



## Convention on Biological Diversity

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### **Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice**

#### **Twenty-seventh meeting**

Panama City, 20–24 October 2025

Item 6 (b) of the provisional agenda\*

#### **Scientific and technical needs to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework: strategic review of and updates to the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity**

### **Strategic review of and update to the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity in the context of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework**

## **I. Introduction**

1. In decision [16/12](#), the Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity requested the Secretariat to conduct a strategic review and analysis of the programmes of work of the Convention in the context of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework to facilitate its implementation, to prepare draft updates of the programmes of work on the basis of the analysis, taking into account documents prepared for the twenty-sixth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice related to that work, and to submit them for consideration by the Subsidiary Body at a meeting held before the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
2. Accordingly, in notifications Nos. [2025-031](#) and [2025-048](#), the Executive Secretary of the Convention invited Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant organizations to submit views and information on the strategic review and analysis of the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity<sup>1</sup> in the context of the Framework. A total of 23 submissions<sup>2</sup> (15 from Parties<sup>3</sup> and 8 from relevant organizations)<sup>4</sup> were received in response to the notifications.
3. With the support of a consultant, the Secretariat undertook a strategic review and analysis of the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity, on the basis of responses to the

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\* [CBD/SBSTTA/27/1](#).

<sup>1</sup> Decision [VI/22](#).

<sup>2</sup> All submissions received are available at [www.cbd.int/notifications/2025-031](http://www.cbd.int/notifications/2025-031).

<sup>3</sup> Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, European Union, Finland, Japan, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Peru, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

<sup>4</sup> Chamber of Forest Engineers of Türkiye, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Forest Stewardship Council, International Tropical Timber Organization, International Union of Forest Research Organizations, Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States, World Wide Fund for Nature and a joint submission by Griffith University, the Australian Rainforest Conservation Society and Wild Heritage.

aforementioned notifications and additional information from other sources.<sup>5</sup> The review and analysis covered the expanded programme of work and subsequent relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties within the context of the goals and targets of the Framework.

4. The draft strategic review and analysis and a draft update of the expanded programme of work were made available for peer review<sup>6</sup> were further revised on the basis of the 26 submissions received through the review<sup>7</sup> (18 from the Parties<sup>8</sup> and 8 from relevant organizations).<sup>9</sup> The final strategic review and analysis, together with the draft update, will be issued as information document CBD/SBSTTA/27/INF/9.

5. The present note contains background information relevant to the strategic review and update of the expanded programme of work (sect. II), a summary of the strategic review and analysis of the expanded programme (sect. III), an overview of forest biodiversity-related initiatives and partnerships supported by the Secretariat (sect. IV), potential approaches to updates to the expanded programme (sect. V) and a recommendation for consideration by the Subsidiary Body (sect. VI).

6. The recommendation in section VI is also relevant to the discussions to be held under item 6 (a) of the provisional agenda, on the strategic review and analysis of the programmes of work under the Convention in the context of the Framework.

## **II. Background information on the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity**

7. The first programme of work on forest biodiversity was adopted by the Conference of the Parties at its fourth meeting, in 1998 (decision [IV/7](#)). In a subsequent decision, the Conference of the Parties decided that the programme required a more operational approach. Following an in-depth review of the implementation of the programme undertaken by an ad hoc technical expert group on forest biological diversity, the Conference of the Parties, at its sixth meeting, in 2002, adopted an expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity (decision [VI/22](#)). Through four programme elements, the expanded programme of work established a strong link with the three objectives of the Convention. The expanded programme comprises a comprehensive set of 12 goals, 27 objectives and 130 activities identified for the conservation of forest biodiversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the utilization of forest genetic resources.

8. Since its adoption, the expanded programme of work has been implemented through several mechanisms. Parties have used it to guide their policies on the conservation and sustainable management of forests. To assist Parties with its implementation, the Secretariat has provided guidance in the form of tools,<sup>10</sup> a series of case studies on implementation successes,<sup>11</sup> thematic reports on forests<sup>12</sup> and several science-based technical reports published in its technical series. The volumes of the technical series published between 2002 and 2011 in relation to forests covered the topics of forest biodiversity and climate change,<sup>13</sup> forest resilience,<sup>14</sup> the reduction of emissions from

<sup>5</sup> Namely, the rapid analysis of programmes of work established under the Convention with respect to the targets of the Framework ([CBD/SBSTTA/25/INF/1](#)), relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties, global assessments and peer-reviewed literature.

