



Convention on Biological Diversity

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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
Fifteenth meeting – Part II
Montreal, Canada, 7–19 December 2022
Agenda item 29

DRAFT REPORT OF THE MEETING

Rapporteur: Elvana Ramaj (Albania)

INTRODUCTION

A. Background

1. The Conference of the Parties held its fifteenth meeting in conjunction with the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (the Cartagena Protocol) and the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization (the Nagoya Protocol).
2. Owing to the circumstances surrounding the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the meeting was held in two parts, with the first part (part I) consisting of a high-level segment held online, with limited in-person participation in Kunming, China, on 12 and 13 October 2021, and the second part (part II) held in person in Montreal, Canada, from 7 to 19 December 2022. The present report sets out the proceedings of part II of the meeting.¹
3. Part II of the meeting was preceded by a ceremonial welcome by the Traditional Chief of the Onondaga Nation followed by statements by other dignitaries and a cultural presentation, on 6 December 2022.

B. Attendance

4. All States were invited to participate in part II of the meeting. The following parties to the Convention attended: [to be completed].
5. The following State not party to the Convention was also represented: United States of America.
6. For all other participants, see annex I to the present report.

¹ The report of part I is set out in document CBD/COP/15/4.

I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Item 1. Opening of the meeting

7. The fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, part II, was declared open by Runqiu Huang, Minister of Ecology and Environment of China and President of the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting, at 10.25 a.m. on Wednesday, 7 December 2022.

8. Opening remarks were delivered by the President; Inger Andersen, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme; Steven Guilbeault, Minister of Environment and Climate Change of Canada; and Elizabeth Mrema, Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

9. In his statement, the President said that the current part of the meeting – for which the preceding part I had laid a solid foundation – was the chance to move from disharmony to harmony, stop the orgy of destruction and conclude a peace pact with nature in the course of planning the strategy for strengthening global biodiversity conservation. In that context, he looked forward to a demonstration of international cooperation, political determination, utmost goodwill, flexibility, compromise on key issues, and positive commitments to continued increases in funding aimed at promoting the consultation process. The primary focus should be on resolving difficulties and forging the greatest possible consensus so as to achieve a framework document that would go down as a landmark and write a new chapter in global biodiversity governance.

10. In her remarks, Ms. Anderson said that the meeting must secure the future of the planetary life support system by delivering an ambitious post-2020 global biodiversity framework that faced down the five horsemen of the nature apocalypse, addressed the underlying drivers of biodiversity loss, and recognized and protected the rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities. The framework must also dovetail with the Paris Agreement and other instruments of relevance, be adequately resourced and be implemented with greater transparency and accountability on progress. It was vital, however, to accelerate the negotiating pace, with all stakeholders shouldering their unique responsibility to agree on a plan for making peace with nature as the irreplaceable essence of life. It was a choice between all – through strengthening the web of life so that it could carry the full weight of humanity for centuries to come – or nothing.

11. Mr. Guilbeault stressed that the post-2020 global biodiversity framework must halt and reverse the drivers causing rapid ecosystem collapse and put nature on a path to recovery. Crucially, the framework must include a commitment to conserve a minimum of 30 per cent of the world's lands and oceans by 2030. Ambitious goals must be matched by real action: as Prime Minister Trudeau had announced during the ceremonial opening event the previous day, Canada was substantially increasing its aid to developing countries to take action on biodiversity. Government had a central role but must work closely with civil society, the private sector, foundations, academia, citizens and the Indigenous and First Nations Peoples. The post-2020 global biodiversity framework must unite us all in our efforts to halt biodiversity loss and set the world on a path to living in harmony with nature by 2050.

12. Ms. Mrema thanked the Government of China for its strong support for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework preparation process. She also thanked the many donor countries and stakeholders present, whose generosity had made possible the participation of developing countries and Indigenous community delegates. She urged participants to blend their individual voices as a chorus and to develop a text that reflected consensus, compromise and ambition.

13. At the first plenary session of part II of the meeting, on 7 December 2022, the Conference of the Parties also heard general statements by the representatives of regions, groups of countries, individual countries, United Nations entities and major groups and other stakeholders.

14. Statements were delivered by the representatives of Costa Rica, on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean States; Palau, on behalf of the Asia Pacific States; and Senegal, on behalf of the African States.

