



Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr.: Limited
31 October 2024

Original: English

Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity Sixteenth meeting

Cali, Colombia, 21 October–1 November 2024

Agenda item 13

Cooperation with other conventions and international organizations

Working Group I

Cooperation with other conventions and international organizations

Draft decision submitted by the Chair of Working Group I

**The Conference of the Parties,*

Recalling the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,¹

[Recalling also General Assembly resolution 78/155 of 19 December 2023, by which Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity² were urged to ensure the coherence and complementarity of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework³ with other existing or upcoming international processes frameworks and strategies, in particular with regard to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development⁴ and the Paris Agreement,⁵]

Recalling further decisions XIII/24 of 17 December 2016, 14/30 of 29 November 2018 and 15/4 and 15/13 of 19 December 2022 of the Conference of the Parties,

Taking note of the outcomes of the sixth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme and the inclusion of an item on cooperation with multilateral environmental agreements in its agenda,

Noting the work of the United Nations Environment Management Group in promoting a United Nations system-wide contribution to the Framework,

Noting also the work undertaken by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, [the World Health Organization][, the World Organisation for Animal Health] and the United Nations Environment Programme to support the implementation and monitoring of the

* The present draft decision was prepared by the Chair of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation with the support of the Secretariat following the first reading of agenda item 7. The text was not reviewed by the Subsidiary Body at its fourth meeting.

¹ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

³ Decision 15/4, annex.

⁴ General Assembly resolution 70/1.

⁵ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 3156, No. 54113.

Framework at all levels, including in the context of the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration⁶ and the One Health approach],

Noting further the relevance of the Man and the Biosphere Programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the biosphere reserves nominated under that programme to the implementation of the Framework and to the enhancement, on a scientific basis, of the relationship between people and the environment,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 77/334 of 1 September 2023 and welcoming the development of the United Nations system-wide water and sanitation strategy by the Secretary-General to enhance system-wide coordination and policy coherence between water action and sectors that are dependent on water resources and water-related ecosystems,

Welcoming the outcomes of the twenty-eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, including decision 1/CMA.5 on the outcome of the first global stocktake, in particular the importance of conserving, protecting and restoring nature and ecosystems towards achieving the Paris Agreement,

Recognizing the contribution of regional strategies, frameworks, plans and initiatives to the implementation of the Framework,

Stressing the importance to enhance cooperation and synergies among all relevant conventions, organizations and initiatives, in a manner respectful of their respective mandates and with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, to contribute to and monitor progress of the implementation of the Framework, in line with its 2030 mission and the provisions of the Convention Diversity and its Protocols, and to identify common challenges and solutions for achieving global biodiversity objectives,

Reaffirming the importance to enhance work with the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the Permanent Forum on People of African Descent on topics related to biodiversity and traditional knowledge,

Stressing the importance of future cooperation and collaboration between the Convention on Biological Diversity and 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, to support the effective implementation of the Framework, in particular its Target 3,

Emphasizing the goals and targets of the Framework mission to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030 and its vision of living in harmony with nature by 2050, which supports the conservation, protection and restoration of nature and the integrity of all ecosystems, including ecosystems acting as sinks and reservoirs for greenhouse gases, which is important for achieving the Paris Agreement temperature goal and minimizing the impacts caused by climate change,

Noting with appreciation the support provided by the Government of Switzerland and the leadership provided by the United Nations Environment Programme in the Bern process, the organization of the Bern III Conference on cooperation among the biodiversity-related conventions for the implementation of the Framework and follow-up activities,

Noting with appreciation also the work of the Co-Chairs of the Bern III Conference and the active participation of representatives of Parties to the conventions, secretariats of various multilateral environmental agreements, relevant organizations and stakeholders that participated in the Conference,

1. *Welcomes* the decisions of the governing bodies of other conventions and organizations in which they recognized, welcomed or endorsed the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework⁶ and the coordination of their strategies and action plans with the Framework, in line

⁶ See CBD/COP/16/10/Rev.1, annex I.

with paragraph 4 of decision 15/13 of the Conference of the Parties, and encourages other governing bodies of other conventions and organizations to do the same;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution of United Nations entities, other intergovernmental agreements and processes and international organizations to the development of tools and guidance on biodiversity and the Framework;

3. *Takes note* of the outcomes of the Bern III Conference as an important contribution to effective implementation of the Framework;

4. *Notes* the work of the Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions for enhancing cooperation and synergies among the conventions;

5. *Urges* Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity that are also Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa to foster stronger effective synergies and coordination in the implementation of each convention;

6. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Environment Programme, in collaboration with the Rio conventions and other relevant partners, to continue to implement the Framework, including through the road map for Target 2,⁷ in consultation with Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth groups, people living with disabilities, other marginalized and disadvantaged groups and relevant stakeholders;

7. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in collaboration with other interested partners, to prepare a draft plan of action for the implementation of the international initiative on biodiversity for food and nutrition in alignment with the Framework for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting held before the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

8. *Invites* the Sustainable Ocean Initiative to update its Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 in line with the Framework to enhance the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity;

9. *Invites* the Parties to the Convention that are members of the United Nations Forum on Forests to consider, as appropriate, the alignment of forest-related commitments and actions in their national biodiversity strategies and action plans and voluntary national contributions with the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030;

10. *Invites* Parties to consider, as appropriate, the alignment of water-related voluntary commitments and actions set out in the Water Action Agenda, launched at the United Nations Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018–2028, with their national biodiversity strategies and action plans;