<sup>6</sup> See notification No. [2025-079](#).

<sup>7</sup> Available on the same notification page.

<sup>8</sup> Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, European Union, Finland, France, Japan, Netherlands (Kingdom of), Mexico, Morocco, Russian Federation, Singapore, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

<sup>9</sup> Aotearoa Indigenous Rights Charitable Trust, Biodiversity Research Institute, the Forest, Climate, and Livelihood research network, Forest Stewardship Council, International Tropical Timber Organization, International Union for Conservation of Nature, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and World Wide Fund For Nature.

<sup>10</sup> See [www.cbd.int/forest/tools.shtml](http://www.cbd.int/forest/tools.shtml).

<sup>11</sup> See [www.cbd.int/programmes/areas/forest/case-studies.aspx](http://www.cbd.int/programmes/areas/forest/case-studies.aspx).

<sup>12</sup> See [www.cbd.int/reports/search?type=nr-fe](http://www.cbd.int/reports/search?type=nr-fe).

<sup>13</sup> See [www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-10.pdf](http://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-10.pdf) and [www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-41-en.pdf](http://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-41-en.pdf).

<sup>14</sup> See [www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-43-en.pdf](http://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-43-en.pdf).

deforestation and forest degradation and the role of conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks in developing countries (REDD-plus),<sup>15</sup> mainstreaming biodiversity issues into forestry and agriculture,<sup>16</sup> major threats to forest biodiversity<sup>17</sup> and biodiversity indicators.<sup>18</sup>

9. Last, the expanded programme of work and subsequent decisions guided Parties, international organizations and the Secretariat in their efforts to foster collaboration and partnerships to advance regional and global forest-related commitments and processes (see sect. IV below).

### **III. Summary of the strategic review and analysis of the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity**

10. To identify the level of alignment of the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity with the Framework, all activities of the programme of work were first mapped against the targets of the Framework, resulting in a reorganized display of the programme of work.<sup>19</sup> The mapping exercise revealed that almost all activities were well aligned with the targets and that their implementation would significantly support the achievement of the corresponding targets. The next step was to assess the extent of the alignment and adequacy of guidance provided under the activities relative to the targets. The strategic review and analysis is based on a compilation and analysis of submissions received in response to notifications Nos. [2025-031](#), [2025-48](#) and [2025-079](#), a review of relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties, an analysis of information from other sources, including the rapid analysis of programmes of work established under the Convention with respect to the targets of the Framework, global assessments, reports of various organizations and peer-reviewed scientific literature. The linkages with other thematic programmes of work and cross-cutting issues under the Convention were also analysed for overlaps and complementarities.

11. In their responses to the notifications, several submitters emphasized that the expanded programme of work served as a relevant and valuable tool for guiding the development of national policies and the implementation of activities related to forest biodiversity. They also recognized its importance as a key resource for achieving the goals and targets of the Framework.

12. At the same time, most submitters noted the need for some alignment of the expanded programme of work with the Framework to enhance its usefulness for Parties and relevant stakeholders. It must be highlighted that no suggestion was made to revise the existing programme, rather, suggestions were made to link its elements with the targets of the Framework and to identify gaps.

13. Such an approach would improve the alignment of the programme of work with the Framework and strengthen the contribution of forest actions to efforts to achieve the goals and targets of the Framework. Submitters also recommended that the implementation of the programme of work be fully integrated into the broader processes established under the Convention and the Framework, such as planning, monitoring, reporting and review, capacity-building and development, and cooperation with other conventions and international organizations, as appropriate. Some expressed the need to revise the text of the programme of work to remove redundancies and activities that overlapped with the mandates and functions of other organizations, which would imply renegotiating the text of the programme of work.

14. The following general observations and conclusions can be drawn from the strategic review and analysis:

<sup>15</sup> See [www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-59-en.pdf](http://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-59-en.pdf).