15. Statements were made by the representatives of Antigua and Barbuda, on behalf of the small island developing States; the European Union, also on behalf of its member States; Ethiopia, on behalf of the Group of Like-minded Megadiverse Countries; Mexico, also on behalf of Australia, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, the European Union and its member States, Gabon, Japan, Malawi, Monaco, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, the Republic of Korea, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Vanuatu and Zambia and the United States of America; New Zealand, also on behalf of Australia, Canada, Iceland, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Switzerland and the United States; and the Philippines, on behalf of the States members of the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People and the Global Ocean Alliance.
16. Statements were also made by the representatives of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; and the secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, on behalf of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions.
17. Statements were made by the representatives of the Advisory Committee on Subnational Governments and Biodiversity (coordinated by Regions4 and the government of Quebec), the CBD Women's Caucus, the Global Youth Biodiversity Network (GBYN) and the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB).
18. The representative of the Russian Federation made a statement in exercise of his right of reply.
19. At the second plenary session of part II of the meeting, on 10 December, the Conference of the Parties heard additional statements by the representatives of a United Nations entity and major groups and other stakeholders.
20. A statement was also made by a representative of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.
21. Statements were also made by representatives of BirdLife International, also on behalf of Conservation International, the Campaign for Nature, the Nature and Biodiversity Conservation Union, Panthera, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, The Nature Conservancy, the Wildlife Conservation Society, the World Wide Fund for Nature and the Zoological Society of London; the Business for Nature Coalition; the Finance for Biodiversity Foundation; the Grantham Institute – Climate Change and Environment; the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty; and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).
22. The statements, when submitted, can be found at <https://www.cbd.int/meetings/COP-15> under the Statements tab.

Item 2. Organizational matters

A. Election of officers

23. At the first plenary session of part II of the meeting, on 7 December, the Conference of the Parties took note that the President, Vice-Presidents and Rapporteur that had served at part I of the meeting would continue to fulfil their functions, with the exception of two of the Vice-Presidents, who had since been replaced.²
24. [to be completed]

² Vinod Mathur (India), who served as a vice-president for part I of the meeting, has been replaced by Naresh Pal Gangwar, Andrea Meza Murillo (Costa Rica), who served as a vice-president for part I of the meeting, has been replaced by Eugenia Arguedas Montezuma.

B. Adoption of the agenda

25. The agenda for the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as adopted during part I of the meeting, was as follows:

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Organizational matters.
3. Report on the credentials of representatives to the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
4. Pending issues.
5. Date and venue of future meetings of the Conference of the Parties.
6. Reports of intersessional and regional preparatory meetings.
7. Administration of the Convention and budget for the trust funds.
8. Review of progress in the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.
9. The post-2020 global biodiversity framework.
10. Enhancing integration with respect to provisions related to Article 8(j) and related provisions.
11. Digital sequence information on genetic resources.
12. Resource mobilization and the financial mechanism.
13. Capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation, knowledge management and communication.
14. Mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting and review.
15. Cooperation with other conventions and international organizations.
16. Mainstreaming of biodiversity within and across sectors.
17. Review of the effectiveness of processes under the Convention and its Protocols.
18. Multi-year programme of work of the Conference of the Parties.
19. Protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures.
20. Marine and coastal biodiversity.
21. Invasive alien species.
22. Sustainable wildlife management.
23. Biodiversity and climate change.
24. Biodiversity and agriculture.
25. Biodiversity and health.
26. Nature and culture.
27. Synthetic biology.
28. Other matters.
29. Adoption of the report.
30. Closure of the meeting.

C. Organization of work

26. At the first plenary session of part II of the meeting, on 7 December, the Conference of the Parties considered a note by the Executive Secretary on the proposed organization of work (CBD/COP/15/1/Add.4/Rev.1–CBD/CP/MOP/10/1/Add.4/Rev.1–CBD/NP/MOP/4/1/Add.4/Rev.1) and agreed to organize its work as set out therein. Accordingly, the Conference of the Parties established two working groups and elected Rosemary Paterson (New Zealand) to chair working group I and Helena Jefferey-Brown (Antigua and Barbuda) to chair working group II.

27. On 10 December, during its second plenary session, which served in part as a stocktake session, the Conference of the Parties heard reports from the chairs of the working groups and the budget contact group established under item 7 on the progress made to date.

28. Statements were made by the representatives of Argentina, on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean States; the European Union, also on behalf of its member States; and New Zealand, also on behalf of Australia, Canada, Iceland, Israel, Monaco, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States.

