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Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities
First meeting
Panama City, 27–30 October 2025
Items 5 (a) and (b) of the provisional agenda*
Implementation of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity related to indigenous peoples and local communities to 2030: (a) Guidelines to strengthen the legal and policy framework for the implementation of Targets 2 and 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including on indigenous and traditional territories, to support the protection and restoration practices led by indigenous peoples and local communities (Task 1.1); and (b) Guidelines for the inclusion and consideration of traditional lands and of resource use in spatial planning processes and environmental impact assessments (Task 1.2)

Proposed elements for the guidelines related to Tasks 1.1 and 1.2 of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity related to indigenous peoples and local communities to 2030

Note by the Secretariat

I. Background

1. In its decision 16/4, the Conference of the Parties adopted a programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity related to indigenous peoples and local communities to 2030, prioritizing those tasks that contribute directly to the timely, full and effective implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

2. In the same decision, the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities is requested to undertake Tasks 1.1 and 1.2 of the programme of work, which read as follows:

> Task 1.1. Develop guidelines, with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, to strengthen the legal and policy framework for the implementation

* CBD/SB8J/1/1/Rev.1.

of Targets 2 and 3 of the Framework, including on indigenous and traditional territories, to support the protection and restoration practices led by indigenous peoples and local communities.

Task 1.2. Identify and promote best practices to secure land tenure and governance by indigenous peoples and local communities and develop guidelines for the inclusion and consideration of traditional lands and of resource use in spatial planning processes and environmental impact assessments, in accordance with national legislation and international obligations.

3. To assist the Subsidiary Body in its work, the Executive Secretary of the Convention invited in notification 2025-061 Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant stakeholders to provide their views and information on Tasks 1.1 and 1.2. The submissions received are available online on the notification page, and a compilation of the submissions received[1] will be issued as information document CBD/SB8J/1/INF/4.

4. In addition, with the generous support of the Government of Denmark, the European Union and the Government of Japan (through its Japan Biodiversity Fund), an expert workshop to support the implementation of Tasks 1.1 and 1.2 was held from 22 to 24 July 2025 to identify possible elements of the guidelines. Participants in the workshop also greatly benefited from informal English-Spanish interpretation made available through the support of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and the International Union for Conservation of Nature and the generous financial contribution of Global Affairs Canada to the Podong Indigenous Peoples Initiative. The synthesis of views on the guidelines prepared for the workshop is available online,[2] and the report of the workshop will be issued as document CBD/A8J/WS/2025/2/3.The draft decision submitted in the section below for consideration by the Subsidiary Body contains in its annex draft guidelines to strengthen the legal and policy framework for the recognition of the contributions of indigenous and traditional territories of indigenous peoples and local communities to spatial planning, restoration and conservation. The draft guidelines were developed by participants in the expert workshop, on the basis of the information submitted in response to notification No. 2025-061.

II. Recommendation

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

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decision 16/4 of 30 October 2024, by which it adopted the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity[1] related to indigenous peoples and local communities to 2030, and in particular Tasks 1.1 and 1.2, directed to the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, to develop guidelines to strengthen the legal and policy framework for the implementation of Targets 2 and 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,[2] including on indigenous and

[1] Submissions were received from: (a) Parties (Armenia, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, European Union, Finland, Mexico, Norway, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sweden and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland); (b) organizations of indigenous peoples and local communities (Assembly of First Nations, Association Tinhinan, Indigenous Peoples of Africa Coordinating Committee, International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity, Nacionalidad Waorani del Ecuador, Native Women's Association of Canada, Pastoral Communities Empowerment Programme, Union of Indigenous Peoples "SOYUZ" and Women4Biodiversity); and (c) relevant stakeholders (African Wildlife Foundation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Gaia Amazonas, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations Development Programme (on behalf of PANORAMA – Solutions for a Healthy Planet) and United Nations Environment Programme and FAO (as the leading entities of the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration).