<sup>16</sup> See [www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-34-en.pdf](http://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-34-en.pdf).

<sup>17</sup> See [www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-07.pdf](http://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-07.pdf).

<sup>18</sup> See [www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-32.pdf](http://www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-32.pdf).

<sup>19</sup> See CBD/SBSTTA/27/INF/9, annex I.

(a) Linkages between all targets of the Framework and many aspects of conservation, restoration and sustainable forest management, as contained in the expanded programme of work, were identified. The finding demonstrates the environmental, social and economic benefits of forests, which therefore support the achievement of the goals and targets of the Framework;

(b) The elements identified in the submissions that need to be incorporated or strengthened in the expanded programme of work could be grouped around several key areas:

- (i) The conservation of primary and high-integrity forests and the restoration of connectivity through integrated landscape planning;
- (ii) The reduction of the impact of climate change on forest biodiversity, including through integrated wildfire management approaches;
- (iii) The contribution of forests to people, innovative business models and sustainable value chains for forest products;
- (iv) Capacity-building and development;
- (v) Equitable forest governance that recognizes and respects the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities and promotes gender-responsive approaches in forest conservation and sustainable use;

(c) A more balanced approach to the three objectives of the Convention that emphasized the contribution of forests to people was often suggested, to align the expanded programme of work more closely with the Framework in that area;

(d) Despite broad agreement on the complementarity of elements of the expanded programme of work to nearly all targets of the Framework, most submitters suggested that aligning sustainable forest management with Target 10 should be a priority in the implementation of the expanded programme of work until 2030;

(e) More broadly, among the relevant complementary areas for Targets 9, 10 and 11 of the Framework that should be integrated or strengthened in the expanded programme of work, submitters mentioned promoting timber and non-timber forest products to support the livelihoods of forest-dependent communities, especially vulnerable groups; expanding agroforestry practices; encouraging diverse food sources from forests; sharing success stories and best practices for integrating biodiversity value into forestry; and developing innovative business models that contribute to conservation and sustainable forest management;

(f) The need to avoid the fragmentation and duplication of work, harmonize policies and make use of a wide range of existing data, tools and policy frameworks was noted in several submissions. A further strengthened substantial alignment with the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030,<sup>20</sup> and its global forest goals, was recommended;

(g) The need to support capacity-building and development and the exchange of knowledge and technology, especially with developing countries and those most affected by forest biodiversity loss, was emphasized. Through established mechanisms for capacity development, the Secretariat can facilitate strategic partnerships with relevant technical organizations and networks that would be tailored to the specific needs of countries, sub-regions, and indigenous peoples and local communities, to address capacity gaps. The examples mentioned in the submissions included the FAO Global Fire Management Hub, the FAO Global Forest Resources Assessments, the International Model Forest Network, the International Boreal Forest Research Association, the Global Bioenergy Partnership, the Commission for Environmental Cooperation and the International Forest Products Transport Association.

15. A finding of the review and analysis is that the programme of work is directly relevant to 13 targets of the Framework (1, 3, 6, 8, 10, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21 and 22). However, guidance for

<sup>20</sup> See General Assembly resolution 71/285.

some of those targets could be enhanced. For the remaining targets, namely, Targets 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 15, 19 and 23, there is limited or no guidance in the expanded programme of work.

16. The following main gaps were identified in the expanded programme of work:

(a) Terminology, concepts and approaches that emerged or were developed after 2002 (e.g. ecological integrity and connectivity, other effective area-based conservation measures, nature-based solutions, human-wildlife conflict and One Health approach);

(b) Guidance on urban forests, which is essential to the implementation of Target 12 of the Framework, and digital sequence information on genetic resources, as relevant to Target 13;

(c) Elements related to the long-term productivity and resilience of forest ecosystems, agroecological approaches and forest contribution to food security;

(d) The level of ambition for the restoration and conservation of forests, as defined in Targets 2 and 3 of the Framework;

(e) The consideration of approaches to forest management inclusive of gender, youth and persons with disabilities.

