



Convention on Biological Diversity

Distr.
LIMITED

CBD/COP/15/Part-II/L.1/Rev.1
19 December 2022

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

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 to the Convention on Biological Diversity 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 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.

2. Owing to the circumstances surrounding the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the meeting was held in two parts, with the first part, held online, with limited in-person participation, in Kunming, China, on 12 and 13 October 2021, and the second part, held in person in Montreal, Canada, from 7 to 19 December 2022. The present report contains the proceedings of the second part of the meeting.¹

3. The second part of the meeting was preceded by a ceremonial welcome by the Traditional Chief of the Onondaga Nation, Tadodaho Sid Hill, followed by statements by the Prime Minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Minister of Ecology and Environment of China and President of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, Huang Runqiu, the Prime Minister of Quebec, François Legault, the Mayor of Montreal, Valérie Plante, and the Mayor of Kunming, Liu Jiachen, as well as by a cultural presentation, on 6 December 2022.

B. Attendance

4. All States were invited to participate in the second part of the meeting. The following Parties to the Convention attended:

| | | |
|---------------------|-----------|------------|
| Albania | Argentina | Azerbaijan |
| Algeria | Armenia | Bahamas |
| Angola | Australia | Bahrain |
| Antigua and Barbuda | Austria | Bangladesh |

* The present document is based on document CBD/COP/15/Part-II/L.1, issued on 19 December 2022 but not considered owing to the suspension of the meeting, as updated to include the proceedings of that day, and documents CBD/COP/15/L.1/Add.1 and CBD/COP/15/L.1/Add.2, which were approved by Working Group I at its 4th meeting, on 19 December, and by Working Group II at its 10th meeting, on 16 December, respectively.

¹ The report of the first part of the fifteenth meeting was issued as document CBD/COP/15/4.

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Barbados | Gabon | Mongolia |
| Belarus | Gambia | Morocco |
| Belgium | Georgia | Mozambique |
| Belize | Germany | Namibia |
| Benin | Ghana | Nauru |
| Bhutan | Greece | Nepal |
| Bolivia (Plurinational State of) | Grenada | Netherlands |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | Guatemala | New Zealand |
| Botswana | Guinea | Nicaragua |
| Brazil | Guinea-Bissau | Niger |
| Bulgaria | Guyana | Nigeria |
| Burkina Faso | Haiti | Niue |
| Burundi | Honduras | North Macedonia |
| Cabo Verde | Hungary | Norway |
| Cambodia | Iceland | Oman |
| Cameroon | India | Pakistan |
| Canada | Indonesia | Palau |
| Central African Republic | Iran (Islamic Republic of) | Panama |
| Chad | Ireland | Papua New Guinea |
| Chile | Israel | Paraguay |
| China | Italy | Peru |
| Colombia | Jamaica | Philippines |
| Comoros | Japan | Poland |
| Congo | Jordan | Portugal |
| Cook Islands | Kazakhstan | Qatar |
| Costa Rica | Kenya | Republic of Korea |
| Côte d'Ivoire | Kiribati | Republic of Moldova |
| Croatia | Kuwait | Romania |
| Cuba | Kyrgyzstan | Russian Federation |
| Cyprus | Lao People's Democratic Republic | Rwanda |
| Czechia | Latvia | Saint Kitts and Nevis |
| Democratic People's Republic of Korea | Lebanon | Saint Lucia |
| Democratic Republic of the Congo | Lesotho | Saint Vincent and the Grenadines |
| Denmark | Liberia | Samoa |
| Djibouti | Libya | Sao Tome and Principe |
| Dominica | Liechtenstein | Saudi Arabia |
| Dominican Republic | Lithuania | Senegal |
| Ecuador | Luxembourg | Serbia |
| Egypt | Madagascar | Seychelles |
| El Salvador | Malawi | Sierra Leone |
| Equatorial Guinea | Malaysia | Singapore |
| Eritrea | Maldives | Slovakia |
| Estonia | Mali | Slovenia |
| Eswatini | Malta | Solomon Islands |
| Ethiopia | Marshall Islands | Somalia |
| European Union | Mauritania | South Africa |
| Fiji | Mauritius | South Sudan |
| Finland | Mexico | Spain |
| France | Micronesia (Federated States of) | Sri Lanka |
| | Monaco | State of Palestine |
| | | Sudan |

| | | |
|----------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| Suriname | Tunisia | United Republic of Tanzania |
| Sweden | Türkiye | Uruguay |
| Switzerland | Turkmenistan | Uzbekistan |
| Syrian Arab Republic | Tuvalu | Vanuatu |
| Tajikistan | Uganda | Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) |
| Thailand | Ukraine | Viet Nam |
| Timor-Leste | United Arab Emirates | Yemen |
| Togo | United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern | Zambia |
| Tonga | Ireland | Zimbabwe |
| Trinidad and Tobago | | |

5. The following States not party to the Convention were also represented: Holy See and United States of America.²

I. ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS

Item 1. Opening of the meeting

6. The 1st plenary session was held jointly with those of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol, on 7 December 2022. The President of the three bodies, the Minister of Ecology and Environment of China, declared the second part of the meetings open at 10.25 a.m.

7. Opening remarks were delivered by the President, the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Minister of Environment and Climate Change of Canada, Steven Guilbeault, and the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

8. In his statement, the President said that the current part of the meeting – for which the first part had laid a solid foundation – was the chance to conclude a peace pact with nature by adopting the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. In that context, he looked forward to a demonstration of international cooperation, political determination, the 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 represent a landmark and write a new chapter in global biodiversity governance.

