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Subsidiary Body on Implementation**Fourth meeting**

Nairobi, 21–29 May 2024

Item 10 of the provisional agenda*

Long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming**Long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming biodiversity****Note by the Secretariat****I. Introduction**

1. In paragraph 17 of its decision [14/3](#), the Conference of the Parties decided to establish a long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming biodiversity and, in paragraph 19 (c) of that decision, it requested the Executive Secretary to further develop the strategic approach by working with the Informal Advisory Group on Mainstreaming of Biodiversity which was established pursuant to paragraph 18 of decision 14/3.

2. The result of the work undertaken pursuant to that decision was considered by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its third meeting. This included the consideration of a draft long-term approach to mainstreaming biodiversity, presented in annex II of document [CBD/SBI/3/13](#), and an accompanying action plan, contained in document [CBD/SBI/3/13/Add.1](#).

3. At its third meeting, the Subsidiary Body adopted recommendation [3/15](#), containing an updated version of the draft long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at the second part of its fifteenth meeting. In its recommendation, the Subsidiary Body requested the Executive Secretary:

(a) To invite Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, relevant stakeholders and partners, to review the long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming biodiversity and its action plan and to submit their views to the Executive Secretary;

(b) To prepare a compilation of submissions received and to make it available for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting to support an in-depth Party-driven review of the long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming biodiversity with a view to its finalization.

4. The compilation of submissions received pursuant to those requests, and in response to notification [2022-025](#), was made available for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting in information documents [CBD/COP/15/INF/10](#), [11](#) and [12](#).¹

* CBD/SBI/4/1.

¹ The following Parties submitted views: Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, the European Union and its member States, Haiti, Japan, Mexico, the Philippines, Seychelles, Switzerland, Uganda and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

5. At its fifteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties, in its decision [15/17](#) (para. 1), welcomed the work of the Informal Advisory Group on Mainstreaming of Biodiversity, as well as the submissions compiled in documents CBD/COP/15/INF/10, 11 and 12. In the same decision (para. 2), the Conference of the Parties requested Parties, and invited other Governments, international organizations and relevant stakeholders, to submit their views on the draft long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming biodiversity and its associated action plan and to identify ways forward to support implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Also in decision 15/17 (para. 3), the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to organize an open-ended online forum to facilitate further views on the reports and outcomes mentioned in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the decision and to compile those views in a report, including on an interim process, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its fourth meeting.

6. The present note provides a summary of the work undertaken in response to decision 15/17 (sect. II), an analysis of options for taking the long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming forward (sect. III) and elements of a recommendation (sect. IV) for consideration by the Subsidiary Body at its fourth meeting.

II. Implementation of decision 15/17

7. Pursuant to decision 15/17, the submission of views was invited through notification [2023-028](#), issued on 16 March 2023, and notification [2023-048](#), issued on 1 May 2023, in which the deadline for submissions was extended to 12 May 2023. The Secretariat received submissions from eight Parties and 19 observers.² The submissions are available at www.cbd.int/notifications/2023-028.

8. The establishment of an open-ended online forum to facilitate further views was communicated through notification [2023-122](#), issued on 6 November 2023, and notification [2023-136](#), issued on 18 December 2023, in which the deadline for participation was extended to 10 January 2024. The forum was opened in a webinar held on 12 December 2023. Parties and observers were invited to submit their views to the open-ended online forum in response to four questions:

(a) What process do you think would be most adequate to further advance the work on the long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming biodiversity?

(b) What do you think needs to be done so that the long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming biodiversity works as an effective tool for implementing the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework? What, if any, key elements are still missing?

(c) Is the accompanying draft action plan necessary and adequate for implementing the long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming biodiversity? If you believe that the draft action plan is not adequate or necessary, what would you propose?

(d) Is the current draft of the long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming biodiversity an acceptable basis for continued work?

9. Six Parties and three observer organizations participated in the open-ended online forum,³ with each participant providing a response to each of the four questions. The forum and all of the submissions to the forum are available at www.cbd.int/mainstreaming/LTAM/. The Secretariat has put together a compilation of all submissions received during the forum, which is to be made available in information document CBD/SBI/4/INF/2.

² The following Parties submitted views: Argentina, China, the European Union and its member States, Mexico, South Africa, Switzerland, Türkiye and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

³ The following Parties participated in the open-ended online forum: Belgium, Canada, the European Union, Germany, the Netherlands and Spain.