17. It is important to note that the scope of the strategic review did not include an in-depth assessment of the effectiveness of the implementation of the expanded programme of work. At the same time, it was evident from the submissions and the assessment of additional information and data that many objectives of the programme have not been addressed or achieved, which is a critical issue to consider for accelerating actions towards the 2030 targets of the Framework.

18. With regard to the future implementation of the existing programme of work or of an updated version of it, it is essential to be guided by decision [15/4](#), in which Parties decided that the Framework should be used as a strategic plan for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols, its bodies and its Secretariat over the period 2022–2030 and that, in this regard, the Framework should be used to better align and direct the work of the various bodies of the Convention and its Protocols, its Secretariat and its budget according to the goals and targets of the Framework.

19. The implementation of an updated programme of work on forest biodiversity should therefore be carried out within the work conducted under the relevant targets and integrated into related processes, such as planning, monitoring, reporting and review (decision [16/32](#)), resource mobilization (decision [16/34](#)), capacity-building and development (decision [16/3](#)) and cooperation with other conventions and international organizations (decision [16/35](#)), as appropriate. In that regard, an updated programme of work would be designed to assist with achieving the targets of the Framework relevant to forest ecosystems. Since the Framework is applicable to all biomes, Parties may consider adopting an updated programme of work with, in particular, sustainable forest management aligned with Target 10 of the Framework.

#### **IV. Overview of forest biodiversity-related initiatives and partnerships supported by the Secretariat**

20. Since the adoption of the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity in 2002, many advances have been made in global forest governance, including key global instruments and frameworks, such as:

(a) The adoption in 2011 of the Bonn Challenge target of restoring 350 million hectares of degraded and deforested land by 2030;

(b) The adoption in 2015 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, notably Target 15.2 (by 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally);

(c) The adoption in 2015 of land degradation neutrality targets under the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;

(d) The adoption in 2015 of the Paris Agreement under the United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change, with provisions on nationally determined contributions;

(e) The adoption in 2017 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, with global forest goals;

(f) The proclamation in 2019 of the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021–2030);

(g) The adoption in 2022 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

21. The Secretariat has been engaged in mutually supportive partnerships that facilitate the implementation of the key international processes mentioned in paragraph 20. For example, since the establishment of the United Nations Forum on Forests, in 2000, the Conference of the Parties has provided clear guidance in the programme of work on forest biodiversity and in several decisions ([IV/7](#), [VI/22](#), [VII/1](#) [VIII/19](#), [X/36](#) and [16/35](#)) on collaboration, technical advice on forest biodiversity conservation, leveraging existing mechanisms under the Convention and the United Nations Forum on Forests and building on complementary roles to support actions by Governments and other entities. The General Assembly adopted the United Nations strategic plan for forests, which contains six global forest goals and a number of targets, such as increasing forest area by 3 per cent, increasing protected areas in forests significantly, assisting communities to benefit from forests and mobilizing significant resources to finance sustainable forest management. As a strategic guide to conservation and sustainable management, the programme of work on forest biodiversity can support the achievement of those objectives.

22. In 2023, the Secretariat of the Convention and the Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests signed a joint initiative, an agreement to advance the timely achievement of the Framework and of the global forest goals in a coherent and synergistic manner. As part of the agreement, the two secretariats initiated an assessment of opportunities for enhanced synergies between the two global frameworks at the national and regional levels. An information note on a coherent forest agenda<sup>21</sup> was produced under the joint initiative and launched on the Forest and Water Day, at an event organized by the Secretariat of the Convention and members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests during the first part of the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in 2024.

23. The Secretariat is an active member of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, a voluntary network of 16 international organizations and secretariats with substantial forest-related programmes. The Secretariat contributed to the development of the Partnership's work plan for 2025–2028,<sup>22</sup> launched at the twentieth session of the United Nations Forum on Forest, in May 2025, which includes a series of enabling and thematic initiatives that also help to implement the Framework targets. As a focal point for forest biodiversity, the Secretariat of the Convention co-leads, with the Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests and FAO, the implementation of a joint initiative on the Framework and the global forest goals: harnessing complementarities and addressing fragmentation in the global forest agenda. Under the joint initiative, the co-lead organizations published an analytical study on the linkages between conservation, restoration and sustainable management of forest and the targets of the Framework.<sup>23</sup>

24. The Secretariat also collaborates in the implementation of the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. Further to the short-term action plan on ecosystem restoration adopted by decision [XIII/5](#), and in an effort to accelerate the implementation of Target 2 of the Framework, the Secretariat, in collaboration with FAO and other key partners, including the United Nations

<sup>21</sup> See [www.un.org/esa/forests/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Towards-a-coherent-forest-agenda\\_final.pdf](http://www.un.org/esa/forests/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Towards-a-coherent-forest-agenda_final.pdf).

