



Convention on Biological Diversity

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OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP
ON THE POST-2020 GLOBAL
BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

Third meeting
To be determined

SCENARIO NOTE

Note by the Co-Chairs, Mr. Francis Ogwal (Uganda) and Mr. Basile van Havre (Canada)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The preparations for the first and second meetings of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework were facilitated by a scenario note. For the third meeting of the Working Group, some of you have indicated that it would be useful to provide a scenario note earlier and covering a longer period. To meet this request, we have prepared the present scenario note to provide you with information on expectations, on the process leading up to the third meeting of the Working Group and on our perspectives regarding how the relevant work of the upcoming twenty-fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation will feed into the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. We have prepared this scenario note in consultation with the Chair of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, the Chair of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, the Secretariat, and the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties.

2. This scenario note could be updated after the twenty-fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation to take into account the outcomes of those meetings and to provide further information on our expectations for the third meeting of the Working Group. We will also continue our practice of working closely with the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties and, in this regard, we request that you inform us of any issues or concerns through your regional representatives on the Bureau. In addition, we continue to encourage you to bring any issues or concerns regarding the process for developing the post-2020 global biodiversity framework directly to our attention as soon as possible.

II. BACKGROUND

3. First, it is important to acknowledge the impact of the COVID-19 crisis. We offer our support to those who are suffering and condolences to those who have lost loved ones. This crisis has already impacted our work (for example, by delaying the meetings of the two subsidiary bodies), and its effect could impact us further. However, it is imperative to carry on with our duties, adapt to the negative impacts, and take advantage of the opportunities (for example, extra time to prepare for our major meetings). We believe it is important to have a date to work toward, and you will see below that we have a reasonable plan to meet our objectives. The Bureau of the Conference of the Parties is holding monthly teleconferences to review the situation in the light of the evolving pandemic, and, based on their decisions, we may need to adjust our plan.

4. Second, it is also important to remind ourselves where we are in the negotiation process: the twenty-fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the

third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation are the last opportunities for these bodies to provide technical advice or recommendations to the process. It is therefore important to ensure that these inputs are practical and can be easily taken into account by the Working Group.

5. As you will recall, the Conference of the Parties requested the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to contribute to the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and to support the work of the Open-ended Working Group. In addition, the Subsidiary Body on Implementation was requested to contribute, at its third meeting, to the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, as prepared by the Open-ended Working Group, and to complement it with elements related to means to support and review implementation.

6. In addition, the Working Group at its second meeting invited the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, among other things, to carry out a scientific and technical review of the updated goals and targets, and related indicators and baselines, of the draft global biodiversity framework, including of the draft monitoring framework. In undertaking this review, the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice should identify:

- (a) The components of goals or targets for which performance indicator exist or are easily obtainable;
- (b) Components for which indicators do not exist;
- (c) Missing components;
- (d) Whether the attainment of targets will enable the realization of the vision and, in case of targets that include numerical elements or ranges, provide advice on which figures or range will enable the realization of the vision.

III. TWENTY-FOURTH MEETING OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVICE

7. We have worked closely with the Secretariat and the Chair of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to develop a sound process and a comprehensive list of documents to facilitate the work of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. To support the objective described above, the following documents are being prepared:

- (a) Updated monitoring framework tables (one for goals and one for targets) containing:
 - (i) Two columns that will present updated goals or targets and their components based on the outcomes of the second meeting of the Working Group;
 - (ii) Two columns, to be prepared by the Secretariat that will present monitoring elements and indicators;
- (b) A document presenting scientific and technical information (including on baselines) to support the review of the draft framework (prepared by the Secretariat);
- (c) An updated glossary;
- (d) An updated draft of the framework element relevant to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice. This draft essentially places the first column of the tables mentioned in subparagraph (a) in a textual format. This document is provided for context;
- (e) A document containing updated elements of the draft post-2020 global biodiversity framework. This document is provided for context for the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body on Implementation.

