



Convention on Biological Diversity

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**Subsidiary Body on Scientific,
Technical and Technological Advice**
Twenty-sixth meeting
Nairobi, 13–18 May 2024
Agenda item 11
Adoption of the report

Draft report of the meeting

Introduction

1. The twenty-sixth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice was attended by the following Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity: [to be completed]
2. The following States not party to the Convention were also represented: [to be completed]
3. The meeting was also attended by observers from United Nations bodies, specialized agencies [to be completed].
4. Information on participation in the meeting is available in information document [CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/--].

Item 1

Opening of the meeting

5. The meeting was opened at 10.20 a.m. on 13 May 2024 by the Chair, Senka Barudanović (Bosnia and Herzegovina).
6. In her opening remarks, the Chair welcomed participants to the meeting and expressed her condolences to the people and the Government of Kenya for the lives and homes lost during the recent flooding. She said that the main challenge at the present meeting was translating into action the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, adopted at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in December 2022. Parties had already been working to lay the ground for implementation of the Framework by setting national targets, updating or developing national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and mobilizing key institutions and organizations. In undertaking those actions, it was important to build on the current wealth of knowledge and experience to inform decision-making. The work of the Subsidiary Body was crucial in ensuring that actions under the Framework were guided by a robust foundation of scientific and technical knowledge, tools and guidelines. The in-depth scientific and technical preparation for the present meeting had been made possible by the hard work of the three ad hoc technical expert groups on indicators, synthetic biology and risk assessment. In conclusion, she urged participants to seek solutions proactively and compromise where views diverged in order to achieve a productive and successful meeting.

7. Opening statements were made by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Inger Andersen; and by the Acting Executive Secretary of the Secretariat of the Convention, David Cooper.

8. In her opening remarks, the Executive Director welcomed the Subsidiary Body to UNEP headquarters for its second successive meeting. Ensuring the success of the Framework entailed a whole-of-government, whole-of-society approach, which in turn required that every country had access to the right science, technology and technical skills for national implementation. In that regard, she highlighted three main areas that presented opportunities for effective action by the Subsidiary Body. First, increasing accountability and transparency would help countries to deliver on their national commitments. Clear metrics for measuring success were needed, supported by strengthened national capacities for monitoring and reporting progress, as well as a coherent approach to aggregating national data to help to review progress at the global scale. Second, advancement of the Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health would help the health sector to link up with action on issues of environmental concern, recognizing the connectivity between planetary health and human health. Incentives were needed for countries to integrate health and biodiversity, as set out in the Global Action Plan. Third, using the global oceans agenda to elevate marine and coastal work was a natural continuation of the foundational work of the UNEP Regional Seas Programme. The Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction and the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development had elevated the global profile of ocean action; further collaboration with the Subsidiary Body would help to identify areas that met the criteria for ecologically or biologically significant marine areas and to develop effective area-based conservation measures. In conclusion, she thanked all actors for the work done to ensure that science and technical and technological knowledge supported healthy biodiversity, for healthy people and a healthy planet.

9. The Acting Executive Secretary expressed solidarity with the victims of the recent floods in Kenya and of other environmental catastrophes around the world, which were indicative of the price being paid for inaction on a range of planetary crises, including climate change, the water crisis, pollution and loss of ecosystem services. The close linkage between all those environmental challenges and biodiversity loss highlighted the urgent need for coordinated action to implement the Framework. The goals and targets of the Framework were inevitably ambitious, given the scale of the challenges that the planet faced. The present meeting of the Subsidiary Body presented an opportunity to further strengthen collective efforts to implement the Framework with valuable scientific and technical inputs from the ad hoc technical expert groups. A wide range of expertise was available at the present meeting, and generous financial support from several Governments had made possible the attendance of representatives from a large number of developing country Parties and representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities. Additional funding would be needed to ensure full participation in future meetings, including the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in Cali, Colombia, in October 2024. In concluding, the Acting Executive Secretary highlighted a number of important issues that would be considered on the agenda of the present meeting, including the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, the scientific and technical needs to support implementation of the Framework, horizon scanning with regard to synthetic biology, risk assessment and risk management, marine and coastal biodiversity, and biodiversity and health. He expressed hope that the spirit of multilateralism, as demonstrated by the adoption of the Framework at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, would prevail during the coming meetings and lead to the adoption of important decisions.

10. Following the opening remarks, the representative of Ukraine raised a point of order. The representative of the Russian Federation exercised his right of reply.