<sup>22</sup> See <https://openknowledge.fao.org/items/c0b7b79a-4b1e-426e-b54b-93b2338a1375>.

<sup>23</sup> See [www.cbd.int/forest/doc/forest-factor-en.pdf](http://www.cbd.int/forest/doc/forest-factor-en.pdf).

Environment Programme, the Society for Ecological Restoration and the Center for International Forestry Research-World Agroforestry, and in consultation with Parties and stakeholders, developed a road map for implementing Target 2 of the Framework,<sup>24</sup> as a flexible plan supported by a network of partners to address the needs of Parties in design, monitoring and reporting on ecosystem restoration, including on forests. The road map, led by FAO, included the launch of a capacity-development programme to be delivered jointly with the regional and subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres.<sup>25</sup>

25. Halting and reversing deforestation and forest degradation is a shared objective of the three Rio conventions, which was articulated in a joint brochure published in 2012.<sup>26</sup> The protection and restoration of forests was mentioned as one of the cross-cutting themes of the Rio conventions during the technical information exchange on enhanced cooperation and policy coherence to support the implementation of the Rio conventions held on 15 June 2025.

26. Since 2014, the Secretariat has been hosting the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative,<sup>27</sup> a programme supported by the Korea Forest Service of the Republic of Korea. Over the past 10 years, the Initiative has trained more than a thousand experts on forest ecosystem restoration through both in-person and online sessions, published technical documents and guidance, supported the development of decision-support tools and promoted communication and outreach activities. The Secretariat is currently in the process of renewing the memorandum of understanding with the Korea Forest Service to extend the Initiative until 2030. In response to decision [14/24](#), in which the Executive Secretary was requested to prepare proposals for an inclusive process to review and renew the Initiative, along with other technical and scientific cooperation programmes, the Korea Forest Service and the Secretariat are jointly organizing a global workshop on the Initiative, in Seoul, from 26 to 28 August 2025.

## V. Potential approaches to updates to the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity

27. Following the mapping of activities in the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity in relation to the targets of the Framework, and taking into account the gaps identified, a set of additional activities, as contained in annex I to document CBD/SBSTTA/27/INF/9, was formulated to enhance the programme.

28. The following options are available for updating the programme of work:

(a) Revising the programme of work and adding complementary activities, as appropriate. Such an approach would imply re-negotiating the programme of work and thus might not be the most effective way forward at a time when implementation should be prioritized. Furthermore, a revision based on the targets of Framework, which are currently valid until 2030 only, might require realignment with future strategic directions decided by the Conference of the Parties;

(b) Reorganizing the current programme of work against each target of the Framework and adopting new complementary activities. Such an approach would be focused on a limited number of complementary activities that could facilitate a better alignment of resources and of technical and methodological support with the targets of the Framework. The draft decision proposed below has been prepared using the latter approach.

<sup>24</sup> See <https://openknowledge.fao.org/server/api/core/bitstreams/dd1722a8-1374-4d62-b342-5ea90d9c4d10/content>.

<sup>25</sup> See decisions [16/3](#) and [16/35](#).

<sup>26</sup> See [https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/rio\\_20\\_forests\\_brochure.pdf](https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/publications/rio_20_forests_brochure.pdf).

<sup>27</sup> Further information is available at the website: [www.cbd-feri.org/](http://www.cbd-feri.org/).