[2] CBD/A8J/WS/2025/2/2.

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[2] Decision 15/4, annex.

traditional territories, and guidelines for the inclusion and consideration of traditional lands and of resource use in spatial planning processes and environmental impact assessments, respectively, and recognizing the alignment of the programme of work with the Framework,

Taking note of the output of the expert workshop to support the implementation of Tasks 1.1 and 1.2 of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention related to indigenous peoples and local communities, including draft guidelines,[3]

1. *Adopts* the guidelines[4] to strengthen the legal and policy framework for the recognition of the role of indigenous and traditional territories of indigenous peoples and local communities in spatial planning, restoration and conservation contained in the annex to the present decision;

2. *Urges* Parties, and invites other Governments, to integrate and apply the guidelines, as appropriate and in accordance with national legal frameworks, in spatial planning processes, biodiversity strategies and action plans and environmental impact assessment procedures, consistent with the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant international human rights instruments;

3. *Also urges* Parties, and invites other Governments and relevant actors in a position to do so, to support the dissemination of the guidelines, including through their translation into indigenous languages;

4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, subject to the availability of resources, to facilitate capacity-building, technical cooperation and the exchange of information to assist Parties and indigenous peoples and local communities in implementing the guidelines;

5. *Encourages* Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant stakeholders to monitor and evaluate the use and effectiveness of the guidelines and report thereon in national reports, including through the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention, and by means of other appropriate mechanisms, such as community-based monitoring and information systems.

Annex

Guidelines to strengthen the legal and policy framework for the recognition of the role of indigenous and traditional territories of indigenous peoples and local communities in spatial planning, restoration and conservation[5]

I. Rationale

1. By its decision 16/5, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity[6] established the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities. The Subsidiary Body is mandated to provide advice to the Conference of the Parties, other subsidiary bodies and, upon request, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety[7] and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya

[3] CBD/A8J/WS/2025/2/3.

[4] For the purpose of the present guidelines, "guidelines" refers to voluntary guidelines.

[5] The present annex contains draft guidelines prepared by participants in the expert workshop on Tasks 1.1 and 1.2 of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions, held from 22 to 24 July 2025. The content of the annex reflects the outputs of the expert workshop and was informed by the views and information submitted in response to notification No. 2025-061.

[6] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[7] Ibid., vol. 2226, No. 30619.

Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from Their Utilization,[8] on matters concerning indigenous peoples and local communities.

2. By its decision 16/4, the Conference of the Parties adopted the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity related to indigenous peoples and local communities to 2030. The objective of the programme of work is to promote the implementation of Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention related to indigenous peoples and local communities, as well as of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.[9] In the programme of work, the Conference of the Parties affirmed the importance of promoting the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities at all stages and levels of implementation, in recognition of the close connection that indigenous peoples and local communities have with biological diversity and the Convention and its Protocols.

3. Element 1 of the programme of work, on conservation and restoration, includes two tasks for the Subsidiary Body:

> Task 1.1. Develop guidelines,[10] with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, to strengthen the legal and policy framework for the implementation of Targets 2 and 3 of the Framework, including on indigenous and traditional territories, to support the protection and restoration practices led by indigenous peoples and local communities.
>
> Task 1.2. Identify and promote best practices to secure land tenure and governance by indigenous peoples and local communities and develop guidelines for the inclusion and consideration of traditional lands and of resource use in spatial planning processes and environmental impact assessments, in accordance with national legislation and international obligations.

4. The present guidelines have been developed by the Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities pursuant to Tasks 1.1 and 1.2 of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention related to indigenous peoples and local communities. The guidelines are aimed at Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities and other relevant actors, including conservation and restoration organizations, the private sector and other entities that will implement all elements of the guidelines.