Item 2

Organizational matters

Election of officers

11. In accordance with the elections held at the twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth meetings of the Subsidiary Body, the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body at its twenty-sixth meeting comprised the following members:

Chair: Senka Barudanović (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

Vice-Chairs: Taulant Bino (Albania)

Jahidul Kabir (Bangladesh)

Scott Wilson (Canada)

Jan Plesnik (Czechia)

Marina von Weissenberg (Finland)

Jean Bruno Mikissa (Gabon)

Aria St. Louis (Grenada)

Bilal Qtishat (Jordan)

Kenneth Uiseb (Namibia)

Raquel Hilianova Soto Torres (Peru)

Substitute Vice-Chair for the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity:

Francis Reyes Polanco (Dominican Republic) for Grenada

Substitute Vice-Chair for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Nagoya Protocol:

Jane Stratford (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) for Canada

12. At the 1st plenary session, on 13 May, it was agreed that Mr. Mikissa would act as Rapporteur for the meeting.

13. The Rapporteur made a statement on behalf of all participants, thanking the Chair and the members of the Bureau for their work in preparing for the meeting, the Acting Executive Secretary and his team for the meeting documents and logistical arrangements, the Executive Director and staff of UNEP for their hospitality and the relevant Parties for providing funding to facilitate the participation of developing country representatives.

14. At its 5th plenary session, on 15 May, the Subsidiary Body elected the following members to serve for a term commencing at the end of its twenty-sixth meeting and ending at the end of its twenty-eighth meeting, to replace the members from Czechia, Finland, Gabon, Jordan and Peru: Sanne Kruid (Netherlands), Mostafa Madbouhi (Morocco), Jan Plesnik (Czechia) (continuation of office), Paulina Stowhas Salinas (Chile) and Ruliyana Susanti (Indonesia), with Ana Laura Mello (Uruguay) to serve as substitute for Chile for matters pertaining to the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols.

Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

15. At its 1st plenary session, the Subsidiary Body adopted the following agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda prepared by the Secretariat.¹

1. Opening of the meeting.

¹ CBD/SBSTTA/26/L.1.

2. Organizational matters: election of officers, adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.
4. Scientific and technical needs to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.
5. Synthetic biology.
6. Risk assessment and risk management.
7. Detection and identification of living modified organisms.
8. Marine and coastal biodiversity:
 - (a) Further work on ecologically or biologically significant marine areas;
 - (b) Conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity.
9. Biodiversity and health.
10. Other matters.
11. Adoption of the report.
12. Closure of the meeting

Organization of work

16. At its 1st plenary session, the Subsidiary Body approved the proposed organization of work.²

Item 3

Monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

17. The Subsidiary Body considered agenda item 3 at its 1st plenary session. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,³ which included a draft recommendation. It also had before it nine information documents relating to: a scientific and technical review of the traditional knowledge indicators;⁴ a study on access and benefit-sharing indicators as they related to Target 13 and Goal C of the Framework;⁵ the report of the online discussions of the Liaison Group on the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety on the monitoring framework as it related to Target 17;⁶ guidance on using the indicators of the monitoring framework;⁷ the report of the expert meeting on developing a methodology for headline indicator 7.2 under the monitoring framework;⁸ guidance on needs related to implementing the monitoring framework;⁹ a note on headline indicator D.3 on private funding;¹⁰ guidance from the Informal Advisory Group on Technical and Scientific Cooperation regarding indicators for Target 20;¹¹ and comments on the outputs of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators for the monitoring framework.¹²

18. The representative of the Secretariat provided a number of oral editorial corrections to the note by the Secretariat on the monitoring framework: for Target 18, changes to the complementary indicators had been inadvertently lost and the text in the table was the original text from decision

² CBD/SBSTTA/26/1/Add.1, annex I.

³ CBD/SBSTTA/26/2.

⁴ CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/11.

⁵ CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/12.

⁶ CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/13.

⁷ CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/14.

⁸ CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/18.

⁹ CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/19.

¹⁰ CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/20.

¹¹ CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/21.

¹² CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/22.

15/5 and should be deleted; and for Target 22, the land tenure indicator mistakenly appeared in the cell below the cell in which it belonged.