## VI. Recommendation

29. The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice may wish to recommend that, at its seventeenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopt a decision along the following lines:

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Recalling* its decisions [IX/5](#) of 30 May 2008, [XIII/7](#) of 17 December 2016 and [16/35](#) of 27 February 2025,

*Recognizing* that the conservation, restoration and sustainable management of forests are vital for the achievement of many targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,<sup>1</sup>

*Deeply concerned* about the continuous loss and degradation of forests, especially primary forest,

*Recognizing* that the conservation and sustainable use of forest biodiversity is a shared priority of the Rio conventions,

*Welcoming* the ongoing joint efforts undertaken under the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, including on enhanced policy coherence with the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030,<sup>2</sup>

*Appreciating* the continuous contribution of the Korea Forest Service of the Republic of Korea to the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative to develop capacity on sustainable forest management,

1. *Acknowledges* that the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity<sup>3</sup> and related decisions of the Conference of the Parties provide strategic guidance for the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in forest ecosystems, but that updated guidance in relation to certain targets is needed;

2. *Endorses* the complementary activities for further or improved guidance contained in the annex to the present decision, as an update to the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity, noting that the development of further guidance should take into account the work undertaken under the relevant targets of the Framework and in collaboration with the relevant intergovernmental organizations, respecting their mandates and avoiding duplication;

3. *Invites* Parties and other Governments to take into account the update to the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity in the revision or updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and their implementation, the development of national targets, national reports, national capacity-building and development programmes and resource mobilization strategies to support the implementation of the Framework, national forest programmes and other forest-related programmes, strategies and initiatives;

4. *Invites* the governing bodies and secretariats of relevant multilateral environment agreements and international organizations to contribute to the implementation of the Framework in forest ecosystems by supporting the implementation of the updated programme of work on forest biodiversity, including through the development and dissemination of guidance and tools, the development of targeted capacity-building programmes and technology transfer;

5. *Invites* indigenous peoples and local communities, relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and academia, women, children and youth to contribute to the implementation of the Framework in forest ecosystems by supporting the implementation of the updated programme of work on forest biodiversity;

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<sup>1</sup> Decision [15/4](#), annex.

<sup>2</sup> See General Assembly resolution 71/285.

<sup>3</sup> Decision [VI/22](#).

6. *Invites* the members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests to consider ways and means to further enhance their individual and collective contributions to support Parties in their implementation of the Framework in forest ecosystems;

7. *Requests* that, with regard to the issues listed in the annex to the present decision, the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity,<sup>4</sup> in collaboration with relevant international organizations and subject to the availability of resources:

(a) Enhance cooperation with the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and its members to compile and make available relevant recent guidance and tools related to the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity and the complimentary activities listed in the annex to the present decision, giving particular attention to sustainable forest management, as related to the activities linked to Target 10 of the Framework outlined in the annex to the present decision;

(b) Liaise with the executive secretaries of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa<sup>5</sup> and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>6</sup> to identify joint activities to support the conservation and restoration of forests in view of their role in achieving land degradation neutrality and climate change mitigation and adaptation;

(c) Compile and make available relevant guidance and experiences from Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, and relevant organizations and stakeholders on the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity and the complimentary activities listed in the annex;

(d) Integrate the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity and the complimentary activities listed in the annex, as appropriate, into relevant capacity-building and development and scientific and technical cooperation efforts undertaken under the Convention, including through the Forest Ecosystem Restoration Initiative and the Rio Conventions Joint Capacity-building Programme;

(e) Report to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, at a meeting held before the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, on the aforementioned cooperation activities in support of the implementation of the Convention and the Framework.

## **Annex**

### **Update to the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity**

| <i>Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework<sup>a</sup></i> | <i>Complementary activities to the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity<sup>b</sup></i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Targets 1, 2 and 3                                                               | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conserve primary, high-integrity forests through participatory and integrated land-use planning, while planning for improved ecological integrity, forest connectivity and forest intactness.</li> <li>2. Employ best practices in forest restoration, including with regard to spatial and within-stand heterogeneity, connectivity, climate resilience and climate projections and risks of wildfires.</li> <li>3. Employ other effective area-based conservation measures as an integral part of forest landscape planning connectivity, including by bringing terminology, concepts and definitions up to date.</li> </ol> |

<sup>4</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>a</sup> Decision [15/4](#), annex.

