

THEMATIC CONSULTATION ON TRANSPARENT IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING, REPORTING AND REVIEW FOR THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK¹

Rome, 20-22 February 2020

CONCEPT NOTE

Progress to implement the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 has been insufficient. The Conference of the Parties (decision 14/29) has decided to explore the development of enhanced review mechanisms for the Convention to strengthen implementation under the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. The need for an enhanced review mechanism under the Convention has emerged clearly from the submissions and the consultations that have taken place to date in the process to develop the post 2020 global biodiversity framework. A clear message from the discussions at the first meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework is that such a mechanism should include consideration of strengthened assessment, planning, implementation, monitoring, reporting and review.

An enhanced review mechanism under the Convention would aim to:

- (a) Allow the Conference of the Parties and its subsidiary bodies to track collective progress towards global goals/targets and identify strategic actions to scale up action, fill gaps and improve progress;
- (b) Enhance visibility of the contribution of each Party towards the achievement of global goals and targets while increasing overall transparency and confidence regarding the actions undertaken by Parties in implementation of the framework.
- (c) Facilitate mutual learning and support among Parties;
- (d) Identify obstacles in national implementation and specific approaches/actions or resources needed to overcome them.

The enhanced review mechanism would be:

- (a) *Comprehensive*: it would allow for review of the contribution of each Party and the aggregate progress towards all agreed global goals/targets, thus allowing for identification of gaps and needs to step up actions;
- (b) *Participatory*: the process would be available to all Parties;
- (c) *Facilitative*: the process would aim to strengthen implementation, including through peer learning, the identification of constraints and obstacles and ways and means to overcome them. It would not be a punitive mechanism but rather a supporting tool;
- (d) *Evidence-based*: the review process would use the best available information, including from national reports, as well as other sources of information such as globally available datasets;
- (e) *Results-oriented*: gaps in commitments and implementation would be assessed to inform enhanced actions.

There has been substantial previous documentation and discussion on the topic of review mechanisms in the context of the Convention, including an analysis of existing mechanisms under the Convention, and under other relevant Conventions and processes.² The post 2020 thematic stream on this topic will build

¹ This terminology was provisionally agreed during the discussion group in the first meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global biodiversity Framework but is used here without prejudice to future input and discussions in the post-2020 process. The thematic stream includes the full “planning cycle” as it relates to the Convention- i.e. assessment, planning, implementation, monitoring, reporting, and review. The term “review mechanisms” used in decision 14/29 is used as a shorthand for this broader concept in the text of this concept note.

² [COP decision 14/29 \(and NP-3/15\)](#) - Review mechanisms

[CBD/SBI/2/11](#) - Mechanisms to facilitate review of implementation

Further Options for Mechanisms to Support Review of Implementation [CBD/SBI/1/10/Add.3](#)

on this previous work and consider the inputs from the submissions from Parties, partners, and other stakeholders, the regional and thematic workshops and consultations that have already taken place and the discussions of the first meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group.

The enhanced review mechanism will be developed through a process embedded in the process for the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, consistent with decisions 14/27, 14/29 and 14/34. This will include a trial of an open-ended review forum, and a consideration of options for an enhanced mechanism during the third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation. Two face-to-face meetings are also proposed:

(a) Thematic Consultation, Rome, 20-22 February

Will be open to all participants in the second meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

(b) Expert workshop, (date and location to be determined)

Will bring together a small number of Parties (c/a 20) with full balance between CBD regions, and experts from other relevant processes;

Key principles (For both meetings)

Key principles are as follows:

- (a) Two co-leads chosen from among Parties will be identified. They will be engaged in this issue from the preparation of the two workshops to the delivery of the outcomes to the Co-Chairs of the Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and throughout the post-2020 process;
- (b) Be guided by relevant decisions of the Conference of the Parties;
- (c) Involve and consider alignment with the Protocols, other related Conventions and relevant international processes;
- (d) Build on the experiences and lessons learned from the multidimensional review approach under the Convention;
- (e) The format and overall approaches used for previous regional and thematic consultations/workshops will be followed;
- (f) Discussions among Parties, stakeholders and experts in line with the principles of transparency and inclusiveness agreed at the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;
- (g) Follow existing practices under the Convention on Biological Diversity for the participation and financial support to eligible Parties and representatives of major stakeholder groups (Indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth, grassroot civil society organizations);
- (h) Be organized in the period before the second meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework;
- (i) Conducted in English.

Expected outcomes

Thematic Consultation

The Thematic Consultation will discuss options for an enhanced review mechanism for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its third meeting and the Open-ended

[COP decision XIII/25](#) and [CBD/SBI/1/10](#) - Modus Operandi of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation and Mechanisms to Support Review of Implementation

[CBD/SBI/1/10/Add.1](#) - Voluntary Peer-Review Mechanism for National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (Advance unedited)

Meeting report: [CBD/SBI/1/INF/50](#) and [link](#) to meeting website and presentations - Workshop of the “Friends of the Convention on Biological Diversity” on Mechanisms to Support Review of Implementation of the Convention, Bogis-Bossey, Switzerland, 21-23 March 2016;

Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework at its third meeting. The consultation will aim to provide concrete and constructive inputs to the Co-Chairs of the Working Group for consideration in their future work on the draft post-2020 global biodiversity framework and make these available to the Working Group on the Post-2020 for its consideration. The consultation does not constitute a negotiation process but will serve to seek areas of convergence.

Expert Workshop

The Expert Workshop will consider the experiences under the Convention on Biological Diversity and other relevant processes and develop elements and options for review mechanisms for further discussions at the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its third meeting and the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework at its third meeting

Key substantial elements of the provisional agenda

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Thematic Consultation

- Opening.
- Background (mandates, rationale, work to date) and roadmap for enhancing review mechanisms under the Convention.
- Presentation and discussion of existing review mechanisms under the Convention (national reports, Global Biodiversity Outlook, national biodiversity strategies and action plans, Voluntary Peer Review etc) and their strengths and weaknesses, and potential within a multidimensional review approach, and options for enhancement.
- Presentation and discussion of existing review mechanisms under other processes (such as the Paris Agreement, the Sustainable Development Goals, UNCHR, and others), their strengths and weaknesses, and what elements could be adopted under the global biodiversity framework of the Convention (participation by experts from other relevant processes and Parties to the Convention and stakeholders).
- **Discussion of elements having potential value for the global biodiversity framework, how they could be combined, modified, enhanced etc. with existing mechanisms under the Convention.**
- **Envisioning and compiling options for possible enhanced review mechanism.**
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Expert Workshop

- Opening.
- Background (mandates, rationale, work to date).
- Presentation and discussion of existing review mechanisms under the Convention (national reports, *Global Biodiversity Outlook*, national biodiversity strategies and action plans, Voluntary Peer Review etc) and their strengths and weaknesses, and potential within a multidimensional review approach, and options for enhancement. (Presentation and group discussions).
- Presentation and discussion of existing review mechanisms under other processes (such as the Paris Agreement, Sustainable Development Goals, UNCHR, and others), their strengths and weaknesses, and what elements could be adopted under the global biodiversity framework of the Convention (participation by experts from other relevant processes and Parties to the Convention and stakeholders).
- **Further developing options for possible enhanced review mechanism.**