19. Statements were made by the representatives of the following Parties: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, European Union, Finland, France, Germany, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, Oman, Russian Federation, Seychelles (on behalf of members of the High Ambition Coalition for Nature), South Africa (on behalf of the African States), Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye, Uganda, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Zimbabwe.¹³

20. At its 2nd plenary session, on 13 May, the Subsidiary Body resumed its consideration of agenda item 3.

21. Statements were made by representatives of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Whaling Commission.

22. Statements were also made by representatives of the CBD Alliance, the CBD Women's Caucus, the Global Biodiversity Information Facility, the Global Youth Biodiversity Network, the Group on Earth Observations, the Group on Earth Observations Biodiversity Observation Network, the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity, the International Land Coalition, the International Union for Conservation of Nature and the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

23. Following the exchange of views, the Subsidiary Body agreed to establish a contact group, co-chaired by Anne Teller (European Union) and Hesiquio Benítez Diaz (Mexico), with a mandate to resolve the remaining issues with the binary questions that were not finalized by the Subsidiary Body at its twenty-fifth meeting, focusing on paragraphs on which there were the most comments.

24. At the 6th plenary session, on 15 May, one of the Co-Chairs of the contact group reported that the group had established two friends-of-the-Chair groups, facilitated by Tim Strabala (New Zealand) and Ntakadzeni Tshidada (South Africa), for the binary indicators for Targets 13 and 17.

25. [to be completed]

Item 4

Scientific and technical needs to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

26. The Subsidiary Body considered agenda item 4 at its 2nd plenary session. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on scientific and technical needs to support the implementation of the Framework¹⁴ and an addendum to that document, on matters related to the work programme of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services,¹⁵ both of which included a draft recommendation. It also had before it, as information documents, a review and analysis of existing tools and guidance and their gaps to support the implementation of the Framework¹⁶ and a compilation of submissions from Parties and organizations on such tools and guidance.¹⁷

27. Statements were made by the representatives of the following Parties: Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, European Union, France, Germany, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Japan, Jordan, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, Poland, Russian Federation, Somalia, South Africa (on behalf of

¹³ Statements submitted to the Secretariat are available at www.cbd.int/conferences/nairobi-2023/sbstta-25/documents.

¹⁴ CBD/SBSTTA/26/3.

¹⁵ CBD/SBSTTA/26/3/Add.1.

¹⁶ CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/15.

¹⁷ CBD/SBSTT.A/26/INF/16/Rev.1.

the African States), Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Uganda, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania and Uruguay.

28. Statements were also made by representatives of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the Intergovernmental Panel on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

29. Further statements were made by representatives of the CBD Alliance, the CBD Women's Caucus, the Global Youth Biodiversity Network, the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity and the network of Marine Protected Area managers in the Mediterranean.

30. Following the exchange of views, the Chair said that she would prepare revised draft recommendations, in consultation with the Secretariat, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body, taking the views expressed or supported by Parties into account.

Matters related to the work programme of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

31. At its 7th plenary session, on 17 May, the Subsidiary Body considered a revised draft recommendation submitted by the Chair, on matters related to the work programme of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. Following an exchange of views, the Subsidiary Body approved the revised draft recommendation, as orally amended, as draft recommendation CBD/SBSTTA/26/L.2, for formal adoption by the Subsidiary Body at a later stage.

32. [to be completed]

Scientific and technical needs to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

33. At its 7th plenary session, the Subsidiary Body considered a revised draft recommendation submitted by the Chair, on scientific and technical needs to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

34. Statements were made by representatives of the following Parties: Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Fiji, India, Malawi, Mexico, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, Norway, Russian Federation, South Africa, Sweden, United Kingdom and Uruguay.

35. At its 8th plenary session, on 17 May, the Subsidiary Body resumed its consideration of the revised draft recommendation.

36. Following an exchange of views in plenary and informal discussions in the margins of the meeting, the Subsidiary Body approved the revised draft recommendation, as orally amended, as draft recommendation CBD/SBSTTA/26/L.3, for formal adoption by the Subsidiary Body at a later stage.

37. [to be completed]

Item 5

Synthetic biology

38. The Subsidiary Body considered agenda item 5 at its 2nd plenary session. Discussions were chaired by Mr. Plesnik. The Subsidiary Body had before it a note by the Secretariat on synthetic biology,¹⁸ as well as three information documents, relating to additional prioritized trends and issues in synthetic biology,¹⁹ a literature review of trends and issues in synthetic biology (2012–2023)²⁰ and

¹⁸ CBD/SBSTTA/26/4.