9. In her remarks, the Executive Director of UNEP said that the Conference must secure the future of the planetary life support system by delivering an ambitious post-2020 global biodiversity framework that not only tackled changing land and sea use, species overexploitation, climate change, pollution and invasive alien species, but also addressed the underlying drivers of biodiversity loss and recognized and protected the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities. The framework would also need to dovetail with the Paris Agreement and other instruments of relevance, be adequately resourced and be implemented with great transparency and accountability on progress. It was vital to accelerate the negotiating pace, with all stakeholders bearing a unique responsibility for agreeing on a plan for making peace with nature as the irreplaceable essence of life.

10. The Minister of Environment and Climate Change of Canada 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 conserving a minimum of 30 per cent of the world's lands and oceans by 2030. Ambitious goals must be matched by real action. 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

² See annex for the list of organizations represented at the meeting.

framework must unite all people in efforts to halt biodiversity loss and set the world on a path to living in harmony with nature by 2050.

11. The Executive Secretary 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, the generosity of which had made the participation of developing countries and representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities possible. She urged participants to blend their individual voices as a chorus and to develop a text that reflected consensus, compromise and ambition.

12. The Conference of the Parties also heard general statements by representatives of regions, groups of countries, individual countries, United Nations entities and major groups and other stakeholders.

13. 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).

14. Statements were made by the representatives of Antigua and Barbuda (on behalf of the small island developing States), the European Union and its 27 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 27 member States, Gabon, Japan, Malawi, Monaco, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, the Republic of Korea, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, Vanuatu, Zambia and the United States), 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).

15. Statements were also made by the representatives of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, the latter on behalf of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions.

16. Statements were further 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 and the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity.

17. The representative of the Russian Federation made a statement in exercise of his right of reply.

18. At its 2nd plenary session, on 10 December, the Conference of the Parties heard additional statements by the representatives of FAO and of major groups and other stakeholders.

19. A statement was made by a representative of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

20. 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.

21. Statements that were submitted to the Secretariat are available on the Conference website.³

³ See <https://www.cbd.int/meetings/COP-15>, under "Statements".

Item 2. Organizational matters

A. Election of officers

22. At its 1st plenary session, the Conference of the Parties noted that the President, the Vice-Presidents and the Rapporteur who had served during the first part of the fifteenth meeting would continue to fulfil their functions, with the exception of two of the Vice-Presidents, who had since been replaced.⁴

23. At the 5th plenary session, on 19 December, the regional representatives announced the names of the representatives nominated to serve on the Bureau for a term of office commencing upon the closure of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and ending at the closure of its sixteenth meeting. Given their turn in the rotation to nominate a candidate, the Central and Eastern European States and the Asia-Pacific States also announced, through their representatives, their nominees for chairing the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the Subsidiary Body on Implementation.

24. The Bureau member from Georgia, in presenting the nominations for Bureau members from the Central and Eastern European States, explained that the Parties of the region had been unable to reach consensus on the nominees and had therefore held a vote, which had resulted in the selection of the nominees presented.

25. The representative of the Russian Federation opposed some of the nominations and requested that a vote by secret ballot be held, subject to a quorum of two thirds of the Parties to the Convention, in accordance with the rules of procedure.

26. A representative of the Secretariat conducted a roll call of the Parties present with valid credentials and determined that the quorum of two thirds of Parties to the Convention required for decision-making, pursuant to rule 30 of the rules of procedure, was not met and that, therefore, the election could not be held and the election of officers could not be finalized.

27. Consequently, the President announced that, at the end of the session, he would propose:

(a) To suspend the second part of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol in order to allow Parties to consider the pending matter at a resumed session of the meetings, to be convened at a later date;

(b) To request members of the Bureau of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and officers of other bodies to remain in office until the conclusion of the meetings at a resumed session.

28. The representative of Tajikistan requested that the Secretariat review or clarify the list of countries that were members of the Eastern European States.

B. Adoption of the agenda

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

I. Organizational matters

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Organizational matters.

⁴ Vinod Mathur (India) was replaced by Naresh Pal Gangwar, and Andrea Meza Murillo (Costa Rica) was replaced by Eugenia Arguedas Montezuma.

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.

II Reports

6. Reports of intersessional and regional preparatory meetings.

III. Administration and budget

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

IV. Review of implementation

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.

V. The post-2020 global biodiversity framework, related matters and mechanisms for enhancing implementation

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.

VI. Further technical issues

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.

VII. Final matters

28. Other matters.
29. Adoption of the report.

30. Closure of the meeting.

C. Organization of work

30. At its 1st plenary session, the Conference of the Parties considered a note by the Executive Secretary on the proposed organization of work for the second part of its fifteenth meeting (CBD/COP/15/1/Add.4/Rev.1) and agreed to organize its work as set out therein. The three bodies established two working groups to serve them and elected Rosemary Paterson (New Zealand) as Chair of Working Group I and Helena Jefferey-Brown (Antigua and Barbuda) as Chair of Working Group II.

First stocktake session

31. On 10 December, the Conference of the Parties held its 2nd plenary session, which served in part as a stocktake session. The session was held jointly with the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol, and the Chairs of Working Groups I and II and of the contact group on budget reported on the progress made to date.

32. Statements were made by the representatives of Argentina (on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean States), Brazil (also on behalf of the African States, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), 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), the European Union and its 27 member States, Honduras 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).

First meeting of the heads of delegation

33. On 14 December, a meeting of the heads of delegation was held jointly with the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol, to discuss the progress made to date on the key issues under consideration.

34. Statements were made by the representatives of Argentina (on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean States), Australia, the Bahamas (on behalf of the small island developing States), Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, the European Union and its 27 member States, Ghana, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Norway, Saudi Arabia, the Russian Federation, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Switzerland, Uganda, the United Kingdom and the United Republic of Tanzania.

Ministerial consultations

35. On 15 December, the Conference of the Parties held the opening plenary session of the high-level segment of the meeting jointly with the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol. The President informed the 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 on genetic resources; and Yasmine Fouad (Egypt) and Steven Guilbeault (Canada) would lead consultations on the key unresolved elements of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

Second stocktake session

36. On 17 December, the Conference of the Parties held its 3rd plenary session, which served as a second stocktake session. The session was held jointly with the Conference of the Parties serving as the

meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol, and the Chairs of Working Groups I and II and of the contact group on budget reported on the progress made to date.