29. During the high-level segment of the meeting, at the opening plenary session, on 15 December, the President informed the meeting participants that he had established a process of ministerial consultations for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and had invited six ministers to lead consultations on unresolved issues that might benefit from political guidance. Thus, Jochen Flashbarth (Germany) and Jeanne d'Arc Mujawamariya (Rwanda) would lead consultations on resource mobilization; Espen Barth Eide (Norway) and Maisa Rojas (Chile) would lead consultations on digital sequence information; and Yasmine Fouad (Egypt) and Steven Gilbeault (Canada) would lead consultations on the key unresolved elements of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

30. On 17 December, during its third plenary session, which served as a second stocktake session, the Conference of the Parties heard reports from the chairs of the working groups and the budget contact group established under item 7 on the progress made to date.

31. The Working Group also heard reports from the ministers leading the ministerial consultations under the process established by the President during the high-level segment.

32. Statements were made by the representatives of Antigua and Barbuda (on behalf of small island developing States), Argentina, Australia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Canada, Chile (also on behalf of Colombia, Costa Rica Mexico and Peru), Colombia, Costa Rica, the European Union and its 27 member States, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Micronesia (Federated States of), New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Saint Lucia, Senegal (on behalf of the African States), South Africa, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

33. Statements were also made by the representatives of the CBD Alliance, CBD Women Caucus, IIFB and IUCN.

34. *[to be completed]*

Item 3. Report on the credentials of representatives to the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties

35. At the first plenary session of part II the meeting, on December 7, the Conference of the Parties took note that, in accordance with the relevant rules of procedure for the meetings of the Conference of the Parties, the Bureau had reviewed the list of observers admitted to the meeting (CBD/COP/15/INF/2) and would examine the credentials of delegations and report on them at a later session.

36. Accordingly, at the second plenary session of part II the meeting, on 10 December, Eric Okoree (Ghana), designated by the Bureau during part I of the meeting as its representative to report on credentials, informed the Conference of the Parties that 179 Parties were registered as attending the meeting. The Bureau had examined the credentials of the representatives of 136 Parties that were attending the meeting.

The credentials of 114 delegations were in full compliance with rule 18 of the rules of procedure. Those of 19 delegations did not fully comply with rule 18 and a further 43 delegations had not presented their credentials to date.

37. [to be completed]

Item 4. Pending issues

38. The Conference of the Parties had considered the item at part I of the meeting and did not take it up during part II of the meeting.

Item 5. Date and venue of future meetings of the Conference of the Parties

39. The Conference of the Parties had previously decided, in decision 13/33, that its sixteenth meeting would be held in Türkiye.

40. At the first plenary session of part II of the fifteenth meeting, on 7 December, the Conference of the Parties took note that the seventeenth meeting was expected to be hosted by a party from the Eastern Europe region and agreed that the President would consult with Parties and prepare a draft decision on the dates of the sixteenth and future meetings, taking into account recommendation 3/19 of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, which was set out in the compilation of draft decisions (CBD/COP/15/2).

41. At the second plenary session of part II of the meeting, on 10 December, a statement was made by a representative of Türkiye in its capacity as host of the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

42. [to be completed]

II. REPORTS

Item 6. Reports of intersessional and regional preparatory meetings

43. At the first plenary session of part II of the meeting, on 7 December, the Conference of the Parties heard reports on intersessional work undertaken since part I of the meeting. The Conference of the Parties had before it the report of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice on its twenty-fourth meeting (CBD/SBSTTA/24/12), the report of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation on its third meeting (CBD/SBI/3/21) and the reports of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework on its third, fourth and fifth meetings (CBD/WG2020/3/7, CBD/WG2020/4/4 and CBD/WG2020/5/5).

44. The Conference of the Parties then heard oral reports from the Chairs of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body on Implementation and the Co-Chairs of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

45. The Conference of the Parties took note of the information provided and agreed to consider the subsidiary bodies' recommendations under the relevant agenda items.

III. ADMINISTRATION AND BUDGET

Item 7. Administration of the Convention and budget for the trust funds

46. At the first plenary session of part II of the meeting, on 7 December, the Executive Secretary reported on the activities of the secretariat and presented the proposed budget for the programmes of work of the Convention and its protocols for the biennium 2023–2024 (CBD/COP/15/7).

47. The Conference of the Parties agreed to establish a contact group on budget, chaired by Hamdallah Zedan (Egypt), with the mandate to consider the proposed budget for the 2023–2024 biennium in detail.

48. [to be completed]

IV. REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION

Item 8. Review of progress in the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets

A. Informing the scientific and technical evidence base for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

49. [to be completed from the working group I report]

50. At the second plenary session of part II of the meeting, on 10 December, the Conference of the Parties considered draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.3 and adopted it as decision 15/[] (for the text, see chap. I, page []).