III. Analysis

A. Consideration of the process

10. The current draft of the long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming biodiversity⁴ consists of five headline actions grouped under three actor-oriented strategy areas. It is accompanied by a draft voluntary action plan⁵ which provides, under each headline action area, an indicative catalogue of detailed actions, including possible milestones and indicators, relevant actors and sources of additional information and guidance. The current draft of the strategic approach and the voluntary action plan have served as the basis for the submission of views.

11. At the end of the open-ended online forum, the six participating Parties expressed support for the current draft of the long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming biodiversity, as constituting an acceptable basis for further work. They also generally agreed that the action plan, as a voluntary tool, would be of benefit in helping the long-term strategic approach to be concrete and actionable.

12. However, Parties that had been less supportive or that had expressed concerns about the draft long-term strategic approach during the earlier rounds of submissions and in the negotiations at the third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation and the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties did not participate in the open-ended online forum. Moreover, some observers that participated in the online forum were of the view that the draft of the long-term strategic approach did not constitute an acceptable basis for further work and that the action plan was inadequate for supporting implementation of a long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming biodiversity.

13. There has been a general decrease over time in participation in the intersessional processes related to the long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming biodiversity. Since the peer review conducted after the third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, the number of Parties responding to invitations to participate in providing their views has fallen from 15 to 8 and from 8 to 6. In addition, there has been a declining regional balance. All six Parties that participated in the online forum were part of the Western Europe and Others Group and five were from the European Union and its member States.

B. Consideration of the draft long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming biodiversity in relation to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

14. As shown in the annex to the present note, there is a significant overlap between the five headline actions of the current draft long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming and relevant global targets for 2030 under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, particularly the targets in part 3 of section H of the Framework, entitled “Tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming”. This is true for Targets 14, 15, 16 and 18, which generally address the same topics as headline actions 1, 3, 5 and 2, respectively, and which, together with Targets 19, 22 and 23 of the Framework, capture the most important elements of mainstreaming biodiversity across all sectors of government and society. Headline action 4, addressing the financial sector, is integrated into Targets 15 and 19 of the Framework. Several other targets, contained in other sections of the Framework, among them Targets 1, 5, 7, 9, 10, 12 and 20, also involve mainstreaming, as does section C of the Framework. Moreover, the implementation of other targets, including Targets 6, 8, 11 and 13, require the mainstreaming of biodiversity in relevant sectors.

15. This overlap is unsurprising, given that the draft long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming was developed in parallel with, and in support of, the development of the Framework. At the same time, as shown in the annex to the present note, this parallel process generated inconsistencies in language and coverage of certain elements; that is to say, while the aspects addressed by the draft long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming are essentially covered by the Framework, certain elements in the relevant targets of the Framework are not addressed by the

⁴ Document CBD/SBI/REC/3/15, annex.

⁵ Document [CBD/SBI/3/13/Add.1](#).

headline actions of the draft long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming. Moreover, in its decision 15/4, the Conference of the Parties decided that the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity 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. Against this background, the value added of the draft long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming, compared with the strategic elements in the Framework that already address mainstreaming, as described above, is unclear.

IV. Recommendation

16. In the light of the analysis provided above, the Subsidiary Body may wish to consider recommending that the Conference of the Parties, at its sixteenth meeting, adopt a decision along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties:

Recalling its decision to establish a long-term strategic approach for mainstreaming biodiversity,⁶

Noting with appreciation the submissions provided by Parties, international organizations and initiatives, as well as stakeholder organizations, including during the online forum on mainstreaming held from November 2023 to January 2024,

Recalling its decision that the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity 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,⁷

1. *Decides* that the long-term strategic approach for mainstreaming biodiversity is fully reflected in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, particularly in its Targets 14, 15, 16 and 18, as well as Targets 19, 22 and 23, while other targets and section C of the Framework are also relevant,

2. *Invites* Parties and other Governments, with the support of international and other relevant organizations, as appropriate, to undertake biodiversity mainstreaming as reflected in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and, in particular, to enable mainstreaming at all levels of government, with a view to fostering the full and effective contributions of women, youth, indigenous peoples and local communities, civil society organizations, the private and financial sectors and stakeholders from all other sectors;

3. *Invites* Parties, as well as relevant organizations, initiatives and stakeholders, to provide relevant information, including on good practices, innovations, challenges and lessons learned with regard to biodiversity mainstreaming, through their seventh national reports, in line with decision 15/6;

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

(a) Integrate consideration of biodiversity mainstreaming into the regional dialogues to support implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global biodiversity Framework;

(b) Continue collaborating with relevant conventions, organizations and institutions, and to foster synergies between relevant processes and programmes, in order to make available information, expertise and relevant technologies needed to achieve biodiversity mainstreaming at all levels;

(c) Invite Parties and relevant conventions, organizations and institutions to share tools, mechanisms, guidance and relevant solutions that can support biodiversity mainstreaming, and make

⁶ Decision 14/3, para. 17.