37. The Conference of the Parties also heard reports from the ministers leading the ministerial consultations under the process established by the President during the high-level segment.

38. 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.

39. Statements were also made by the representatives of CBD Alliance, CBD Women Caucus, the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity and the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

40. The Conference of the Parties subsequently agreed to the path forward proposed by the President, whereby he would prepare a set of texts constituting a package covering the agenda items closely related to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, namely, item 9 A, on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework; item 9 B, on monitoring frameworks for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework; item 11, on digital sequence information on genetic resources; item 12 A, on resource mobilization; item 13 A, on capacity-building and technical and scientific cooperation; and item 14, on mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting and review.

Second meeting of the heads of delegation

41. On 18 December, a second meeting of the heads of delegation was held jointly with the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol to review the draft decisions prepared by the President for the key agenda items associated with the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

42. Statements were made by the representatives of Argentina, Australia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, the Cook Islands, Costa Rica, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of Like-minded Megadiverse Countries), the European Union and its 27 member States, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Liberia, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Namibia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, Samoa, Senegal (on behalf of the African States), South Africa, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye, Tuvalu, Uganda, the United Kingdom, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Vanuatu.

Consideration of a package of draft decisions on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework for adoption

43. At the 4th plenary session, on 19 December, the President introduced a set of draft decisions proposed for adoption by the Conference of the Parties as a package, which covered the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (CBD/COP/15/L.25), the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (CBD/COP/15/L.26), mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting and review (CBD/COP/15/L.27), capacity-building and development and technical and scientific cooperation (CBD/COP/15/L.28), resource mobilization (CBD/COP/15/L.29) and digital sequence information on genetic resources (CBD/COP/15/L.30).⁵

44. Statements were made by the representatives of Cameroon, Canada, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Gabon, Mexico, Namibia, Rwanda and Uganda.

⁵ The adoption of each individual draft decision is reflected under the relevant section of the present report.

45. Uganda stated that it wished to put on record its reservations on the procedure under which the set of decisions was adopted, to avoid setting a precedent for future proceedings of the Conference of the Parties.

46. At the 5th plenary session, the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, asking that her comments be reflected in the present report, said that while her Government welcomed the adoption of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and the five related decisions, it had reservations with respect to Target 19 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and to decision 15/7, on resource mobilization, with regard to funding and the funding mechanism, and that it called for the implementation of Article 21 of the Convention.

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

47. At its 1st plenary session, the Conference of the Parties noted that, in accordance with the relevant rules of procedure for 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 thereon at a later session.

48. Accordingly, at the 2nd plenary session, Eric Okoree (Ghana), designated by the Bureau during the first part of the fifteenth 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, while those of 19 delegations did not fully comply with it and a further 43 delegations had not presented their credentials to date.

49. At the 4th plenary session, Ms. Jeffrey-Brown, speaking on behalf of Mr. Okoree, presented the revised and final report on credentials (CBD/COP/15/INF/26/Rev.1). She informed the Conference of the Parties that 188 Parties were registered as attending the meeting. The Bureau had examined the credentials of the representatives of 164 Parties that were attending the meeting. The credentials of 150 delegations were in full compliance with rule 18 of the rules of procedure, while those of 14 delegations did not fully comply with it and a further 24 delegations had not presented their credentials to date.

50. The Bureau also reported that it received two communications concerning the representation of Myanmar that conveyed different sets of nominees as the representatives of that country at the meeting. In line with the measures taken by the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations in similar situations, the Bureau informed the Conference of the Parties that it had deferred the competing credentials received from the authorities of Myanmar and advised not to accredit any delegate from Myanmar. The Conference of the Parties took note of the report of the Bureau on credentials.

51. A number of heads of delegations had signed a declaration to the effect that they would submit their credentials, in the proper form and in their original version, to the Executive Secretary within 30 days of the closure of the meeting and no later than 19 January 2023. In keeping with past practice, the Conference of the Parties agreed to the Bureau's proposal that those delegations that had yet to submit their credentials or that had submitted credentials that did not fully comply with the provisions of rule 18 should be allowed to participate in the meeting on a provisional basis.

52. Accordingly, by 19 December 2022, formal credentials issued by the Head of State or Government, by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or, in the case of a regional economic integration organization, by the competent authority, as provided for in rule 18 of the rules of procedure, had been submitted for the representatives of the following 150 Parties participating in the second part of the fifteenth meeting: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Cuba, Czechia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini,

Ethiopia, European Union, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea Bissau, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Niue, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, State of Palestine, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

53. As at 19 January 2023, 10 additional Parties had submitted valid credentials: Gabon, Honduras, Malaysia, Mali, Nepal, Saudi Arabia, South Sudan, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

54. Credentials from the two non-party States, the Holy See and the United States, were also received.

Item 4. Pending issues

55. The Conference of the Parties had considered agenda item 4 during the first part of the fifteenth meeting and did not consider it again during the second part.

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

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

57. At its 1st plenary session, the Conference of the Parties noted that the seventeenth meeting was expected to be hosted by a party from the Eastern European States and agreed that its President would consult with the 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, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions (CBD/COP/15/2).

58. At the 2nd plenary session, a statement was made by the representative of Türkiye, in its capacity as host of the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

59. At its 5th plenary session, the Conference of the Parties considered draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.35, submitted by the President, and adopted it as decision 15/32.

II. REPORTS

Item 6. Reports of intersessional and regional preparatory meetings

60. At its 1st plenary session, the Conference of the Parties had before it reports on intersessional work undertaken since the first part of the fifteenth meeting, namely, 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 the second part of its third meeting and on its fourth and fifth meetings (CBD/WG2020/3/7, CBD/WG2020/4/4 and CBD/WG2020/5/5, respectively).