5. The guidelines build on the intrinsic relationship that indigenous peoples and local communities have with nature, encompassing diverse concepts, such as biodiversity, ecosystems, Mother Earth and systems of life. The relationship is reflected in their cultures, spiritual values, ceremonies, governance systems, histories, oral traditions, indigenous languages, traditional knowledge systems and customary laws and procedures. Those elements contribute to the conservation, restoration and spatial planning of biocultural diversity, in accordance with national circumstances and in a manner consistent with section C of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.[11]

II. Objectives

6. The objectives of the guidelines are to:

(a) Provide guidance on the inclusion and consideration of traditional land and resource use systems of indigenous peoples and local communities in spatial planning processes and

[8] Ibid., vol. 3008, No. 30619.
[9] Decision 15/4, annex.
[10] For the purpose of the present guidelines, “guidelines” refers to voluntary guidelines.
[11] Decision 15/4, annex.

environmental impact assessments to support the implementation of Targets 1 and 14 of the Framework;

(b) Provide legal and policy guidance regarding the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in the restoration of ecosystems, recognizing their contribution to the implementation of Target 2 of the Framework through their traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, and indigenous and traditional governance systems;

(c) Provide legal and policy guidance for the identification, recognition and respect of and support for the indigenous and traditional territories of indigenous peoples and local communities to support the implementation of Target 3 of the Framework.

III. Guiding principles

7. The present guidelines should be applied in accordance with national circumstances and in a manner that is consistent with section C of the Framework and the general principles outlined in the programme of work.

A. Spiritual and cultural relationships

8. Conservation and restoration measures, as well as spatial planning and effective management processes addressing land- and sea-use change and environmental impact assessments, should be designed in a manner that recognizes and respects the spiritual and cultural relationships that indigenous peoples and local communities have with biodiversity in their lands, territories and waters.

B. Recognition of and respect for customary land tenure and governance systems

9. The rights of indigenous peoples and local communities in relation to customary land tenure, governance systems, customary law and procedures should be recognized and respected.

C. Human rights-based approach

10. Conservation and restoration efforts, spatial planning and environmental impact assessments should follow a human rights-based approach respecting, protecting and promoting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, in accordance with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples[12] and human rights law. The rights of indigenous peoples and local communities to a clean, healthy environment and their right to have access to justice should be also acknowledged.

D. Free, prior and informed consent

11. The free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples and local communities should be respected in the design and implementation of spatial planning and environmental impact assessment activities, including those related to the designation and management of conservation and restoration areas that may have an impact on their lands, territories, waters, resources and cultural heritage.

E. Traditional knowledge

12. The traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities can provide valuable information to support the implementation of protection and restoration measures, spatial planning and effective management processes addressing land- and sea-use change and environmental impact assessments. Traditional knowledge should therefore be recognized, respected and valued.

F. Gender equality and intergenerational equity

13. The critical roles of women and girls, children and youth, knowledge holders and elders from indigenous peoples and local communities in conservation and restoration efforts, spatial planning

[12] General Assembly resolution 61/295, annex.

and environmental impact assessments should be recognized. Gender-responsive approaches should address barriers to the participation and benefit-sharing of indigenous women and girls, and children and youth and should safeguard the transmission of gender-specific knowledge.

14. The implementation of the present guidelines should be guided by the principles of intergenerational equity to ensure that the needs of the present generation are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs and that younger generations can participate meaningfully in decision-making at all levels.

G. Recognition of diverse value systems

15. Conservation and restoration efforts, spatial planning and environmental impact assessments should be undertaken in a manner that respects the diverse value systems and world views of indigenous peoples and local communities. Such concepts as Mother Earth, nature's gifts and the rights of nature should be recognized. The cultural, spiritual and holistic relationships of indigenous peoples and local communities with their lands, territories and waters and their distinct knowledge systems and governance institutions should also be recognized.

IV. Recognition of spatial planning and effective management processes addressing land- and sea-use change led by indigenous peoples and local communities

16. National laws and policy frameworks should, as appropriate, recognize and support spatial planning and effective management processes related to land- and sea-use change, including those led by indigenous peoples and local communities in their lands, territories, waters and resources, including marine and coastal areas. Those efforts should also be reflected in the revision or updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, as well as in broader land-use planning and marine and coastal plans.