¹⁹ CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/4.

²⁰ CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/5.

a synthesis of peer review comments on the outcomes and methodology of the horizon scanning process.²¹

39. Statements were made by the representatives of the following Parties: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Colombia, Egypt (on behalf of the African States), Japan and Mexico.

40. At its 3rd plenary session, on 14 May, the Subsidiary Body resumed its consideration of agenda item 5.

41. Statements were made by the representatives of the following Parties: Austria, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Kenya, Lithuania, Malawi, Namibia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

42. Statements were also made by representatives of the CBD Alliance, the CBD Women's Caucus, the Global Youth Biodiversity Network and the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity.

43. Following the exchange of views, the Subsidiary Body agreed to establish a contact group, co-chaired by Osama Abdelkawy (Egypt) and Jane Stratford (United Kingdom), with the following mandate: (a) to consider the report on the effectiveness of the horizon scanning process,²² in line with paragraph 11 of decision 15/31; and (b) to draft recommendations to be forwarded to the Conference of the Parties and, as appropriate, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meetings of the Parties to the Protocols, considering the potential options in annex V to document CBD/SBSTTA/26/4.

44. [to be completed]

Item 6

Risk assessment and risk management

45. The Subsidiary Body considered agenda item 6 at its 3rd plenary session. It had before it notes by the Secretariat on risk assessment and risk management,²³ which contained draft recommendations, and on additional voluntary guidance materials to support case-by-case risk assessments of living modified organisms containing engineered gene drives.²⁴

46. Statements were made by the representatives of the following Parties to the Cartagena Protocol: Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Lithuania, Malawi (on behalf of the African States), Mexico, Namibia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Peru, Philippines, South Africa, Switzerland, Togo, Uganda, Uruguay, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

47. The representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, supported by the representative of Côte d'Ivoire, raised a point of order. The representative of the Secretariat responded to the matter raised.

48. At its 4th plenary session, on 14 May, the Subsidiary Body resumed its consideration of agenda item 6.

49. Statements were made by the representatives of the following Parties to the Cartagena Protocol: Bangladesh, Côte d'Ivoire, Republic of Moldova and Sweden.

50. A statement was also made by the representative of Argentina.

51. Further statements were made by the representatives of the CBD Alliance, the Federation of German Scientists (also on behalf of the European Network of Scientists for Social and

²¹ CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/6

²² As contained in CBD/SBSTTA/26/4, annex III, and CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/6.

²³ CBD/SBSTTA/26/5.

²⁴ CBD/SBSTTA/26/5/Add.1.

Environmental Responsibility), the Global Youth Biodiversity Network, the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity and the University of Ghana.

52. The representative of Brazil raised points of order, to which the Chair and the representative of the Secretariat responded.

53. Following the exchange of views, the Chair said that she would prepare a revised draft recommendation, in consultation with the Secretariat, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body, taking the views expressed or supported by Parties into account.

54. [to be completed]

Item 7

Detection and identification of living modified organisms

55. The Subsidiary Body considered agenda item 7 at its 4th plenary session. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on the detection and identification of living modified organisms,²⁵ which included a draft recommendation. It also had before it, as information documents, a synthesis of submissions of information on the detection and identification of living modified organisms²⁶ and a summary of the online discussions of the Network of Laboratories for the Detection and Identification of Living Modified Organisms.²⁷

56. Statements were made by the representatives of the following Parties to the Cartagena Protocol: Belgium, Brazil, Colombia, France, Indonesia, Italy, Kenya, Malawi, Mexico, Nigeria, Peru, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo (on behalf of the African States), Uganda and Zimbabwe.

57. A statement was also made by the representative of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity.

58. Following the exchange of views, the Chair said that she would prepare a revised draft recommendation, in consultation with the Secretariat, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body, taking the views expressed or supported by Parties into account.

59. At its 8th plenary session, the Subsidiary Body considered a revised draft recommendation submitted by the Chair. Following an exchange of views, the Subsidiary Body approved the revised draft recommendation, as orally amended, as draft recommendation CBD/SBSTTA/26/L.4, for formal adoption by the Subsidiary Body at a later stage.

60. [to be completed]

Item 8

Marine and coastal biodiversity

61. The Subsidiary Body considered sub-items 8 (a) and 8 (b) together at its 4th plenary session.

62. For sub-item 8 (a), the Subsidiary Body had before it a note by the Secretariat on further work on ecologically or biologically significant marine areas,²⁸ which included a draft recommendation. It also had before it the reports of the two expert workshops held in relation the modification of descriptions of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas and describing new areas,²⁹ as well as an information document containing further information on the draft modalities for such modifications.³⁰

²⁵ CBD/SBSTTA/26/6.