61. 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.

62. 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

63. At the 1st plenary session, 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).

64. The three bodies established a contact group on budget, chaired by Hamdallah Zedan (Egypt), with the mandate to consider the proposed budget for the biennium 2023–2024 in detail.

65. The Chair of the contact group on budget reported on the group's work at the two stocktake plenary sessions.

66. At the 5th plenary session, the Chair of the contact group on budget presented his final report on the group's work.

67. The Conference of the Parties then considered draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.31 submitted by the Chair of the contact group on budget and adopted it as decision 15/34.

68. The representative of Norway announced that his Government would contribute 10 million Norwegian kroner (the equivalent to 1 million United States dollars) to intersessional work on digital sequence information on genetic resources.

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

69. Working Group I considered sub-item 8 A of the agenda at its 1st meeting, on 7 December. It had before it a draft decision based on recommendations 23/1 and 24/1 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions.

70. Working Group I agreed that its Chair would hold informal consultations on the few outstanding issues and prepare a revised draft decision for the Group's consideration.

71. At its 2nd meeting, on 9 December 2022, Working Group I considered the revised draft decision submitted by its Chair and approved it for transmission to the plenary session as draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.3.

72. At its 2nd plenary session, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision as decision 15/2.

B. Review of progress in the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020

73. Working Group I considered sub-item 8 B of the agenda at its 1st meeting. It had before it a draft decision on the review of progress in the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020, prepared on the basis of recommendation 3/1 of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions, and a note by the Executive Secretary on the review of progress in the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 (CBD/COP/15/9) and addenda thereto (CBD/COP/15/9/Add.1 and CBD/COP/15/9/Add.2).

74. Working Group I agreed that its Chair would hold informal consultations on the few outstanding issues and prepare a revised draft decision for the Group's consideration.

75. At its 2nd meeting, Working Group I considered the revised draft decision submitted by its Chair and approved it, as orally amended, for transmission to the plenary session as draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.4.

76. At its 2nd plenary session, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision as decision 15/3.

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

Item 9. The post-2020 global biodiversity framework

A. The post-2020 global biodiversity framework

77. Working Group I considered sub-item 9 A of the agenda at its 1st meeting, in conjunction with agenda item 13 of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol. It had before it a draft decision on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, drawn from recommendation 4/1 of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, and the draft post-2020 global biodiversity framework itself, as set out in the annex to recommendation 5/1 of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

78. Working Group I established a contact group, co-chaired by Francis Ogwal (Uganda) and Basile van Havre (Canada), to continue to discuss the draft post-2020 global biodiversity framework, with a view to finalizing it.

79. During its 3rd plenary session, which served as a stocktake session, the Conference of the Parties agreed that its President would prepare a set of texts constituting a package covering the agenda items closely related to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, including sub-item 9 A, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties.

80. At its 4th plenary session, the Conference of the Parties considered draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.25, as set out in the set of draft decisions submitted by the President, and adopted it as decision 15/4.

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

81. Working Group I considered sub-item 9 B of the agenda at its 1st meeting. It had before it a draft decision on monitoring, which included an assessment of headline indicators and proposals for additional indicators, as well as component and complementary indicators for monitoring the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. The draft decision, which had been developed by the Executive Secretary on the basis of recommendation 24/2 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, was set out in the compilation of draft decisions. The Group also had before it the report of the expert workshop on the monitoring framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework (CBD/ID/OM/2022/1/2).

82. Working Group I requested the contact group established under sub-item 9 A to consider the headline indicators. It also established a group of friends of the Chair, led by Hesiquio Benítez (Mexico) and open to all interested parties, to examine the draft decision under the sub-item and address any cross-cutting issues arising from the contact group's review of the headline indicators.

83. During its 3rd plenary session, the Conference of the Parties agreed that its President would prepare a set of texts constituting a package covering the agenda items closely related to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, including sub-item 9 B, for its consideration.

84. At its 4th plenary session, the Conference of the Parties considered draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.26, as set out in the set of draft decisions submitted by the President, and adopted it as decision 15/5.

C. Communication strategy

85. Working Group I considered sub-item 9 C of the agenda at its 1st meeting, in conjunction with sub-item 13 C, on communication. It had before it a draft decision on the communication strategy for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and another draft decision on communication, based on recommendations 3/18 and 3/5 of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, respectively, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions.

86. Working Group I agreed that its Chair would hold informal consultations on the few outstanding issues and prepare revised draft decisions for the Group's consideration.

87. At its 3rd meeting, on 17 December, Working Group I considered a single combined revised draft decision on communication submitted by its Chair and approved it, as orally amended, for transmission to the plenary session as draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.23.

88. At its 5th plenary session, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision as decision 15/14.

D. Gender plan of action

89. Working Group I considered sub-item 9 D of the agenda at its 1st meeting. It had before it a draft decision on a gender plan of action based on recommendation 3/3 of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions.

90. Working Group I agreed that its Chair would hold informal consultations on the few outstanding issues and prepare a revised draft decision for the Group's consideration.

91. At its 3rd meeting, Working Group I considered the revised draft decision submitted by its Chair and approved it, as orally amended, for transmission to the plenary session as draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.24.

92. At its 5th plenary session, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision as decision 15/11.

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

93. Working Group I considered sub-item 10 A of the agenda at its 1st meeting. It had before it a draft decision on the development of a new programme of work and institutional arrangements on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention related to indigenous peoples and local communities, based on recommendation 11/2 of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-sessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions.

94. Working Group I agreed that its Chair would hold informal consultations on the few outstanding issues and prepare a revised draft decision for the Group's consideration, on the understanding that the bracketed text in annex II to the draft decision did not need to be resolved at the present meeting, as the Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-sessional Working Group would consider the new programme of work on Article 8(j) further at its twelfth meeting.