17. Spatial planning and effective management measures related to land- and sea-use change led by indigenous peoples and local communities should be recognized and reflected in the revision or updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, as well as in land-use planning and marine and coastal plans.

18. Spatial planning and land-use-related frameworks should, as appropriate, recognize land-use mapping led by indigenous peoples and local communities, developed in accordance with their cultural, governance and spiritual dimensions.

19. Decision-making in spatial planning and effective management processes addressing land- and sea-use change should promote cooperation and collaboration with indigenous peoples and local communities, through the recognition, as appropriate, of indigenous and traditional governance systems.

V. Contributions to the effective restoration of degraded ecosystems[13]

20. The rights and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities in restoration activities, which are grounded in their holistic relationships with their lands, territories and waters, should be recognized and promoted by, inter alia, supporting biocultural approaches, customary sustainable use of biodiversity, traditional knowledge systems and other forms of stewardship, such as those related to the land tenure rights of indigenous peoples and local communities.

21. Restoration efforts should be focused on degraded ecosystems, recognizing that the territories of indigenous peoples and local communities are not necessarily degraded and may not always require restoration. In accordance with indigenous and traditional governance systems, the roles of

[13] The territories, lands and waters of indigenous peoples and local communities should not be considered as inherently in need of restoration.

elders, knowledge holders, women and girls, and children and youth from indigenous peoples and local communities should be recognized and strengthened in all aspects of restoration.

22. Legislative, administrative and policy measures related to restoration should be developed in line with Target 2 of the Framework and in a manner that recognizes and safeguards the contributions of indigenous peoples and local communities. Frameworks should be developed with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities at all stages and in all processes related to planning, development, implementation and monitoring. Assessments of degraded ecosystems should draw upon diverse knowledge systems, including scientific assessments and the traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities.

23. Restoration efforts should be co-designed and co-developed with indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant government authorities and reflected in the revision or updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, national restoration plans and national reporting, ensuring that the contributions of indigenous peoples and local communities are visible, supported and tracked through the use of appropriate indicators.

VI. Recognition of and respect for indigenous and traditional territories in the implementation of Target 3 of the Framework

24. Legal, administrative and policy measures for the national identification, recognition of and respect for indigenous and traditional territories of indigenous peoples and local communities should be adopted and implemented. Those measures should recognize, as appropriate, the customary tenure systems, governance institutions, sacred sites, conservation roles, traditional economies and rights over lands, territories and resources of indigenous peoples and local communities.

25. The contributions made by indigenous peoples and local communities to the conservation and restoration of biodiversity in their indigenous and traditional territories should be recognized in biodiversity-related laws and frameworks, as appropriate, including in situations when customary sustainable use is practiced.

26. The recognition of indigenous and traditional territories should, as appropriate, not require a classification under the category of protected areas or other effective area-based conservation measures.

VII. Environmental impact assessments

27. The Akwé: Kon Voluntary Guidelines for the Conduct of Cultural, Environmental and Social Impact Assessments Regarding Developments Proposed to Take Place on, or Which Are Likely to Impact on, Sacred Sites and on Lands and Waters Traditionally Occupied or Used by Indigenous and Local Communities[14] provide a culturally appropriate framework for the conduct of environmental, cultural and social impact assessments related to developments proposed on or near sacred sites, or on lands and waters traditionally occupied or used by indigenous and local communities.[15]

28. The Akwé: Kon Voluntary Guidelines remain valid and applicable, in particular in the context of the implementation of the Framework and Task 1.2 of the programme of work.

29. The Akwé: Kon Voluntary Guidelines include cultural and social dimensions in environmental impact assessments, including evaluating impacts on spiritual values, cultural practices, customary governance systems, traditional livelihoods and intergenerational knowledge transmission.

