

**Convention on
Biological Diversity**

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**Meeting of the Advisory Committee
on Resource Mobilization
First meeting
Kinshasa, 25–29 September 2023****Report of the first meeting of the Advisory Committee on Resource
Mobilization**

1. The Advisory Committee on Resource Mobilization, established by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting in decision 15/7, held its first in-person meeting in Kinshasa, from 25 to 29 September 2023. The financial support of the European Union and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in organizing the meeting is gratefully acknowledged. The meeting was chaired by Ines Verleye and Patrick Luna, who had been elected at the preparatory meeting, held on 5 September 2023.¹
2. The Advisory Committee adopted the agenda and approved the organization of work for its meeting.²
3. The Co-Chairs of the Advisory Committee prepared a summary of the meeting, which is reproduced in annex I to the present document. The list of participants is provided in annex II.
4. As indicated in the Co-Chairs' summary, the Advisory Committee agreed on a range of additional meetings in order to carry out its work. A consolidated report of the meetings of the Committee will be prepared for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its fourth meeting.

¹ See www.cbd.int/meetings/RM-AC-2023-PM-01 for the documents of the preparatory meeting.

² CBD/RM/AC/2023/1/1 and CBD/RM/AC/2023/1/1/Add.1, respectively. See www.cbd.int/meetings/RM-AC-2023-01 for the documents of the present meeting.

Annex I

Co-Chairs' summary of the first meeting of the Advisory Committee on Resource Mobilization (Kinshasa, 25–29 September 2023)

The Advisory Committee on Resource Mobilization was established by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting (decision 15/7, para. 43). The Committee was assigned three main tasks, with a view to providing recommendations thereon to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation and to the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting. Those tasks were:

- To fully align the strategy for resource mobilization, adopted in the same decision, with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and to ensure that it would provide a solid basis to guide Parties and other actors towards the mobilization of adequate resources, commensurate with the ambition of the Framework (para. 40 of the decision).
- To explore the current biodiversity finance landscape, with a view to assessing gaps and overlaps and to identifying opportunities to strengthen, simplify and reform existing instruments to strengthen the current finance landscape for biodiversity (para. 41 of the decision).
- To explore proposals for a global instrument on biodiversity finance to mobilize resources from all sources, commensurate with the ambition of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, on the basis of the assessment made and the gaps identified (para. 42 of the decision).

Following an organizational meeting held online on 5 September 2023, the Advisory Committee met for its first in-person meeting from 25 to 29 September 2023, in Kinshasa. The Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ève Bazaiba Masudi, opened and closed the meeting and honoured the Committee with her presence at some of its sessions. The Committee could also benefit from an online conversation with the Chief Executive Officer of the Global Environmental Facility (GEF).

The Advisory Committee started consideration of its mandate as follows:

(a) **Alignment of the strategy for resource mobilization with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework**

The Advisory Committee heard a presentation from the Secretariat introducing a document with suggestions for the alignment of the strategy for resource mobilization. The Committee had a first round of discussions on the approach suggested and a subsequent discussion on how to further advance that work. It agreed that the Secretariat would prepare a revised draft of the document for further consideration. This would include action points raised during the discussion on the exploration of the global biodiversity finance landscape, as well as any action points identified in the submissions received by the Secretariat further to notification No. 2023-087 of 16 August 2023 by the deadline of 1 December 2023.

A revised draft of the suggested updated strategy for resource mobilization and a compilation of the received submissions will be made available to the Advisory Committee by the third week of December 2023. The Committee will review that document at an online meeting to be held in the second half of January 2024.

(b) **Exploration of the current biodiversity finance landscape, with a view to assessing efficiency, effectiveness, gaps and overlaps**

The Secretariat presented a revised structure of the exploratory study of the global biodiversity finance landscape, which took into account the comments received by the Committee during its online preparatory meeting of 5 September 2023. The Advisory Committee also heard an overview provided by the Secretariat on the process of digital sequence information on genetic resources, as well as a presentation by the GEF Secretariat of updates on the work on the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund and on the work undertaken pursuant to specific guidance provided to GEF by the

Conference of the Parties. The Committee invited GEF to participate in the Committee as a member. Committee members subsequently shared their initial perspectives on the various elements proposed in the revised structure (international and domestic, public and private). On the basis of those exchanges, Committee members further shared their initial thinking on existing gaps and overlaps in the biodiversity finance landscape and on opportunities to improve existing instruments, funds and frameworks, as well as their coherence, coordination and synergies.

The Advisory Committee agreed that the Secretariat would prepare a first draft of the study for further consideration. It would be based on the revised structure presented earlier and would take into account the points raised during the exchanges.

(c) **Exploration of proposals for a global instrument on biodiversity finance**

Advisory Committee members shared their initial perspectives and ideas on how to approach the three questions on the global instrument on biodiversity finance, as contained in annex II to decision 15/7. Questions were raised on how the Committee would address the part of its mandate that related to the ongoing discussions yet to be held within the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Benefit-sharing from the Use of Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources.

Workplan of the Advisory Committee on Resource Mobilization

The Advisory Committee recalled that its mandate allowed for both online and in-person meetings. It decided that no work would be done in parallel and that its meetings would be open to the participation of all its members. It was noted that, under decision 15/7, the Committee was mandated to submit its recommendations to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation and, subsequently, to the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting.

The Advisory Committee agreed that its second in-person meeting would be held in mid-March 2024 and address the three pillars of its mandate to develop corresponding recommendations for timely submission for the fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, scheduled for 21 to 29 May 2024. To that effect, the Committee also agreed to hold four 3-hour-long online meetings (in time slots to be alternated to accommodate all regions) before the second in-person meeting.

On the basis of its earlier deliberations, the Committee discussed and agreed on modalities for its further work, including the timeline provided below.

The agreed schedule until the fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation is therefore as follows:

- ⇒ *Early November: draft landscape study made available to the Advisory Committee*
- **First online meeting** (end of November 2023). Stocktake of the landscape study; update on progress in the strategy for resource mobilization
- ⇒ *End of December: draft strategy for resource mobilization and compilation of submissions made available to the Advisory Committee*
- **Second online meeting** (second half of January 2024). Discussion on the strategy for resource mobilization; update on progress on landscape study
- ⇒ *Early February: final version of both the strategy for resource mobilization and the landscape study*
- **Third online meeting** (second half of February 2024). Discussion on a global instrument
- **Fourth online meeting** (second half of February 2024). Discussion on possible recommendations and report for the fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation
- ⇒ *End of February: circulation of the draft recommendations from the fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation by the Co-Chairs to the Advisory Committee*

- **Second in-person meeting** (mid-March 2024). Finalization of the report and of the draft recommendations for the fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation

It was also agreed to suggest to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its fourth meeting that the Advisory Committee hold a third in-person meeting to deal with any components of its mandate that might still be outstanding. That meeting would be held after the meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Benefit-sharing from the Use of Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources scheduled for August 2024.

It was further agreed to suggest to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its fourth meeting that the Advisory Committee make full use of the mandate contained in paragraph 43 of decision 15/7 and report directly to the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting. For this reason, the scheduling of the third in-person meeting should also take into consideration the six-week deadline for submission of documents to the Conference of the Parties.

It was noted that, should there be any changes in the current scheduling of other relevant meetings by the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties, the Advisory Committee might have to adjust its workplan.

Annex II**List of participants****African States****Algeria**

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