11. *Welcomes*, and endorses, the sixth joint work plan 2024–2030 of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat and the Convention on Biological Diversity;

12. *Invites* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to support cooperation and collaboration among biodiversity-related conventions and of relevant multilateral environmental

⁸ Including the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

agreements, contributing to the effective and efficient implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols and the Framework;

13. *Also invites* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue its reflections on the rights of nature in the context of its work on the environmental rule of law, while taking fully into consideration the different value systems, covered in section C of the Framework, which include the rights of nature and rights of Mother Earth in the context of living well in balance and harmony with Mother Earth, and to promote dialogues in this regard to incorporate other knowledge systems from various United Nations regions;

[14. *Invites* Parties to consider the report of the Bern III Conference, share its conclusions at meetings and processes under relevant conventions and organizations, as appropriate and without prejudice to their respective mandates, and consider action to implement the outcomes set out in the Conference report, in line with national priorities and circumstances;]

15. *Encourages* Parties, in line with national priorities and circumstances, to raise awareness of their ongoing process for the update or revision of national biodiversity strategies and action plans across various national policy and planning processes, sustainable development strategies, including for poverty eradication, and policy instruments relevant to the implementation of other multilateral environmental agreements;

16. *Also encourages* Parties to enhance knowledge and understanding of the potential benefits of synergies, cooperation and collaboration when implementing the Convention and its Protocols, including by increasing efforts to use, collect and share good practices, and foster information exchange, as appropriate;

17. *Invites* Parties and other Governments to continue to enhance synergies among the biodiversity-related conventions, in line with options for action at the national level provided in decision XIII/24, in accordance with their national circumstances and priorities;

18. *Calls upon* Parties, in line with national priorities and circumstances, to establish effective national, regional and subregional coordination processes, mechanisms or approaches to support close collaboration among the national focal points of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols and the national focal points of other conventions and international processes relevant to the delivery of the Framework, without prejudice to the specific objectives and mandates of the various conventions and observing their independent and autonomous nature;

19. *Encourages* Parties to strengthen cooperation through a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach, including by promoting the active engagement and strengthening the capacity of subnational and local governments to contribute to the effective and efficient implementation of the Convention, other multilateral environmental agreements and the Framework at the national level;

20. *Invites* the governing bodies of the chemicals and waste conventions,⁸ the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other relevant conventions and organizations, including the Global Framework on Chemicals – For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste, to collaborate with the three Rio conventions and the future legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, as appropriate, on Target 7 of the Framework on the reduction of pollution to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity, in consultation with Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant stakeholders;

21. *Invites* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to further cooperate with the Secretariat of the Convention to develop tools and guidance on a human rights-based approach to the implementation of the Framework[, and requests the Executive

⁸ Including the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

Secretary to support the development of those tools, subject to the availability of resources,] [and to prepare a report on those efforts before the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties];

22. *Requests the Executive Secretary:*

(a) To continue to collaborate with the secretariats of other conventions and the United Nations Environment Programme in supporting the implementation of specific targets of the Framework, as appropriate, subject to the availability of resources;

(b) To continue collaboration with the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and Convention to Combat Desertification through such modalities as the Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions, in line with its terms of references and modus operandi, [to identify opportunities for the facilitation of national efforts to implement those conventions, facilitate the exchange of relevant information, continue to stress the importance of interlinkages among climate, land and biodiversity issues, to assess options for better integration, including by exploring the potential for a joint work programme among the Rio conventions [to operationalize such integration at future meetings of the Conference of the Parties,] [for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation and the Conference of the Parties at its seventeenth meeting]];

(c) To continue its cooperation with the biodiversity-related conventions, chemicals and waste conventions, multilateral environmental agreements, other conventions and relevant science-policy bodies, including through joint activities and while respecting their specific mandates;

(d) To strengthen collaboration with the United Nations Forum on Forests and other relevant organizations, such as the International Tropical Timber Organization, and within the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, to support the coherent implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, the Convention and the Framework;

(e) To collaborate and share relevant information with the Secretariat, including the interim Secretariat, 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,⁹ noting the potential important synergies between the Convention and the Agreement;

(f) To collaborate with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat and UN-Water, in the context of the United Nations Water Conference to be held in December 2026, to support the coherent implementation of relevant global water action, as well as voluntary commitments and the Framework, and to prepare a report on such collaboration for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at a meeting held before the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the Conference of the Parties at its eighteenth meeting;

(g) To facilitate the exchange of initiatives and experiences with the secretariats of other conventions and the United Nations Environment Programme in support of the enhancement of the visibility and dissemination of different value systems, other knowledge systems, living in harmony with nature, living well in balance and harmony with Mother Earth, the rights of nature and the rights of Mother Earth and promoting the development of a joint interactive dialogue on those topics at the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;

(h) To report to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, at a meeting to be held before the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, on the cooperation activities mentioned above, in support of implementation of the Convention and the Framework;

(i) To promote synergies and information exchange between existing programmes, projects and activities of other United Nations agencies to jointly further enhance and streamline

⁹ A/CONF.232/2023/4.

their contribution under the programme of work on marine and coastal biodiversity¹⁰ of the Convention, and in line with the implementation of the targets of the Framework;

(j) To implement the international initiative on biodiversity for food and nutrition in alignment with the Framework and collaborate with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in the preparation of a plan of action for the implementation of the initiative.

¹⁰ Decision IV, annex.