[14] Decision VII/16 F, annex.

[15] The Conference of the Parties decided to use "indigenous peoples and local communities" in decision XII/12 and "free, prior and informed consent" in the Mo'otz Kuxtal Voluntary Guidelines in decision XIII/18.

VIII. Institutional and administrative mechanisms

A. Recognition of customary governance systems

30. The governance systems of indigenous peoples and local communities, including traditional and customary governance systems, should be recognized and supported as unique and legitimate frameworks for the stewardship, conservation and restoration of biodiversity, in accordance with national circumstances. This recognition should extend to customary laws, community protocols, norms, values and rules related to land, water and marine management, as well as the protection of sacred sites.

31. Enabling conditions should ensure support for indigenous peoples and local communities in strengthening and exercising their governance systems, for example, through the recognition of and support for community mapping, the participatory demarcation of their territories and the development of community-led monitoring systems.

32. The autonomy of indigenous peoples and local communities in the management and governance of their lands, territories and waters, including marine and coastal areas, should be respected through the recognition of their justice and governance systems and the provision of financial and technical support.

33. The fact that strengthening the customary governance systems of indigenous peoples and local communities supports more effective spatial planning and sustainable management should be recognized.

B. Free, prior and informed consent[16]

34. Mechanisms, legislation, administrative and policy measures or protocols should be developed and implemented to ensure that indigenous peoples and local communities are able, as appropriate, to grant or withhold their free, prior and informed consent before the establishment or expansion of any protected area or any other effective area-based conservation measures affecting their lands, territories and waters, including marine and coastal areas, or their cultural heritage. Free, prior and informed consent should be obtained through good faith consultations conducted in all phases of environmental impact assessments.

35. Free, prior and informed consent should be understood as an ongoing process, allowing communities to determine what information should be shared or withheld, in particular with regard to sacred sites and culturally sensitive information.

36. Traditional knowledge should only be accessed and used with the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples and local communities, in line with customary protocols, national legislation and international obligations.

[16] In the implementation of Tasks 1.1 and 1.2 of the programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention, the term "free, prior and informed consent" should be understood as follow:

- "Free" ensures that indigenous peoples and local communities are able to make decisions without coercion, pressure, manipulation or undue influence. Participation must be voluntary and based on their own decision-making processes.
- "Prior" requires that consent must be sought well in advance of the approval of any restoration project, spatial planning initiative, land- or sea-use change or environmental impact assessment, and by respecting the customary governance systems and timelines established by indigenous peoples and local communities.
- "Informed" means that complete, accessible and culturally appropriate information, including in indigenous languages, must be provided, covering the purpose, scope, duration and potential impacts of any proposed activity. The information provided must include expected outcomes, risks, implementing actors, procedural steps and benefit-sharing arrangements.
- "Consent" implies the right of indigenous peoples and local communities, or their competent authorities, to give or withhold consent on matters affecting their rights, lands or knowledge.

C. Administrative arrangements

37. Indigenous and traditional mechanisms, including autonomous governance frameworks or advisory councils, in accordance with indigenous and traditional governance systems, should be established, strengthened and maintained, as appropriate.

38. Co-management bodies should be established or strengthened under national legislation, as appropriate, to guide the planning, implementation and monitoring of conservation and restoration efforts, spatial planning and environmental impact assessments. Co-management bodies should ensure an equitable representation of government and indigenous peoples and local communities.

39. Areas that are governed and managed by indigenous peoples and local communities, in accordance with their customary laws, governance systems and institutional frameworks, should be recognized in the context of conservation and restoration efforts, spatial planning and environmental impact assessments.

40. The customary law, procedures and governance systems of indigenous peoples and local communities should be recognized and respected in the design, management and monitoring of protected areas. Such recognition should also be reflected in other effective area-based conservation measures, spatial planning and environmental impact assessments.