B. Review of progress in the implementation of the Convention and the strategic plan for biodiversity 2011–2020

51. [to be completed from the working group I report]

52. At the second plenary session of part II of the meeting, on 10 December 2022, the Conference of the Parties considered draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.4 and adopted it as decision 15/[] (for the text, see chap. I, page []).

V. POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK, RELATED MATTERS AND MECHANISMS FOR ENHANCING IMPLEMENTATION

Item 9. Post-2020 global biodiversity framework

A. Post-2020 global biodiversity framework

53. [to be completed]

B. Monitoring frameworks for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

54. [to be completed]

C. Communication strategy

55. [to be completed]

D. Gender plan of action

56. [to be completed]

Item 10. Enhancing integration with respect to provisions related to Article 8(j) and related provisions

A. Development of a new programme of work and institutional arrangements on Article 8(j) and related provisions

57. [to be completed from the working group I report]

58. At the second plenary session of part II of the meeting, on 10 December 2022, the Conference of the Parties considered draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.8 and adopted it as decision 15/[] (for the text, see chap. I, page []).

59. A statement was made by the representative of IIFB.

B. In-depth dialogue on Article 8(j) and related provisions

60. [to be completed from the working group I report]

61. At the second plenary session of part II of the meeting, on 10 December 2022, the Conference of the Parties considered draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.6 and adopted it as decision 15/[] (for the text, see chap. I, page []).

C. Recommendations from the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

62. [to be completed from the working group I report]

63. At the second plenary session of part II of the meeting, on 10 December 2022, the Conference of the Parties considered draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.7 and adopted it as decision 15/[] (for the text, see chap. I, page []).

Item 11. Digital sequence information on genetic resources

64. [to be completed]

Item 12. Resource mobilization and the financial mechanism

A. Resource mobilization

65. [to be completed from the working group I report]

66. At the second plenary session of part II of the meeting, on 10 December 2022, statements were made by representatives of Brazil, also on behalf of the African States, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bolivia, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Paraguay, the Philippines and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of); Colombia, also on behalf of Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico and Peru; and Honduras.

67. [to be completed]

B. Financial mechanism

68. [to be completed]

Item 13. Capacity-building and technical and scientific cooperation and knowledge management and communication

A. Capacity-building and technical and scientific cooperation

69. [to be completed]

B. Knowledge management

70. [to be completed]

C. Communication

71. [to be completed]

Item 14. Mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting and review

72. [to be completed]

Item 15. Cooperation with other conventions and international organizations

A. Programme of work of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

73. [to be completed]

B. Cooperation with other conventions and international organizations

74. [to be completed]

Item 16. Mainstreaming of biodiversity within and across sectors

A. Mainstreaming of biodiversity within and across sectors: Long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming biodiversity

75. [to be completed]

B. Engagement with subnational governments, cities and other local authorities to enhance implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

76. [to be completed]

Item 17. Review of the effectiveness of processes under the Convention and its Protocols

77. [to be completed from the working group I report]

78. At the second plenary session of part II of the meeting, on 10 December 2022, the Conference of the Parties considered draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.9 and adopted it as decision 15/[] (for the text, see chap. I, page []).

Item 18. Multi-year programme of work of the Conference of the Parties

79. [to be completed]

VI. FURTHER TECHNICAL ISSUES

Item 19. Protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures

80. [to be completed]

Item 20. Marine and coastal biodiversity

A. Ecologically or biologically significant marine areas

81. [to be completed]

B. Conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity

82. [to be completed]

Item 21. Invasive alien species

83. [to be completed]

Item 22. Sustainable wildlife management

84. [to be completed from the working group I report]

85. At the second plenary session of part II of the meeting, on 10 December 2022, the Conference of the Parties considered draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.5 and adopted it as decision 15/[] (for the text, see chap. I, page []).

86. A statement was made by the representative of the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management.

Item 23. Biodiversity and climate change

87. [to be completed]

Item 24. Biodiversity and agriculture

88. [to be completed]

Item 25. Biodiversity and health

89. [to be completed]

Item 26. Nature and culture

90. [to be completed from the working group I report]

91. At the second plenary session of part II of the meeting, on 10 December 2022, the Conference of the Parties considered draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.10 and adopted it as decision 15/[] (for the text, see chap. I, page []).

Item 27. Synthetic biology

92. [to be completed]

VII. FINAL MATTERS

Item 28. Other matters

93. [to be completed]

Item 29. Adoption of the report

94. [to be completed]

Item 30. Closure of the meeting

95. [to be completed]