95. At its 2nd meeting, Working Group I considered the revised draft decision submitted by its Chair and approved it, as orally amended, for transmission to the plenary session as draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.8.

96. At its 2nd plenary session, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision as decision 15/10.

97. A statement was made by the representative of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity.

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

98. Working Group I considered sub-item 10 B of the agenda at its 1st meeting. It had before it a draft decision on the thematic areas and other cross-cutting issues, based on recommendation 11/1 of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-sessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions.

99. Working Group I agreed that its Chair would submit the draft decision as a conference room paper for the Group's consideration.

100. At its 2nd meeting, Working Group I considered the draft decision submitted by its Chair and approved it, as orally amended, for transmission to the plenary session as draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.6.

101. At its 2nd plenary session, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision as decision 15/20.

C. Recommendations from the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

102. Working Group I considered sub-item 10 (c) of the agenda at its 1st meeting. It had before it a draft decision on recommendations from the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues to the Convention on Biological Diversity, based on recommendation 11/4 of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-sessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions.

103. Working Group I agreed that its Chair would submit the draft decision as a conference room paper for the Group's consideration.

104. At its 2nd meeting, Working Group I considered the draft decision submitted by its Chair and approved it, as orally amended, for transmission to the plenary session as draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.7.

105. At its 2nd plenary session, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision as decision 15/21.

Item 11. Digital sequence information on genetic resources

106. Working Group I considered agenda item 11 at its 1st meeting, in conjunction with agenda item 14 of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol. It had before it a draft decision in the form of recommendation 5/2, prepared by the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework taking into account its recommendations 3/2 and 4/2 and the information provided in the note by the Executive Secretary on digital sequence information on genetic resources (CBD/WG2020/5/3).

107. Working Group I established a contact group, co-chaired by Gaute Voigt-Hanssen (Norway) and Laticia Tshitwamulomoni (South Africa), to prepare a revised draft decision for the Group's consideration.

108. During its 3rd plenary session, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention agreed that its President would prepare a set of texts constituting a package covering the agenda items closely related to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, including item 11, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties.

109. At its 4th plenary session, the Conference of the Parties considered draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.30, as set out in the set of draft decisions submitted by the President, and adopted it as decision 15/9.

Item 12. Resource mobilization and the financial mechanism

A. Resource mobilization

110. Working Group I considered sub-item 12 A of the agenda at its 1st meeting. It had before a draft decision based on recommendation 3/6 of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions.

111. Working Group I established a contact group, co-chaired by Ines Verleye (Belgium) and Shonisani Munzhedzi (South Africa), to prepare a revised draft decision for the Group's consideration.

112. During its 3rd plenary session, the Conference of the Parties agreed that its President would prepare a set of texts constituting a package covering the agenda items closely related to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, including sub-item 12 A, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties.

113. At its 4th plenary session, the Conference of the Parties considered draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.29, as set out in the set of draft decisions submitted by the President, and adopted it as decision 15/7.

114. At its 5th plenary session, the representative of Switzerland, asking that his comments be reflected in the present report, said that his country would continue its support for developing countries that needed assistance with the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and that it expected other countries in a capacity to do so to do the same. He added, however, that his Government was not convinced of the added value of the new global biodiversity fund to be established under the Global Environment Facility with a focus on official development assistance as the main source of funding, and that it did not intend to contribute to the new fund unless it was certain that its contributions would trigger additional complementary funding from private sources and that the new fund was innovative in terms of access and instruments.

B. Financial mechanism

115. Working Group I considered sub-item 12 B of the agenda at its 1st meeting. It had before it a draft decision based on recommendation 3/7 of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions, and a note by the Executive Secretary on matters related to guidance to the Global Environment Facility (CBD/COP/15/10).

116. The representative of the Global Environment Facility presented the report of the Council of the Global Environment Facility to the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CBD/COP/15/8).

117. Working Group I established a contact group, co-chaired by Greg Filyk (Canada) and Laura Bermúdez (Colombia), to prepare a revised draft decision for the Group's consideration.

118. At its 4th meeting, on 19 December, Working Group I heard a report from the Co-Chairs of the contact group on the group's work.

119. Working Group I then considered a revised draft decision submitted by its Chair and approved it, as orally amended, for transmission to the plenary session as draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.33.

120. At its 5th plenary session, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision, as orally amended, as decision 15/15.

121. The representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, asking that his comments be reflected in the present report, said that, as the Global Environment Facility was the official financial mechanism under the Convention, it was inappropriate that certain countries eligible for funding faced barriers and political

restrictions in gaining access to funding from that entity, and that such barriers and political restrictions needed to be removed.

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

A. Capacity-building and technical and scientific cooperation

122. Working Group I considered sub-item 13 A of the agenda at its 1st meeting. It had before it a draft decision on capacity-building and technical and scientific cooperation, based on recommendation 3/8 of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions, and a note by the Executive Secretary containing a summary report on the review of the technical and scientific cooperation programmes (CBD/COP/15/12).

123. Working Group I established a contact group, co-chaired by Laura Bermúdez (Colombia) and Hayo Haanstra (Netherlands), to prepare a revised version of the draft decision, including the annexes thereto, for the Group's consideration.

124. During its 3rd plenary session, the Conference of the Parties agreed that its President would prepare a set of texts constituting a package covering the agenda items closely related to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, including sub-item 13 A, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties.

125. At its 4th plenary session, the Conference of the Parties considered draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.28, as set out in the set of draft decisions submitted by the President, and adopted it as decision 15/8.