8. It is our expectation that the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice will not negotiate the updated goals and targets of the draft post-2020 global biodiversity framework, but,

rather, provide guidance on the components of the goals and targets, monitoring elements, and indicators (from the updated draft monitoring frameworks) for the further development of the draft framework, and to identify implications and issues related to the monitoring of implementation.

9. As we have more time due to the postponement of the twenty-fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, the documents mentioned in subparagraphs (a) and (b) will be subjected to a peer-review process in June. At that time, we will offer a series of webinars to brief you on these documents. The revised and final versions of these documents will be published six weeks ahead of the meeting.

10. The document referred to in paragraph 7(d) above will be issued six weeks ahead of the meeting in the six official languages of the United Nations.

11. Further information on the documentation for the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice is provided in the annotated provisional agenda of the meeting ([CBD/SBSTTA/24/1/Add.1](#)).

IV. THIRD MEETING OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON IMPLEMENTATION

12. In response to various decisions of the Conference of the Parties, the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its third meeting will address a number of issues closely related to the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. This includes important issues related to means of implementation, enabling conditions, and responsibility and transparency, such as resource mobilization, the financial mechanisms, capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation, technology transfer, knowledge management, the clearing-house mechanism, communications, mechanisms for planning, reporting, assessment and review of implementation, the mainstreaming of biodiversity within and across sectors, and other strategic actions to enhance implementation, as well as cooperation with other conventions, international organizations and related initiatives. The Subsidiary Body will also consider elements of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework related to Article 8(j) and related provisions as well as biosafety and access and benefit-sharing and in line with decisions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Protocols.

13. We have also worked closely with the Secretariat and the Chair of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation to ensure that the scope and focus of relevant agenda items lead to the outcomes we are looking for in regard to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. For the third meeting of the Subsidiary Body, we do not need to prepare specific documents, and our focus is more on ensuring that the various processes (such as expert groups) are lining up optimally.

14. As this is the only scheduled opportunity for the Subsidiary Body on Implementation to provide input into the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, we encourage the Subsidiary Body to provide concrete recommendations related to the development of the framework and decisions associated with it for the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting.

V. INFORMAL BRIEFING

15. An informal briefing will be provided to delegates participating in the twenty-fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and in the third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (length, date and time are being discussed with the Secretariat).

VI. THIRD MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP

16. Pursuant to the request of the Working Group at its second meeting, with the support of the Executive Secretary and under the oversight of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties, we will prepare a first draft of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, taking into account the outcomes of the second meeting of the Working Group, ongoing consultation processes, and the meeting of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Digital Sequence Information, as well as the twenty-fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation.

17. The third meeting of the Working Group will be held, at the earliest, nine weeks after the close of the third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation. This will allow three weeks for drafting, editing and translation of the first draft, and then six weeks for review by the Parties. Ideally, we should allow more time if available. We are working with the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties, the Secretariat, and the host country to set a date as soon as possible.

18. It is important to keep in mind that the mandate we received from the Working Group at its second meeting for the drafting of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework directed us to consider three sources (the outcomes of the second meeting of the Working Group, the twenty-fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation). We realize that there are a number of other processes in which valuable inputs are formulated. We encourage you to send these inputs to the Secretariat so that they can be posted on the post-2020 submissions page¹ to ensure that Parties are aware of them and are able to take them on board if they wish. It is also important to note that, when drafting the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, we are integrating many inputs, and it is often not possible to reflect verbatim the input received from individual submissions.

19. We will make the first draft of the global biodiversity framework available six weeks prior to the third meeting of the Working Group in all the official languages of the United Nations and will provide webinar briefings for the various time zones, as we did for the zero draft.

20. With regard to the organization of the third meeting of the Working Group, our expectation is that Parties will engage in in-depth, text-based negotiations at that meeting to enable us to prepare a second draft. This will likely mean convening more plenary sessions than we had at the second meeting of the Working Group and more targeted use of contact groups. We will provide further information on this at a later date.

14 May 2020

¹ <https://www.cbd.int/conferences/post2020/submissions-zero-draft>