²⁶ CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/1.

²⁷ CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/2.

²⁸ CBD/SBSTTA/26/7/Add.1.

²⁹ CBD/EBSA/EM/2023/1/3 and CBD/EBSA/EM/2023/2/3.

³⁰ CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/7.

63. For sub-item 8 (b), the Subsidiary Body had before it a note by the Secretariat on the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity,³¹ which included a draft recommendation. It also had before it two information documents, relating to further information on the draft modalities for modifying the descriptions of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas and describing new areas³² and potential options for modalities for collaboration and cooperation with relevant global and regional organizations in the context of the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction.³³

64. With respect to sub-item 8 (a), the Chair proposed that consideration of issues of a legal and political nature in the draft recommendations on ecologically or biologically significant marine areas be deferred to the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as they did not seem to be within the Subsidiary Body's mandate to discuss. The representative of Argentina expressed opposition to the proposal, while the representatives of Belgium and Mexico indicated their support for it. Subsequently, at the 5th plenary session, the representative of Türkiye also voiced opposition to the proposal.

65. Statements were made by the representatives of the following Parties: Argentina, Belgium, Canada, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, European Union, Iceland, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Norway, Philippines, Russian Federation, South Africa (on behalf of the African States), Sweden and United Kingdom.

66. At its 5th plenary session, the Subsidiary Body resumed its consideration of agenda item 8.

67. Statements were made by representatives of the following Parties: Australia, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, India, Italy, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Morocco, New Zealand, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sudan and Türkiye.

68. Statements were also made by representatives of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, the International Maritime Organization, the International Seabed Authority, the International Whaling Commission and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

69. Further statements were made by the CBD Alliance, the CBD Women's Caucus, the Global Youth Biodiversity Network, the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (also on behalf of the World Wildlife Fund for Nature and the Ocean and Climate Platform) and the network of Marine Protected Area managers in the Mediterranean.

70. Following the exchange of views, the Subsidiary Body agreed to establish a contact group, co-chaired by Erica Lucero (Argentina) and Gaute Hanssen (Norway), with the mandate to focus on areas on which Parties had expressed divergent views, for both sub-items.

71. [to be completed]

(a) Ecologically or biologically significant marine areas: further work

72. [to be completed]

(b) Conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity

73. [to be completed]

³¹ CBD/SBSTTA/26/7.

³² CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/7.

³³ CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/8.

Item 9**Biodiversity and health**

74. The Subsidiary Body considered agenda item 9 at its 5th plenary session, with Ms. von Weissenberg chairing the discussion. It had before it a note by the Secretariat on biodiversity and health,³⁴ which included a recommendation, and an information document containing supplementary information for the global action plan on biodiversity and health.³⁵

75. Statements were made by the representatives of the following Parties: Argentina, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Burkina Faso (on behalf of the African States), Canada, Colombia, Fiji, Guatemala, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), Norway, Peru, Republic of Korea, Switzerland and United Kingdom.

76. At its 6th plenary session, the Subsidiary Body resumed its consideration of agenda item 9.

77. Statements were made by the representatives of the following Parties: Austria, Burundi, China, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Malawi, Malaysia, Namibia, Nigeria, Philippines, Russian Federation, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe.

78. Statements were also made by the representatives of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions, the Secretariat of the Minamata Convention, UNEP and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women).

79. Further statements were made by the representatives of the CBD Alliance, the CBD Women's Caucus, the Global Youth Biodiversity Network, the Ifakara Health Institute, the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity and the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

80. Following the exchange of views, the Subsidiary Body agreed to establish a contact group, co-chaired by Jahidul Kabir (Bangladesh) and Barbara Engels (Germany), with the mandate to work on the elements of the draft recommendation and on annex I (the Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health) contained in document CBD/SBSTTA/26/8, prioritizing technical gaps and missing information.

81. [to be completed]

Item 10**Other matters**

82. [to be completed].

Item 11**Adoption of the report**

83. [to be completed]

Item 12**Closure of the meeting**

84. [to be completed].

³⁴ CBD/SBSTTA/26/8.

³⁵ CBD/SBSTTA/26/INF/3.