B. Knowledge management

126. Working Group I considered sub-item 13 B of the agenda at its 1st meeting. It had before it a draft decision on knowledge management, based on recommendation 3/10 of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions, and a note by the Executive Secretary setting out a progress report on knowledge management and the clearing-house mechanism (CBD/COP/15/INF/9).

127. Working Group I requested the contact group established under sub-item 13 A to also address sub-item 13 B, including the proposed draft decision, focusing on determining a way forward, once it had finished its work on capacity-building.

128. At its 4th meeting, Working Group I considered a revised draft decision submitted by its Chair and approved it, as orally amended, for transmission to the plenary session as draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.32.

129. At its 5th plenary session, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision as decision 15/16.

C. Communication

130. Working Group I considered sub-item 13 C of the agenda at its 1st meeting, in conjunction with sub-item 9 C (see paras. 85–88).

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

131. Working Group I considered agenda item 14 at its 1st meeting. It had before it a draft decision on mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting and review, based on recommendation 3/11 of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions.

132. Working Group I established a contact group, co-chaired by Gillian Guthrie (Jamaica) and Andrew Stott (United Kingdom), to prepare a revised draft decision for the Group's consideration.

133. During its 3rd plenary session, the Conference of the Parties agreed that its President would prepare a set of texts constituting a package covering the agenda items closely related to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, including item 14, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties.

134. At its 4th plenary session, the Conference of the Parties considered draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.27, as set out in the set of draft decisions submitted by the President, and adopted it as decision 15/6.

Item 15. Cooperation with other conventions and international organizations

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

135. Working Group II considered agenda item 15 A at its 2nd meeting, on 8 December. It had before it a draft decision, based on recommendation 24/3 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions, and documents containing updated information on the work of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (CBD/COP/15/13) and supporting information for possible requests to be considered in the rolling work programme up to 2030 of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (CBD/COP/15/INF/7). The Chair noted that the draft decision required updating.

136. The Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, made a brief presentation, highlighting the synergies between the work of the Platform and that of the Conference of the Parties.

137. Statements were made by the representatives of Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, the European Union and its 27 member States, India, Japan, Kenya, Morocco, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, South Africa, the Sudan, Switzerland, Türkiye, the United Kingdom and Uruguay.

138. Working Group II established a contact group, co-chaired by Hesiquio Benítez (Mexico) and Janina Heim (Germany), to seek solutions to the outstanding issues.

139. At its 7th meeting, on 13 December, Working Group II heard a report from the Co-Chairs of the contact group, following which it considered a draft decision submitted by its Chair and approved it, as orally amended, for transmission to the plenary session as draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.11.

140. At its 5th plenary session, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision as decision 15/19.

B. Cooperation with other conventions and international organizations

141. Working Group I considered agenda item 15 at its 1st meeting. It had before it a draft decision based on recommendation 3/12 of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions, and a note by the Executive Secretary on information documents submitted by partner organizations (CBD/COP/15/14).

142. Working Group I heard brief presentations by the representatives of secretariats of conventions and organizations the governing bodies of which had recently met and addressed matters relevant to their cooperation with the Convention and to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, namely, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat, the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, the International Whaling Commission and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa.

143. A statement was made by the representative of Japan.

144. Working Group I agreed that its Chair would hold informal consultations on the few outstanding issues and prepare a revised draft decision for the Group's consideration.

145. At its 3rd meeting, Working Group I considered the revised draft decision submitted by its Chair and approved it, as orally amended, for transmission to the plenary session as draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.21.

146. At its 5th plenary session, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision, as orally amended, as decision 15/13.

Item 16. Mainstreaming of biodiversity within and across sectors

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

147. Working Group I considered sub-item 16 A of the agenda at its 1st meeting. It had before it a draft decision on a long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming biodiversity, based on recommendation 3/15 of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions, and three information documents with compilations of the submissions received from Parties and observers on said approach and the voluntary action plan to complement it (CBD/COP/15/INF/10, CBD/COP/15/INF/11 and CBD/COP/15/INF/12).

148. Working Group I established a contact group, co-chaired by Carlos Albuquerque (European Union) and Stanislas Mouba (Gabon), with the mandate to discuss the issue and prepare a proposal on the way forward.

149. At its 4th meeting, Working Group I considered a revised draft decision submitted by its Chair and approved it, as orally amended, for transmission to the plenary session as draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.34.

150. At its 5th plenary session, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision as decision 15/17.

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

151. Working Group I considered sub-item 16 B of the agenda at its 1st meeting. It had before it a draft decision based on recommendation 3/14 of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions.

152. Working Group I agreed that its Chair would hold informal consultations on the few outstanding issues and prepare a revised draft decision for the Group's consideration.

153. At its 3rd meeting, Working Group I considered the revised draft decision submitted by its Chair and approved it, as orally amended, for transmission to the plenary session as draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.22.

154. At its 5th plenary session, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision as decision 15/12.

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

155. Working Group II considered agenda item 17 at its 2nd meeting, in conjunction with agenda item 13 of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol and agenda item 12 of the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol. It had before it a draft decision based on recommendation 3/13 of the

Subsidiary Body on Implementation, as set out in the compilations of draft decisions of the three bodies (CBD/COP/15/2, CBD/CP/MOP/10/1/Add.5 and CBD/NP/MOP/4/1/Add.5, respectively).

156. Statements were made by the representatives of Brazil, the European Union and its 27 member States, Mexico and the United Kingdom.

157. Working Group II agreed that its Chair would prepare a revised draft decision for the Group's consideration, taking account of the statements made.

158. At its 5th meeting, on 9 December, Working Group II considered the revised draft decision submitted by its Chair.

159. Statements were made by the representatives of Brazil, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the European Union and its 27 member States, Mali, Namibia, New Zealand, South Africa, Tajikistan, Togo, the United Kingdom and the United Republic of Tanzania.

160. Working Group II agreed that multilateral discussions would be held among certain Parties to resolve outstanding issues.