⁷ Decision 15/4, para. 8.

the information available through the clearing-house mechanism, as guidance and inspiration for others;

(d) Support capacity-building activities related to biodiversity mainstreaming, in collaboration with Parties and other Governments, as well as relevant organizations and initiatives, including existing coalitions and networks of women, youth, indigenous peoples and local communities, civil society organizations, subnational governments and the private and financial sectors, as well as other relevant stakeholders;

(e) Consider progress in biodiversity mainstreaming as part of the preparatory activities for the global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, to be undertaken by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at a meeting to be held ahead of the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Annex

Comparison of the draft long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming biodiversity and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

<i>Language in the long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming</i>	<i>Language in the Framework (<u>directly relevant</u>)</i>	<i>Language in the Framework (<u>also relevant</u>)</i>
<p><i>Strategy areas I to III</i></p> <p>Strategy area I: Mainstreaming biodiversity <u>across government</u> and its policies.</p> <p>Strategy area II: Integrate nature and biodiversity into business models, operations and practices of <u>key economic sectors</u>, including the financial sector.</p> <p>Strategy area III: Mainstreaming biodiversity <u>across society</u>.</p>	<p><i>Section C</i></p> <p><i>Whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach</i></p> <p>(c) This is a framework for all – for the <u>whole of government and the whole of society</u>. Its success requires political will and recognition at the highest level of government and <u>relies on action and cooperation by all levels of government and by all actors of society</u>;</p>	
<p><i>Headline action 1</i></p> <p><u>Fully integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts, integrating spatial planning and applying the principles of the ecosystem approach.</u></p>	<p><i>Target 14</i></p> <p>Ensure <u>the full integration of biodiversity and its multiple values into policies, regulations, planning and development processes, poverty eradication strategies, strategic environmental assessments, environmental impact assessments and, as appropriate, national accounting</u>, within and across all levels of government and across all sectors, in particular those with significant impacts on biodiversity, progressively aligning all relevant public and private activities, and fiscal and financial flows with the goals and targets of this framework.</p>	<p><i>Target 1</i></p> <p>Ensure that all areas are under participatory, <u>integrated</u> and biodiversity inclusive <u>spatial planning</u> and/or effective management processes addressing land- and sea-use change, to bring the loss of areas of high biodiversity importance, including ecosystems of high ecological integrity, close to zero by 2030, while respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities.</p> <p><i>Target 5</i></p> <p>Ensure that the use, harvesting and trade of wild species is sustainable, safe and legal, preventing overexploitation, minimizing impacts on non-target species and ecosystems, and reducing the risk of pathogen spillover, <u>applying the ecosystem approach</u>, while</p>

<p><i>Language in the long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming</i></p>	<p><i>Language in the Framework (<u>directly relevant</u>)</i></p>	<p><i>Language in the Framework (<u>also relevant</u>)</i></p>
		<p>respecting and protecting customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities</p> <p><i>Target 12</i></p> <p>Significantly increase the area and quality, and connectivity of, access to, and benefits from green and blue spaces in urban and densely populated areas sustainably, by mainstreaming the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and ensure <u>biodiversity-inclusive urban planning</u>, enhancing native biodiversity, ecological connectivity and integrity, and improving human health and well-being and connection to nature, and contributing to inclusive and sustainable urbanization and to the provision of ecosystem functions and services.</p>
<p><i>Headline action 2</i></p> <p><u>Mainstream biodiversity in fiscal, budgetary and financial instruments, in particular by eliminating, phasing out and/or reforming incentives, including subsidies harmful to biodiversity in key economic sectors, by applying innovative technologies, and by developing and applying positive incentives for the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of biodiversity, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, taking into account national priorities and socioeconomic conditions.</u></p>	<p><i>Target 18</i></p> <p>Identify by 2025, <u>and eliminate, phase out or reform incentives, including subsidies, harmful for biodiversity</u>, in a proportionate, just, fair, effective and equitable way, while substantially and progressively reducing them by at least \$500 billion per year by 2030, starting with the most harmful incentives, <u>and scale up positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.</u></p>	<p><i>Target 14</i></p> <p>Ensure the <u>full integration of biodiversity and its multiple values into policies, regulations, planning and development processes</u>, poverty eradication strategies, strategic environmental assessments, environmental impact assessments and, as appropriate, national accounting, within and across all levels of government and across all sectors, in particular those with significant impacts on biodiversity, <u>progressively aligning all relevant public and private activities, and fiscal and financial flows</u> with the goals and targets of this framework.</p>