41. Collaborative mechanisms should be established and strengthened, as appropriate, between governments and indigenous peoples and local communities in relation to community mapping initiatives and indigenous and local community monitoring systems.

42. Mechanisms, legislation, administrative and policy measures, including safeguards, grievance mechanisms and monitoring systems should be developed and implemented to prevent marginalization, displacement or cultural harm in connection with conservation and restoration efforts, spatial planning and environmental impact assessments.

D. Mechanisms for conflict resolution

43. Mechanisms, legislation, administrative and policy measures or protocols for conflict prevention, resolution, and grievance redress should be established or strengthened, as appropriate. Those systems should recognize customary dispute resolution practices and safeguard the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities in relation to conservation and restoration efforts, spatial planning and environmental impact assessments.

IX. Full and effective participation

44. Indigenous peoples and local communities should be accorded the right to full, equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive participation in all decision-making processes that may affect their rights, lands, territories, waters and resources.

45. The participation of indigenous peoples and local communities should be ensured throughout all phases of development, planning, implementation and monitoring of conservation and restoration measures, spatial planning and environmental impact assessments.

X. Enabling conditions

A. Capacity-building

46. The capacity of indigenous peoples and local communities, relevant government institutions and the private sector to implement the present guidelines should be strengthened. Capacity-building efforts should be culturally sensitive and include training for public authorities, stakeholders and the private sector to apply relevant legislation and policies respectfully and effectively.

47. Opportunities for training, technical cooperation and legal support, including in indigenous languages, should be created and promoted through the development of appropriate materials and

tools to allow for the sharing of experiences in the conservation and restoration of biodiversity, spatial planning and environmental impact assessments among indigenous peoples and local communities.

B. Awareness-raising

48. Awareness should be raised among government institutions, civil society, the private sector and the general public of the roles, contributions, rights and knowledge systems of indigenous peoples and local communities in the conservation and restoration of biodiversity.

C. Sustainable, inclusive and accessible financial mechanisms

49. Sustainable and accessible financial mechanisms should be established to provide financial support for the design, implementation and monitoring of conservation, restoration efforts, spatial planning and environmental impact assessments led by or involving indigenous peoples and local communities.

50. Direct funding programmes should be developed or established to support restoration and conservation efforts, spatial planning projects and environmental impact assessments led by indigenous peoples and local communities within their territories. The programmes should also support their full and effective participation.

D. Monitoring and reporting

51. The development of monitoring and reporting mechanisms, including the use of biocultural community protocols, should be supported.

52. Indicators, including biocultural indicators, and community-based monitoring systems should be operationalized to measure the effectiveness of conservation and restoration efforts led by or involving indigenous peoples and local communities, including for headline indicator 22.1 of the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework on land-use change and land tenure in the traditional territories of indigenous peoples and local communities.[17]

53. A global registry and national information systems on indigenous and traditional territories, at all levels, should be created and maintained to monitor progress in the recognition and governance of those territories. The systems must ensure data sovereignty for those groups, allowing them to decide what information may be shared and how it may be used.

54. Information on the implementation of commitments related to indigenous and traditional territories, and the contributions of indigenous peoples and local communities to conservation and restoration, should be integrated into national biodiversity strategies and action plans, national restoration plans and national reports produced under the Convention. The integration should be undertaken with the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples and local communities.

E. Access to information

55. Indigenous peoples and local communities should have timely and culturally appropriate access to information related to conservation, restoration, spatial planning and environmental impact assessments. Access includes the translation of relevant materials into indigenous languages, as well as the use of culturally appropriate formats to facilitate the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities.

F. Technical cooperation and legal support

56. Technical and legal support should be provided to strengthen the capacity of indigenous peoples and local communities to undertake community mapping and monitoring related to conservation, restoration, spatial planning and environmental impact assessments.

[17] See decision 16/31.

57. Legal support should enhance awareness of collective land rights and assist indigenous peoples and local communities within conservation, restoration, national spatial planning and environmental governance frameworks.