161. At its 6th meeting, on 10 December, Working Group II resumed its consideration of the revised draft decision submitted by its Chair and approved it, as orally amended, for transmission to the plenary session as draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.9.

162. At its 2nd plenary session, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision as decision 15/18.

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

163. Working Group II considered agenda item 18 at its 2nd meeting. It had before it a draft decision, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions, and a note by the Executive Secretary (CBD/COP/15/15).

164. A statement was made by the representative of Canada.

165. Working Group II agreed that its Chair would prepare a revised draft decision for the Group's consideration, taking account of the statement made.

166. At its 10th meeting, on 16 December, Working Group II considered the revised draft decision submitted by its Chair and approved it, as orally amended, for transmission to the plenary session as draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.20.

167. During the discussion, Working Group II agreed that the following comment by the representative of Japan would be reflected in the present report. The representative of Japan said that, with respect to the implementation of the work programme by the Secretariat, it was important to remind Parties of the need to take into account the budget limits and for the Secretariat to use its resources effectively and efficiently when conducting its work.

168. At its 5th plenary session, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision, as orally amended, as decision 15/33.

VI. FURTHER TECHNICAL ISSUES

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

169. Working Group II considered agenda item 19 at its 2nd meeting. It had before it a note by the Executive Secretary on global status, gaps and opportunities of protected areas and other area-based conservation measures (CBD/COP/15/INF/3).

170. The representative of Zimbabwe made a statement on behalf of the African States.

171. Working Group II took note of the information in document CBD/COP/15/INF/3.

Item 20. Marine and coastal biodiversity

A. Ecologically or biologically significant marine areas

172. Working Group II considered sub-item 20 A of the agenda at its 1st meeting, on 7 December, noting that there were two separate outcomes to be considered, arising from the discussions on the matter at the twenty-third and twenty-fourth meetings of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.

1. Ecologically or biologically significant marine areas in the North-East Atlantic Ocean and adjacent areas

173. In considering the first part of the sub-item, Working Group II had before it a draft decision based on recommendation 23/4 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions.

174. Working Group II agreed that its Chair would submit the draft decision as a conference room paper for the Group's consideration.

175. At its 7th meeting, Working Group II considered the draft decision submitted by its Chair and approved it, as orally amended, for transmission to the plenary session as draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.13.

176. During the discussion, Working Group II agreed that the following comments by representatives would be reflected in the report of the meeting. The representative of the European Union and its 27 member States said that the identification of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas was a geographical, and not legal, process the outcomes of which should continue to result from a scientific and technical exercise and that it should not be used to prejudge any issues related to the sovereignty, sovereign rights or jurisdiction of coastal States or the rights of other States. Recalling that, at its tenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties had emphasized that, under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, the identification of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas and the selection of conservation and management measures were matters for States, the representative of the United Kingdom said that her Government wished to see a process that required agreement from all States concerned for proposals where ecologically or biologically significant marine areas overlapped with areas under national jurisdiction or fell within disputed areas.

177. At its 5th plenary session, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision as decision 15/25.

2. Ecologically or biologically significant marine areas: further work

178. In considering the second part of the sub-item, Working Group II had before it recommendation 24/10 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, as set out in the Subsidiary Body's report on its twenty-fourth meeting (CBD/SBSTTA/24/12), as well as a report of the online discussion forum on ecologically or biologically significant marine areas in preparation for the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CBD/EBSA/OM/2022/2/1) and proposals submitted by Parties and observers on ecologically or biologically significant marine areas under agenda item 6 of the twenty-fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body (CBD/SBSTTA/24/INF/41).

179. Working Group II established a contact group, co-chaired by Marie-May Jeremie (Seychelles) and Renée Sauvé (Canada), with the mandate to discuss the unresolved issues and prepare a draft decision based on the work of Subsidiary Body and the outcome of the online discussion forum.

180. At its 6th and 7th meetings, Working Group II heard interim reports on the work of the contact group.

181. At its 8th meeting, on 13 December, Working Group II considered a draft decision submitted by its Chair and approved it, as orally amended, for transmission to the plenary session as draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.14.

182. Working Group II agreed to reflect in the present report the Chair's comments acknowledging the representatives' frustration with the lack of time available to discuss the draft modalities for modifying descriptions of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas and for describing new areas, and their request for allocating sufficient time to discuss the topic at the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, as well as at the preceding meetings of its subsidiary bodies, with a view to finalizing and adopting modalities for those descriptions at the sixteenth meeting.

183. At its 5th plenary session, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision, as orally amended, as decision 15/26.

B. Conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity

184. Working Group II considered sub-item 20 B of the agenda at its 1st meeting. It had before it recommendation 23/9 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, as set out in the Subsidiary Body's report on its twenty-third meeting (CBD/SBSTTA/23/9), as well as a report of the online discussion forum on conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity in preparation for the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CBD/MCB/OM/2022/1/1) and proposals submitted by Parties and observers on the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity under agenda item 6 of the twenty-fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (CBD/SBSTTA/24/INF/42).

185. Working Group II agreed that the contact group established under sub-item 20 A.2 would also be mandated to address the unresolved issues under sub-item 20 B and prepare a draft decision, based on the work of the Subsidiary Body and the outcome of the online discussion forum.

186. At its 4th meeting, on 9 December, and 6th meeting, Working Group II heard interim reports on the work of the contact group.

187. At its 7th meeting, following a report by the Co-Chairs of the contact group, Working Group II considered a draft decision submitted by its Chair.

188. Statements were made by the representatives of Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, the European Union and its 27 member States, Iceland, Japan, Mexico, the Philippines, South Africa and the United Kingdom.

189. At its 8th meeting, Working Group II continued its consideration of the draft decision and approved it, as orally amended, for transmission to the plenary session as draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.15.

190. At its 5th plenary session, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision, as orally amended, as decision 15/24.

