



Convention on Biological Diversity

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Yerevan, 19–30 October 2026

Agenda item 8 (a)

Resource mobilization and financial mechanism: resource mobilization

Working Group I

Resource mobilization *

Draft decision submitted by the Chair of Working Group I**

The Conference of the Parties,

(proposal) *Recalling* all provisions of Article 20 and Article 21 of the Convention,

(proposal) *Recalling also* its decision 16/34 of 27 February 2025 and the strategy for resource mobilization for the period 2025–2030,

Recalling further paragraph 19 of its decision [16/34](#) of 27 February 2025, in which it decided to implement Articles 21 and 39 of the Convention and to address the global biodiversity finance gap by 2030,

(proposal) *Recognizing* the urgent need to close the biodiversity financing gap,

(proposal) *Recognizing* the increased diversity of public and private actors and sources able to contribute to the financing of biodiversity since the adoption of the Convention,

(proposal) *Recognizing also* that public international biodiversity finance is currently provided and mobilized by a limited number of countries and sources, and that contributions from more Parties would improve the mobilization of biodiversity finance,

(proposal) *Recognizing further* that the fulfilment of existing financial commitments by developed country Parties together with contributions from more Parties would enhance the mobilization of biodiversity finance,

1. *Acknowledges* the organization of the workshop on resource mobilization held in Rome from 10 to 13 February 2026, and expresses its appreciation to the Governments of Belgium and Germany for their financial support in that regard;

2. *Takes note* of the review of implementation of the strategy for resource mobilization for the period 2025–2030,¹ as conducted through the global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;

* The present document is being issued without formal editing.

** The proposals based on the ministerial consultations as are presented as options in the present document, with the word “proposal” next to the paragraph to indicate that the text comes from those consultations.

¹ Decision [16/34](#), annex I.

3. *Notes* that further efforts are required to mobilize biodiversity-related financial flows to achieve Target 19 of the Framework, in particular its subparagraph (a);

4. (proposal) *Adopts* the criteria for the institutional structure to operate the financial mechanism envisaged under Article 21 of the Convention, as set out in the annex to the present decision, comprising the criteria listed in paragraph 21 of decision 16/34 and the criteria further developed at the present meeting pursuant to paragraph 22 (a) of that decision;

5. *Invites* the Global Environment Facility and other relevant existing financial entities, including international financial institutions and multilateral development banks, to take the criteria into account, as appropriate, in their ongoing efforts to reform or improve their operations;

6. *Requests* that the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, in accordance with the road map established in paragraph 22 of decision [16/34](#), at a meeting held before the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties:

(a) Conduct a review of progress in the reform of relevant existing financial entities to meet the criteria, following the seventh quadrennial review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism referred to in paragraph 40 of decision [16/33](#) of 27 February 2025, while also taking into account the work undertaken further to paragraph 41 of the same decision;

(b) Prepare elements of a draft decision, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its eighteenth meeting, either to establish a new entity to operate the financial mechanism, whether by itself or alongside an existing entity or entities, or to confirm an existing entity or entities in that role;

(c) Include in the elements of a draft decision, if appropriate, the establishment of an intersessional process to develop the terms of reference and modalities of a new entity on the basis of the criteria;

(d) Undertake a stocktake review on the operations and performance of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund, as mandated in paragraphs 39 and 29 of decisions [15/7](#) and [15/15](#) of 19 December 2022, respectively, on the basis of the reports referred to in paragraph 10 below,² relevant reports of the Global Environment Facility and other relevant information, as appropriate;

(e) Make a recommendation on responding to the stocktake review of the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund and integrate it into elements of a draft decision for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its eighteenth meeting;

7. *Takes note* of document [CBD/SBI/7/3/Add.4](#) on impediments to the effectiveness of biodiversity finance and elements for its further enhancement, while recognizing that the list of impediments and elements for enhancement therein requires further elaboration;

8. *Invites* Parties and other Governments, consistent with national circumstances, priorities and capabilities, as well as relevant organizations and initiatives, multilateral development banks, the private sector and other stakeholders, to take voluntary action immediately, where possible and as appropriate, to address impediments to the effectiveness of biodiversity finance;

9. *Requests* that the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, at a meeting held before the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and in accordance with the road map established in paragraph 23 of decision [16/34](#):

(a) Develop measures that could be taken to enhance global biodiversity finance in order to mobilize new and additional resources from all sources, on the basis of, inter alia, the elements provided in document [CBD/SBI/7/3/Add.4](#), with the understanding that they are voluntary, and

