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Item 11 of the provisional agenda*

Clearing-house mechanism and knowledge management

Progress report on the implementation of the knowledge management strategy**

Note by the Secretariat

I. Background

1. By its decisions [16/9 A and B](#), the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity adopted the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism for the period 2024-2030 and the knowledge management strategy to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, respectively. In the latter decision, it requested the Executive Secretary to provide a progress report on the implementation of the knowledge management strategy to the Subsidiary Body and the Conference of the Parties. In the former decision, it also requested the Executive Secretary to facilitate the implementation of the programme of work, with the guidance of the Informal Advisory Group on Technical and Scientific Cooperation.
2. The Secretariat provided an update on progress in the implementation of the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism and the knowledge management strategy to the Informal Advisory Group at its sixth meeting, held from 27 to 29 April 2026, to seek its views and feedback. In addition, an online discussion forum was set up for the Group members to provide further guidance on the progress report.¹ Further to the feedback received, the Secretariat updated the progress report, which is available as information document CBD/SBI/7/INF/12.
3. The present document provides a brief update to the progress and includes a draft recommendation for consideration of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its seventh meeting for adoption by the Conference of Parties at its seventeenth meeting.

II. Overview of the implementation of the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism and the knowledge management strategy

4. The present update is focused primarily on the work carried out by the Secretariat to implement the programme of work and the strategy, but it also includes a brief update on the work of Parties implementing this area of work. In its decision [16/9 B](#), the Conference of the Parties invited the global coordination entity, the regional and subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres and other relevant organizations to implement the programme of work for the clearing-house

* [CBD/SBI/7/1](#).

** The present document is being issued without formal editing, with the exception of the draft decision in section III.

¹ See www.cbd.int/tsc/tsc-iag/forums/tsc-iag-2025-2027.

mechanism and the knowledge management strategy; however, as the regional and subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres and the global coordination entity are in the early stages of operationalization, any update on these entities is not included in this document. The Secretariat is working with a number of other relevant organizations, as described in the information document.

5. A more comprehensive review of how Parties and stakeholders have implemented the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism and the knowledge management strategy will be conducted in conjunction with the global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Framework at the nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, in accordance with decisions [16/9 A and B](#). For the present meeting, a more detailed progress report is provided in document CBD/SBI/7/INF/12.

6. An initial review of the information provided in the revised national biodiversity strategies and action plans and in the national reports shows that they contain few explicit references to national clearing-house mechanisms and knowledge management strategies; however, work to improve national-clearing house mechanisms and knowledge management has been frequently described by Parties in their reporting of national targets aligned with Target 21 of the global Framework, which relates to ensuring that knowledge is available and accessible for biodiversity action. The global report on collective progress in the implementation of the Framework, which is being considered under agenda item 3 of the present meeting, contains additional information on Parties' efforts to develop national clearing-house mechanisms and knowledge management systems, as reported in their national reports.

7. The programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism includes a series of goals and outcomes which contribute to Article 18, Technical and Scientific Cooperation, and Article 17, Exchange of Information of the Convention, to support planning, monitoring, review and reporting. Similarly, the knowledge management strategy is centred around identifying and addressing knowledge needs to support Articles 17 and 18 of the Convention, planning, monitoring, review and reporting and collaboration. Within the programme of work and the knowledge management strategy, each outcome or objective identifies tasks related to global level work which should be done by the Secretariat to improve the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism, to build capacity around the clearing-house mechanism and knowledge management and to organize broader work to support the programme of work and the knowledge management strategy.

8. The following are some of the main achievements of the Secretariat in implementing this area of work:

(a) The central portal of the clearing-house mechanism has been enhanced by updating its technical foundation, improving its user interface and aligning its look and feel with the Biosafety Clearing-House and the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House;

(b) The organization and maintenance of records have been improved, including through database cleaning, content updates, a review of record categories and the preparation of user guidance for the updated portal;

(c) New functionalities have been developed to support submissions in response to notifications issued by the Secretariat, including improved metadata and search features to make submissions easier to categorize, manage, find and use;

(d) The use of common taxonomy, metadata and structured information standards has been advanced, including the development of a structured representation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and its monitoring framework to support clearer referencing, search and reuse of information;

(e) The Online Reporting Tool² has been further developed and operationalized, enabling Parties and other users to submit national biodiversity strategies and action plans, national targets, national reports and commitments from actors other than national Governments through a more structured online system. Guidance, training and user support for the online reporting tool have also been provided;

(f) The improved version of Bioland (2.0) has been released, to support national clearing-house mechanisms through an improved interface, updated information architecture, migrated content from the old Bioland version to the new one and created guidance for users and site administrators;

(g) Capacity-building and peer learning on knowledge management have been supported, through regional knowledge management for biodiversity workshops that helped to identify national and regional needs, priorities and follow-up actions.

