements of the process might need to be adjusted in accordance with the progress made in the preparatory process for the development of the global biodiversity framework.

21. As part of its general conclusions, the Liaison Group also expressed concern about the diminished visibility of and attention given to biosafety matters at the intergovernmental meetings convened under the Convention and within the Secretariat and, in this regard, stressed the need to allocate adequate and specific resources to biosafety to ensure successful integration of processes under the Convention and its protocols.⁸

IV. SUGGESTED ELEMENTS FOR A DRAFT DECISION⁹

22. The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocol, at its ninth meeting, may wish to adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

1. *Takes note* of the proposed preparatory process for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework in follow-up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and *welcomes* decision 14/-- of the Conference of the Parties;

2. *Notes* the value of including biosafety in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework as well as developing a specific follow-up to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the period 2011-2020;

3. *Also notes* the importance of the active involvement of biosafety experts, including those with expertise on the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress, in the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

4. *Invites* Parties to participate in the process for developing the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

5. *Decides* to develop a specific follow-up to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the period 2011-2020 that is complementary to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and *requests* the Executive Secretary to facilitate the development of its elements;

6. *Agrees* that the specific follow-up to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol will: (a) be developed as an implementation tool; (b) reflect the elements of the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol for the period 2011-2020 that are still relevant while ensuring sufficient flexibility to account for new developments; and (c) comprise indicators that are simple and easily measurable to facilitate the review of progress in implementation of the Protocol;

7. *Requests* the Liaison Group on Capacity-Building for Biosafety to contribute to the development of the biosafety component in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and to the specific follow-up to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety for the period 2011-2020 that is

⁷ The thirteenth meeting of the Liaison Group would tentatively be held in the third quarter of 2019. The fourteenth meeting of the Group would tentatively be held in the first quarter of 2020.

⁸ The report of the Liaison Group, at its twelfth meeting, is available as information document CBD/CP/MOP/9/INF/1.

⁹ Paragraphs 1, 4 and 5 of the suggested elements for a draft decision are reproduced from paragraphs 1, 3 and 2, respectively, of Subsidiary Body on Implementation recommendation 2/19, part B. Paragraphs 2, 3, 6, 7 and 8 of the draft decision are new paragraphs derived from the conclusions of the Liaison Group at its twelfth meeting.

complementary to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and *invites* the Compliance Committee to support these processes, as required;

8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To facilitate and support the inclusion of the biosafety component in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

(b) To ensure that dedicated sessions are convened to discuss biosafety matters during the global consultation workshop(s) referred to in decision 14/--;

(c) To facilitate the participation of an adequate number of biosafety experts, including those with expertise on the Nagoya – Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress, in the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, including in the relevant consultation workshop(s);

(d) To convene meetings of the Liaison Group on Capacity-Building in order to contribute to the development of the biosafety component in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and the specific follow-up to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol that is complementary to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

(e) To prepare a draft of the specific follow-up to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena Protocol that is complementary to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its third meeting and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol at its tenth meeting.