<sup>b</sup> Decision [VI/22](#).

| <i>Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework<sup>a</sup></i> | <i>Complementary activities to the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity<sup>b</sup></i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                  | 4. Establish a definition for a successfully “restored forest”, by forest ecosystem types.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Targets 4, 5 and 9                                                               | 5. Manage human-wildlife conflict, using nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches where possible, including through successful methods based on case studies, while recognizing and respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities.<br>6. Raise awareness and promote the application of best practices for conserving forest habitats and maintaining the genetic diversity of forest wild species to prevent and mitigate disease risks to people.                                                                                                                                              |
| Target 6                                                                         | 7. Taking cross-cutting work on invasive alien species into account, provide guidance to assist forest managers with preventing the introduction of invasive species, in particular those that may be unintentionally spread through forest machinery and operations.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Target 7                                                                         | 8. Taking the programme of work on agricultural biodiversity and the Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health <sup>c</sup> into account, reduce soil loss and the impacts of pesticides on forest biodiversity and human health.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Targets 8 and 11                                                                 | 9. Enhance the benefits for biodiversity, and avoid the negative impacts, of carbon market-driven incentives for large-scale restoration and afforestation.<br>10. Apply guidance from the Paris Agreement <sup>d</sup> to forest restoration and management, including for market-based incentive mechanisms.<br>11. Enhance forest ecosystem integrity and resilience by using nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches as an objective for climate change mitigation and adaptation and disaster risk reduction, considering likely long-term ecosystem changes and relevant environmental and social safeguards. |
| Target 10                                                                        | 12. Promote biodiversity-friendly practices, including reduced-impact logging practices, sustainable intensification, agroforestry and inter-cropping to reduce forest fragmentation.<br>13. Promote approaches that improve the socioeconomic conditions of indigenous peoples and local communities, including alternative livelihoods based on the sustainable use of forest resources.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Target 12                                                                        | 14. Provide and apply the principles of urban forestry and urban green space planning to urban development to enable green spaces, including by establishing guidelines for tree density, the area and size of green spaces and connectivity between those areas.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Target 13 (no gaps)                                                              | 15. Take into account the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization, <sup>e</sup> as applicable, and relevant decisions related to digital sequence information on genetic resources.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Target 14                                                                        | 16. Employ strategic environmental assessments as a part of an overall landscape plan.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Targets 15 and 16                                                                | 17. Promote due diligence in the production and supply chains of non-forest industries to address the risk of deforestation and forest degradation, taking national socioeconomic conditions and legislation into account.<br>18. Encourage consumers to buy from legal, deforestation-free and sustainable supply chains, including through forest certification, by providing information enabling them to make informed decisions.                                                                                                                                                                                                |

<sup>c</sup> Decision [16/19](#), annex.<sup>d</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 3156, No. 54113.<sup>e</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 3008, No. 30619.

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| <i>Targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework<sup>a</sup></i> | <i>Complementary activities to the expanded programme of work on forest biodiversity<sup>b</sup></i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Target 17 (no gaps)                                                              | 19. Take the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety <sup>f</sup> into account, as applicable.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Targets 18 and 19                                                                | 20. Develop forest biodiversity-positive financing instruments, including by repurposing subsidies harmful to forest biodiversity through an active Biodiversity Finance Initiative plan, and integrate the instruments into national finance or similar plans.<br>21. Work closely with the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network of the United Nations Forum on Forests.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Targets 21, 22 and 23                                                            | 22. Taking the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity related to indigenous peoples and local communities to 2030 <sup>g</sup> and the Gender Plan of Action (2023-2030) <sup>h</sup> into account:<br>(a) Integrate traditional knowledge into forest landscape management practices;<br>(b) Ensure the secure, equitable and legally recognized land and forest tenure for indigenous peoples and local communities;<br>(c) Improve participation in the planning and management of forests by all sectors of civil society, including indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth and persons with disabilities. |

<sup>f</sup> Ibid., vol. 2226, No. 30619.

<sup>g</sup> Decision [16/4](#), annex.

<sup>h</sup> Decision [15/11](#), annex.