² The Secretariat has suggested, in document [CBD/SBI/7/4](#), on the financial mechanism, that the preparatory work for the stocktake review be undertaken in conjunction with the seventh quadrennial review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism.

taking into account submissions made by Parties at the seventh meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation;

(b) Assess the performance of existing relevant financial instruments and entities with respect to the implementation of the Framework, in particular Target 19 (a), building on, inter alia, the work referred to in paragraph 6 above;

10. *Requests* that the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources and in collaboration with relevant organizations, support the work requested of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation before the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, including by preparing relevant reports to support the consideration by the Subsidiary Body of the items referred to in paragraphs 6 and 9 above;

[11. *Also requests* that the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, prepare or commission, for consideration of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at a meeting held before the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, the following:

[(a) A study to propose a single coefficient for expenditure marked as significant;]

(b) A study to evaluate the conceptual and practical relevance of biodiversity credits and offsets as a financial biodiversity-related expenditure, considering whether biodiversity credits and offsets generate additionality in biodiversity conservation;]

12. (proposal) *Invites* Parties not on the list of developed country Parties and other Parties that may voluntarily assume the obligations of the developed country Parties as adopted in [Decision VIII/18](#), in accordance with paragraph 2 of Article 20 of the Convention, to indicate to the Secretariat their interest in being included in the corresponding list established in accordance with that Article and invites Parties to provide their views on improving the modalities and timing of such invitations;

13. (proposal) *Recognizes* the importance to take into full account the specific needs and special conditions of least developed countries and small island developing States;

14. (proposal) *Requests* the Executive Secretary to issue a notification inviting Parties as referred to in paragraph 12 above before the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and thereafter before every other meeting, requesting Parties to signal interest in bilateral consultations, to compile the indications received, keeping them confidential unless the Party concerned agrees otherwise, and to prepare an amended list, on the basis of indication of consent to be included, for adoption by the Conference of the Parties;

15. (proposal) *Recognizes with appreciation* the financial resources that developing country Parties mobilize for biodiversity domestically, including through national budgets and co-financing, and those they provide on a voluntary basis to the financial mechanism, to other multilateral funds and through South-South cooperation, and *affirms* that such contributions do not entail inclusion in the list referred to in paragraph 2 of Article 20 or the assumption of the obligations of developed country Parties

16. (proposal) *Encourages* further contributions from other countries and other sources on a voluntary basis, and *invites* Parties that so wish to inform the Executive Secretary of their contributions, for the information of the Conference of the Parties;

17. (proposal) *Also requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of financial resources, to prepare for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at a meeting held before the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, without prejudice to the positions and interpretations of Parties:

(a) A factual compilation of how the Conference of the Parties has given effect to Article 20 as a whole;

(b) An analysis of the implications of inclusion in the list of Parties that voluntarily assume the obligations of the developed country Parties, including whether such inclusion has effects related to provisions of the Convention other than the financial provisions of Article 20;

(c) A compilation of the views received pursuant to paragraph 12 and a report on the consultations with Parties pursuant to paragraph 14;

(d) A report on approaches to mobilizing financial resources from private and other sources, including philanthropy and innovative financial instruments, in the context of the strategy for resource mobilization.

18. (proposal) *Requests* the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, to consider the documents referred to in paragraph 17 above and develop recommendations, for consideration by the COP at its eighteenth meeting.

19. (proposal) *Affirms* that nothing in the present decision shall be interpreted as altering the obligations of Parties under Article 20 of the Convention;

20. *Takes note* of the studies on the relationship between debt sustainability and the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity; how the guidance on safeguards in biodiversity finance mechanisms adopted in decisions [XII/3](#) of 17 October 2014 and [14/15](#) of 29 October 2018 has been implemented, identifying good practices and lessons learned, as well as opportunities for improving implementation of the guidance; and the relationship between biodiversity and climate finance;

21. *Invites* Parties and other Governments to consider the three studies in their work to mobilize financial resources from all sources, as appropriate and in line with national circumstances, priorities and capabilities, in accordance with national legislation and Article 3 of the Convention and in line with section C and Target 19 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;

22. *Invites* relevant international organizations and initiatives, regional development banks and other regional and international financial institutions, as well as stakeholder organizations, as appropriate and in line with their respective mandates, to consider the three studies in their work on biodiversity finance;

23. *Invites* Parties and other Governments, to consider, on a voluntary basis, in line with section C of the Framework:

