

HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT 2020 UN BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE

15-17 December 2022, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

GUIDANCE NOTE ON THE DELIVERY OF NATIONAL STATEMENTS AND STATEMENTS BY ORGANIZATIONS

I. Introduction

The first part of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was successfully held in Kunming from 11 to 15 October 2021. The Kunming Declaration was adopted, which was a strong statement of political will in support of the creation of a post-2020 global biodiversity framework, which gives new impetus to global environmental governance by contributing to building and maintaining political momentum and promoting the political ambition to build a shared future for all life on earth together.

The second part of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity will be held in Montreal, Canada from 7 to 19 December 2022 under the same theme as the first phase, “Ecological Civilization-Building a Shared Future for All Life on Earth”.

The second part of the high-level segment (HLS) is planned to take place on 15, 16, and 17 December 2022. The People’s Republic of China invites Ministers, or their representatives, and heads of invited organizations to deliver statements speaking in their national capacity or on behalf of the organization they represent, during the plenary sessions of the second part of the high-level segment of the second part of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 15).

Statements for the high-level segment will be delivered in the following plenary sessions:

- Thursday 15 December 2022 from 12 noon - 1 p.m.
- Thursday 15 December 2022 from 3-6 p.m.
- Friday 16 December 2022 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- Friday 16 December 2022 from 3-6 p.m.

Time indications are for GMT-4 (Eastern Time Zone)

II. Online request for speaking slots

Ministers and other participants will be invited to submit their requests to speak, as soon as possible and no later than **9 December 2022**, through an online link that will be sent to all participants on Friday 25 November 2022.

III. Mode of delivery

Participants are invited to deliver their statements in person in the high-level segment plenary room located on the fifth floor at the Palais des Congrès de Montréal. To accommodate as many interventions as possible, only **one** intervention (in-person or video statement) per country/organization will be accommodated.

We request, with appreciation, receiving written copies of the statements in any of the six official UN languages in advance for interpretation purposes. The statement should indicate the name of the country/organization, name and title of the speaker. Please send the statements to the following e-mail address: statements@cbd.int with copy to cop15hls@cbd.int by **9 December 2022** at the latest. Written

copies of the statements will also be posted at the end of the session on the high-level segment website: <https://www.cbd.int/conferences/2021-2022/cop-15-hls>.

For practical reasons and in accordance with other high-level meetings, it will not be possible for representatives to deliver “live” virtual statements during the plenary.

A pre-recorded video statement can be sent in lieu of an in-person intervention. The video statement will be played, as far as possible, in the conference room during the plenary sessions after in-person statements. They will also be posted on the high-level segment website: <https://www.cbd.int/conferences/2021-2022/cop-15-hls>. Links to download a video statement should be sent by email to: cop15hls@cbd.int by **9 December 2022** at the latest (kindly refrain from attaching the entire video file). For interpretation purposes, video statements should be accompanied by a written script of the message in any of the six UN languages. If the video is recorded in a language other than an official UN language, it is preferable it contains English or French subtitles.

IV. Duration of statements

In order to accommodate as many statements as possible, interventions may not exceed **three (3)** minutes (approximately 300 words). The speaking time will be strictly adhered to by the Chair of the sessions. Pre-recorded video statements will be stopped at the length of 3 minutes.

V. List of speakers and priority of statements

To facilitate an organized delivery of statements, a list of speakers will be generated which will reflect the order of speakers for each plenary session. The order of interventions will be accommodated on the principle of “first-come, first-served” in terms of the requests received to inscribe on the list of speakers. As far as time allows, each plenary session will dedicate 2.5 hours for national statements and a total of 30 minutes for organizations, with priority given as follows:

- Ministers
- Vice-Ministers
- Ambassadors
- Heads of delegations
- Heads of United Nations system entities, heads of intergovernmental organizations, heads of non-governmental organizations, in that order
- Video-statements (with priority as per the above)

A provisional list of speakers for the high-level segment will be made available to all confirmed participants a few days ahead of the start of the event for reference, with a final list made available the day before the opening of the high-level segment.

VI. Suggested elements for statements

The second part of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity is expected to finalize negotiations and adopt an ambitious and achievable post-2020 global biodiversity framework which will be key for addressing the triple planetary crisis of biodiversity loss, climate change and pollution, while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The framework is expected to be sufficiently strong to reverse the current loss of biodiversity and put biodiversity on a path to recovery by 2030 at the latest. And it must be accompanied by the financial and other resources needed to ensure its implementation. High-level political ambition is urgently needed in order to reach an agreement at COP 15.

The overall objective of the High-Level Segment is to enable Ministers to support the final stages of the negotiations on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and related decisions, with a view to ensuring a successful outcome of the Conference. Ministers and other participants are invited to announce, in their statements, actions as well commitments that will support the rapid implementation of the global biodiversity framework. These may include announcements of national or regional actions or initiatives, planned or underway, including on digital sequencing information, resource mobilization, monitoring and reviewing, capacity building, amongst others. Announcements of financial contributions for biodiversity financing are also welcome and encouraged.

VII. Language

Simultaneous interpretation in the six official languages of the United Nations (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish) will be available throughout the plenary sessions of the high-level segment. Special banquet events will be carried out in English only.