III. Future strategy for the clearing-house mechanism and knowledge management

9. The priority areas identified below directly respond to the priorities outlined in decisions [16/9 A and B](#), such as strengthening the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism, improving accessibility to relevant information, facilitating accessibility, developing the Bioland tool and national-level capacity and addressing the data gaps documented in the global report on collective progress, considered under agenda item 3 of the meeting, in particular, overarching messages A.1 and C.6 of that report.³

10. The Secretariat has identified the following areas as a priority for improvement in the next biennium:

(a) Building a more connected information system, so that the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism, Access and Benefit-Sharing Clearing-house, Biosafety Clearing-House, the Convention's website, Bioland, the Online Reporting Tool and related systems work together more effectively, rather than as separate platforms;

(b) Making official information, including decisions, meeting documents, reports, notifications, guidance materials and other Secretariat-held information easier to find and use;

(c) Connecting reporting information with the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism, so that national biodiversity strategies and action plans, national targets, national reports, indicator information and non-State actor commitments submitted through the Online Reporting Tool can be more easily accessed, searched and reused through the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism, the Convention's website, Bioland and other relevant systems;

(d) Developing country profile pages, to provide Parties and other users with a clearer and more integrated view of national planning, reporting, indicator information and other country-level knowledge, including through integrating information from across the clearing-house mechanism, including the online reporting tool, the central portal, the Biosafety Clearing-House and the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House;

(e) Strengthening Bioland as a common platform for national and regional use, including by supporting national clearing-house mechanisms and providing structured spaces for Parties and technical and scientific cooperation support centres;

(f) Modernizing notification and participation processes, to make submissions more secure, traceable and easier to manage, while improving the quality and usefulness of responses received;

² <https://ort.cbd.int/#0.4/0/0>.

³ CBD/SBI/7/2.

(g) Improving metadata, taxonomy and content standards, so that information is better organized, more consistent across systems and easier to search, link and reuse.

IV. Recommendations

11. The Subsidiary Body may wish to recommend that, at its seventeenth meeting, the Conference of Parties adopt a decision⁴ along the following lines:

The Conference of Parties,

Recalling its decisions [16/9 A and B](#) of 1 November 2024,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the progress made in the implementation of the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism for the period 2024–2030⁵ and the knowledge management strategy to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;^{6,7}

2. *Reiterates* the need for continued implementation by Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, relevant organizations and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity⁸ to achieve the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism and the knowledge management strategy;

3. *Notes* the need for additional resources for further implementing the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism and the knowledge management strategy;

4. *Invites* the regional and subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres and the Global Coordination Entity of the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism to include work to facilitate the implementation of the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism and the knowledge management strategy in their programmes of work;

5. *Encourages* Parties to share information on progress made in the implementation of the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism and the knowledge management strategy in their eighth national reports, with a view to facilitating the review of that area of work at the nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

6. *Recalls* that progress towards the implementation of the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism and the knowledge management strategy will be reviewed at the nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties in conjunction with the global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Framework;

7. *Invites* the cooperation support centres and relevant organizations to collaborate and to share information with the Secretariat in order to facilitate the review of that area of work at the nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

8. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, under the guidance of the Informal Advisory Group on Technical and Scientific Cooperation and subject to availability of the resources:

(a) To strengthen and accelerate the implementation of the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism and the knowledge management strategy by making information submitted by Parties more accessible, searchable and reusable in support of planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting under the Framework;

⁴ The estimated extrabudgetary resource requirements for the activities outlined in the draft decision are shown in the annex to the present document.

⁵ Decision [16/9 A](#), annex.

⁶ Decision [16/9 B](#), annex.

⁷ Decision [15/4](#), annex.

⁸ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

(b) To prepare an analysis of the implementation of the programme of work for the clearing-house mechanism and the knowledge management strategy to inform their review at the nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

Annex

Estimated extrabudgetary resource requirements

The table below has been prepared to show the estimated extrabudgetary resource requirements for the activities requested of the Secretariat, as outlined in the draft decision, in support of its consideration. The present annex is not part of the draft decision submitted for consideration by the Subsidiary Body.

Extrabudgetary resource requirements

(United States dollars)

<i>OP</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Meeting costs^a</i>	<i>Staff travel</i>	<i>Staff costs^b</i>	<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>PSC (13 per cent)</i>	<i>Total</i>
8 (a)	Integrate and strengthen record management across the website of the Convention and related systems by positioning the clearing-house mechanism as the single, structured and authoritative source for reusable content	—	—	31 500	31 500	4 095	35 595
	Total			31 500	31 500	4 095	35 595

Abbreviations: OP, operative paragraph of the draft decision; PSC, programme support costs.

^a Including participants' travel.