(a) Taking into account the context-specific nature of the relationship between debt sustainability and implementation of the Convention including the debt stress levels of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and the small island developing States among them;

(b) Assessing the relevance and implications of, and exploring further opportunities for, applying debt-related instruments to the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and the way that such instruments could be addressed in national biodiversity finance plans or similar instruments and planning frameworks, without creating additional conditionalities or constraining national fiscal space;

(c) Enhancing, where biodiversity-related fiscal and economic risks are relevant at the national level, the integration of relevant biodiversity considerations into national debt management strategies and national fiscal and debt-sustainability assessments, and exploring alternative debt management pathways that do not result in financial flows harmful to biodiversity;

(d) Exploring other opportunities, where relevant, for applying debt-related fiscal instruments to support biodiversity implementation, taking into account national contexts and circumstances;

(e) Considering, as appropriate, the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth, the private sector and relevant stakeholders in undertaking the activities listed above;

24. *Encourages* relevant international or regional organizations and initiatives, such as the Biodiversity Finance Initiative of the United Nations Development Programme, to support the activities described in paragraph 23 above, including by identifying good practices and lessons learned and by supporting efforts to improve their visibility;

25. *Invites* Parties, as appropriate and in line with national circumstances, priorities and capabilities, and in accordance with national legislation, and other governments at all levels, business organizations and other stakeholders, as well as national, regional and international development banks and other financial institutions, as applicable and in line with their respective mandates:

(a) To take the voluntary guidelines on safeguards in biodiversity financing mechanisms³ into account when selecting, designing and implementing biodiversity financing mechanisms and when developing instrument-specific safeguards for them, with a view to harnessing their positive effects in an effective manner and to avoiding or mitigating negative effects;

(b) To take the voluntary guidelines on safeguards in biodiversity financing mechanisms into account in the context of the ongoing review and harmonization of safeguards standards, as appropriate, including through alignment with relevant national legal and regulatory frameworks, with a view to facilitating their effective implementation at the national and local levels;

(c) To provide and strengthen capacity-building and development for the effective application of safeguards standards, as appropriate;

(d) To share relevant case studies, good practices, lessons learned and associated guidance materials through the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention;

26. *Invites* Parties, as appropriate and in line with national circumstances, priorities and capabilities, in accordance with national legislation, and other governments at all levels, the governing bodies of relevant environmental agreements, business organizations and other stakeholders, as well as national, regional and international development banks and other financial institutions, as applicable and in line with respective mandates, to continue to optimize the co-benefits and synergies of biodiversity and climate finance, while avoiding duplication of work between convention secretariats and respecting their various mandates, by:

(a) Capitalizing on emerging opportunities to create or scale up biodiversity synergies with climate finance-related actions;

(b) Integrating, or improving the integration of, biodiversity considerations into international and domestic climate finance mechanisms and policies, by:

(i) Strengthening intersectoral coordination at the national level;

(ii) Implementing and advancing social and environmental safeguards policies that reduce and prevent the potentially harmful impacts of climate-related programmes, projects and activities on biodiversity;

(iii) Setting goals, designing policies, programmes and projects and taking actions with biodiversity co-benefits in the delivery of climate finance, such as programmes, projects and activities that support climate change mitigation and adaptation, through nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches, as well as other appropriate approaches consistent with the objectives of the Convention;

(iv) Developing and applying, during the project planning and preparation stage, as appropriate, compatible indicators, metrics and reporting approaches to assess

³ Decision [XII/3](#), annex III.

relevant biodiversity outcomes and co-benefits within climate-related programmes and projects;

- (c) Significantly enhancing the understanding and transparency of accounting and reporting in relation to financial contributions

Annex

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

A. Criteria listed in paragraph 21 of decision 16/34

The operation of the financial mechanism envisaged under Article 21 of the Convention on Biological Diversity⁴ 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:⁵

- (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.

B. Criteria further developed pursuant to paragraph 22 (a) of decision 16/34

The following criteria further develop the criteria in section A.

The criteria in sections A and B will form the basis for the consideration and decision of the Conference of the Parties at its eighteenth meeting on the institutional structure which is to carry out the operations of the financial mechanism as per Article 21 of the convention.

- (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 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;

(h) It upholds 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;

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

⁵ 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.

(i) It enables the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, including through simplified access modalities, as appropriate, at the project level, and in accordance with national legislation and circumstances;

(j) It demonstrates complementarity to the biodiversity finance landscape and operates in a cost-effective manner;

(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;