		<p><i>Target 10</i> Ensure that areas under <u>agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry</u> are managed sustainably, in particular through the sustainable use of biodiversity, including through a substantial increase of <u>the application of biodiversity friendly practices, such as sustainable intensification, agroecological and other innovative approaches</u>, contributing to the resilience and long-term efficiency and productivity of these production systems, and to food security, conserving and restoring biodiversity and maintaining nature’s contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services.</p> <p><i>Target 20</i> Strengthen capacity-building and development, access to and transfer of technology, and <u>promote development of and access to innovation</u> and technical and scientific cooperation, including through South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation, to meet the needs for effective implementation, particularly in developing countries, fostering joint technology development and joint scientific research programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and strengthening scientific research.</p> <p><i>Section C</i> <i>National circumstances, priorities and capabilities</i> (d) The goals and targets of the Framework are global in nature. Each Party would contribute to attaining the goals and</p>
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		<p>targets of the Framework in <u>accordance with national circumstances, priorities and capabilities</u>. <i>Consistency with international agreements or instruments</i></p> <p>(j) The Framework needs to be implemented in <u>accordance with relevant international obligations</u>. Nothing in this Framework should be interpreted as agreement to modify the rights and obligations of a Party under the Convention or any other international agreement;</p>
<p><i>Headline action 3</i> Businesses in relevant economic sectors and at micro, small, and medium levels, <u>and especially large and transnational companies</u>, and those with the <u>most significant impacts on biodiversity</u>, actively transition towards sustainable and fair technologies and practices, including along their <u>supply, trade and value chains</u>, <u>demonstrating decreasing negative and increasingly positive impacts on ecosystems</u> and their services to people, biodiversity and human well-being and health, in a manner <u>consistent</u> and in harmony <u>with</u> the Convention and <u>other international obligations</u></p>	<p><i>Target 15</i> Take legal, administrative or policy measures to encourage and enable business, <u>and in particular to ensure that large and transnational companies</u> and financial institutions:</p> <p>(a) Regularly monitor, assess, and transparently disclose their risks, dependencies and impacts on biodiversity, including with requirements for all large as well as transnational companies and financial institutions along their operations, <u>supply and value chains</u>, and portfolios;</p> <p>(b) Provide information needed to consumers to promote sustainable consumption patterns;</p> <p>(c) Report on compliance with access and benefit-sharing regulations and measures, as applicable; in order to <u>progressively reduce negative impacts on biodiversity</u>, <u>increase positive impacts</u>, reduce biodiversity-related risks to business and financial</p>	<p><i>Target 7¹</i> <u>Reduce pollution risks and the negative impact of pollution</u> from all sources by 2030, to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, considering cumulative effects, including: (a) <u>by reducing</u> excess nutrients lost to the environment by at least half, including through more efficient nutrient cycling and use; (b) <u>by reducing</u> the overall risk from pesticides and highly hazardous chemicals by at least half, including through integrated pest management, based on science, taking into account food security and livelihoods; and (c) by preventing, <u>reducing</u>, and working towards eliminating plastic pollution.</p>

¹ In addition, the implementation of other targets that address direct drivers of biodiversity loss, including Targets 6 and 8, requires mainstreaming biodiversity in relevant sectors.

