



Convention on Biological Diversity

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Subsidiary Body on Implementation

Sixth meeting

Rome, 16–19 February 2026

Agenda item 10

Administrative and budgetary matters: functional review of the Secretariat

Functional review of the Secretariat

Draft recommendation submitted by the Chair

The Subsidiary Body on Implementation

1. *Takes note* of the executive summary of the report on the external in-depth functional review of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity¹ prepared by an external consulting team, as contained in annex I to document [CBD/SBI/6/10](#), including the recommendations for short-, medium- and long-term actions by the Secretariat;

2. *Notes* the ongoing consultations on those recommendations within the Secretariat and with the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing follow-up actions of the Executive Secretary that align with the core functions and strategic priorities of the Secretariat, in particular the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework² and servicing of meetings of the Convention and its Protocols, as determined by the Conference of the Parties, namely:

(a) Initiating the implementation of budget neutral actions that enhance operational efficiency, including an updated organizational structure;

(b) Undertaking the updating or development of job descriptions, including classification, of existing and additional posts, respectively, required to implement a structural and strategic alignment with the core functions and strategic priorities of the Secretariat;

(c) Undertaking, on the basis of the updated functions and job descriptions, an analysis of the associated staffing and cost implications of the long-term structural and strategic alignment;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary:

(a) To transmit the executive summary of the report on the external in-depth functional review of the Secretariat³ to the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth meeting and to submit a progress report on the activities listed in paragraph 3 above and any additional activities related to the implementation of the functional review, together with proposals and a rationale for adjustments

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

² Decision 15/4, annex.

³ [CBD/SBI/6/10](#), annex I.

in post classification, including additional posts, as well as changes that have budgetary implications, to the Conference of the Parties for consideration at its seventeenth meeting;

(b) To convene information sessions in advance of the seventh meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation and the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, with a view to briefing Parties on the budgetary implications of the actions proposed in the functional review, including the actions listed in paragraph 3 above;

5. *Recommends* that, at its seventeenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties

1. *Take notes* of the executive summary of the report on the external in-depth functional review of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity,⁴ as contained in annex I to document [CBD/SBI/6/10](#), and notes the additional actions requested by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its sixth meeting, as contained in recommendation 6/-;

2. *Notes* the outcome of the functional review, [and welcomes the updated structure of the Secretariat,] which should lead to enhanced synergies and efficiencies within the Secretariat;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the follow-up actions taken by the Executive Secretary,⁵ namely:

[(a) The initiation of the implementation of short- and medium-term actions proposed in the functional review, including an updated organizational structure;]

[(b) The updated or developed job descriptions, including classification, of existing and additional posts, respectively, required to implement a structural and strategic alignment with the core functions and strategic priorities of the Secretariat;]

[(c) The analysis of the associated staffing and cost implications of the long-term structural and strategic alignment.]

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources:

(a) To continue to implement the ongoing and remaining actions that align with the core functions and strategic priorities of the Secretariat, as determined by the Conference of the Parties, that enhance operational efficiency and that align with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the servicing of meeting of the Convention and its Protocols, as recommended in the functional review, in line with the Secretariat staffing requirements approved in the core budgets of the Convention and its Protocols for the period 2027–2028;

(b) To ensure the implementation of recommendations of the functional review that are in line with the functions of the Secretariat, as established in Article 24 of the Convention, Article 31 of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety⁶ and Article 28 of the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization;⁷

5. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to keep the Parties informed through the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties, in a transparent manner, of progress in implementing the ongoing and remaining actions recommended in the functional review;

⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

⁵ See CBD/COP/17/xx.

⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2226, No. 30619.

⁷ *Ibid.*, vol. 3008, No. 30619.

6. *Also recommends* that the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol, at its twelfth meeting, and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol, at its sixth meeting, take note of the executive summary of the report on the external in-depth functional review of the Secretariat, and note the additional actions requested by the Subsidiary body on Implementation at its sixth meeting as contained in recommendation 6/--.