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	institutions, and promote actions to ensure sustainable patterns of production.	<p><i>Section C</i> <i>Consistency with international agreements or instruments</i></p> <p>(j) The Framework needs to be implemented in <u>accordance with relevant international obligations</u>. Nothing in this Framework should be interpreted as agreement to modify the rights and obligations of a Party under the Convention or any other international agreement.</p>
<p><i>Headline action 4</i> <u>Financial institutions</u> at all levels <u>apply biodiversity risk and impact assessment policies and processes</u>, having developed <u>tools for biodiversity financing</u> to demonstrate decreasing negative impacts on ecosystems and biodiversity in their portfolios and <u>increasing amounts of dedicated finance</u>, to support sustainable business models and foster the conservation and the sustainable use of biodiversity.</p>	<p><i>Target 15</i> Take legal, administrative or policy measures to encourage and enable business, <u>and in particular to ensure that</u> large and transnational companies and <u>financial institutions</u>:</p> <p>(a) Regularly monitor, <u>assess, and transparently disclose their risks, dependencies and impacts on biodiversity</u>, including with requirements for all large as well as transnational companies and <u>financial institutions</u> along their operations, supply and value chains, and <u>portfolios</u>;</p> <p>(b) Provide information needed to consumers to promote sustainable consumption patterns;</p> <p>(c) Report on compliance with access and benefit-sharing regulations and measures, as applicable; in order to <u>progressively reduce negative impacts on biodiversity, increase positive impacts, reduce biodiversity-related risks</u> to business and <u>financial institutions</u>, and promote actions to ensure sustainable patterns of production.</p>	<p><i>Target 19</i> Substantially and progressively <u>increase the level of financial resources from all sources</u>, in an effective, timely and easily accessible manner, including domestic, international, public and private resources, in accordance with Article 20 of the Convention, to implement national biodiversity strategies and action plans, mobilizing at least \$200 billion per year by 2030, including by²...</p> <p>(c) <u>Leveraging private finance, promoting blended finance, implementing strategies for raising new and additional resources, and encouraging the private sector to invest in biodiversity, including through impact funds and other instruments</u>;</p> <p>(d) <u>Stimulating innovative schemes such as payment for ecosystem services, green bonds, biodiversity offsets and credits, and</u></p>

² To consult the full text of Target 19, please refer to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, available at www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-15/cop-15-dec-04-en.pdf.

<i>Language in the long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming</i>	<i>Language in the Framework (<u>directly relevant</u>)</i>	<i>Language in the Framework (<u>also relevant</u>)</i>
		<u>benefit-sharing mechanisms, with environmental and social safeguards;</u>
<p><i>Headline action 5</i> <u>People everywhere have relevant information, awareness and capacities for sustainable development and lifestyles that are in harmony with nature</u>, reflecting the multifaceted values of biological diversity and its components, <u>and their central role in people’s lives and livelihoods</u>, <u>and take gender-specific measurable steps towards sustainable consumption and lifestyles</u>, <u>taking into account individual and national socioeconomic conditions</u></p>	<p><i>Target 16</i> Ensure <u>that people are encouraged and enabled to make sustainable consumption choices</u>, including by establishing supportive policy, legislative or regulatory frameworks, improving education and access to relevant and accurate information and alternatives, and by 2030, <u>reduce the global footprint of consumption</u> in an equitable manner, including through halving global food waste, <u>significantly reducing overconsumption</u> and substantially reducing waste generation, in order for all people to live well in harmony with Mother Earth.</p>	<p><i>Target 9</i> Ensure that the management and use of wild species are sustainable, thereby <u>providing social, economic and environmental benefits for people, especially those in vulnerable situations and those most dependent on biodiversity</u>, including through sustainable biodiversity-based activities, products and services that enhance biodiversity, and protecting and encouraging customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities.</p> <p><i>Target 22:</i> Ensure the full, <u>equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive representation and participation in decision-making</u>, and access to justice and information related to biodiversity by indigenous peoples and local communities, respecting their cultures and their rights over lands, territories, resources, and traditional knowledge, as well as by women and girls, children and youth, and persons with disabilities and ensure the full protection of environmental human rights defenders.</p> <p><i>Target 23:</i> Ensure <u>gender equality</u> in the implementation of the Framework through a <u>gender-responsive</u> approach, where all women and girls have equal opportunity and capacity to</p>

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		<p>contribute to the three objectives of the Convention, including by recognizing their equal rights and access to land and natural resources and their full, equitable, meaningful and informed participation and leadership at all levels of action, engagement, policy and decision-making related to biodiversity.</p> <p><i>Section C</i> <i>National circumstances, priorities and capabilities</i></p> <p>(d) The goals and targets of the Framework are global in nature. Each Party would contribute to attaining the goals and targets of the Framework in <u>accordance with national circumstances, priorities and capabilities</u>.</p>