Item 21. Invasive alien species

191. Working Group II considered agenda item 21 at its 2nd meeting. It had before it a draft decision based on recommendation 24/8 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions.

192. Working Group II established an open-ended group of friends of the Chair, facilitated by Senka Barudanovic (Bosnia and Herzegovina) and Azalia binti Mohamed (Malaysia), to discuss the matter further.

193. At its 7th meeting, Working Group II heard a report from the co-facilitators of the group of friends of the Chair, following which it considered a revised draft decision submitted by its Chair and approved it, as orally amended, for transmission to the plenary session as draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.12.

194. At its 5th plenary session, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision as decision 15/27.

Item 22. Sustainable wildlife management

195. Working Group II considered agenda item 22 at its 2nd meeting. It had before it a draft decision based on recommendation 23/3 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions.

196. Working Group II agreed that its Chair would submit the draft decision as a conference room paper for the Group's consideration.

197. At its 4th meeting, Working Group II considered the draft decision submitted by its Chair and approved it, as orally amended, for transmission to the plenary session as draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.5.

198. At its 2nd plenary session, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision as decision 15/23.

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

Item 23. Biodiversity and climate change

200. Working Group II considered agenda item 23 at its 2nd meeting. It had before it a draft decision based on recommendation 23/2 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions, as well as a note by the Executive Secretary containing supplementary information to the review of new scientific and technical information on biodiversity and climate change and potential implications for the work of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD/COP/15/INF/21).

201. Working Group II established an open-ended group of friends of the Chair, co-facilitated by Sigurdur Thrainsson (Iceland) and Rita El Zaghoul (Costa Rica), to discuss the matter further and enable the Chair to prepare a revised draft decision for the Group's consideration.

202. At its 4th meeting, Working Group II heard an interim progress report on the work of the group of friends of the Chair.

203. At its 9th meeting, on 16 December, Working Group II heard a report from one of the co-facilitators of the group of friends of the Chair, which had subsequently been converted to a contact group. Working Group II then considered a revised draft decision submitted by its Chair.

204. Statements were made by the representatives of Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Ethiopia, the European Union and its 27 member States, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Morocco, Norway, the Philippines, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Uganda, the United Kingdom and Uruguay.

205. Working Group II agreed that its Chair would prepare a further revised draft decision for the Group's consideration, taking account of the statements made.

206. At its 10th meeting, Working Group II considered the revised draft decision submitted by its Chair and approved it, as orally amended, for transmission to the plenary session as draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.19.

207. At its 5th plenary session, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision as decision 15/30.

208. Following the adoption, the representative of the European Union and its 27 member States, asking that her comments be reflected in the present report, voiced regret that, owing to the opposition of some Parties, the decision made no reference to United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/5, on nature-based solutions for supporting sustainable development, which had been acknowledged as an important milestone in recognizing the crucial link between biodiversity and climate change in recent decisions by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the

Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat.

Item 24. Biodiversity and agriculture

209. Working Group II considered agenda item 24 at its 2nd meeting. It had before it a draft decision based on recommendation 24/6 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions.

210. Working Group II established a contact group, co-chaired by Hendrik Segers (Belgium) and Eric Okoree (Ghana), to discuss the matter further.

211. At its 4th meeting, Working Group II heard a report from the Co-Chairs of the contact group on the work of their group and agreed that the Chair of Working Group II would prepare a revised draft decision for the Working Group's consideration on the basis of the outcome of the contact group's work.

212. At its 7th meeting, Working Group II considered the revised draft decision submitted by its Chair.

213. Statements were made by the representatives of Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ethiopia, the European Union and its 27 member States, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Japan, Micronesia, Mongolia, Morocco, Norway, Peru, South Africa, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United Republic of Tanzania.

214. At its eight meeting, the Working Group continued its consideration of the revised draft decision and approved it, as orally amended, for transmission to the plenary session as draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.16.

215. At its 5th plenary session, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision, as orally amended, as decision 15/28.

Item 25. Biodiversity and health

216. Working Group II considered agenda item 25 at its 2nd meeting. It had before it a draft decision based on recommendation 24/7 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions.

217. Working Group II agreed that its Chair would undertake informal consultations with a view to preparing a revised draft decision for the Group's consideration.

218. At its 6th meeting, Working Group II established a group of friends of the Chair, co-facilitated by Barbara Engels (Germany) and Andrew Rhodes-Espinoza (Mexico), to address the unresolved issues and enable its Chair to prepare a revised draft decision for the Group's consideration.

219. At its 9th meeting, Working Group II heard a report from the co-facilitator of the group of friends of the Chair, following which it considered a draft decision submitted by its Chair and approved it, as orally amended, for transmission to the plenary session as draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.17.

220. At its 5th plenary session, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision, as orally amended, as decision 15/29.

Item 26. Nature and culture

221. Working Group II considered agenda item 26 at its 2nd meeting. It had before it a draft decision based on recommendation 11/3 of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Inter-sessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and related provisions and recommendation 23/5 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions.

222. Working Group II agreed that its Chair would undertake informal consultations with a view to addressing the unresolved issues and preparing a revised draft decision for the Group's consideration.

223. At its 6th meeting, Working Group II considered the revised draft decision submitted by its Chair and approved it, as orally amended, for transmission to the plenary session as draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.10.

224. At its 2nd plenary session, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision as decision 15/22.

Item 27. Synthetic biology

225. Working Group II considered agenda item 27 at its 1st meeting. It had before it a draft decision based on recommendation 24/4 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, as set out in the compilation of draft decisions.

226. The representative of Brazil made a statement.

227. Working Group II established a contact group, co-chaired by Ntakadzeni Tshidada (South Africa) and Werner Schenkel (Germany), with the mandate to address the text in brackets in the draft decision and to prepare a revised draft decision for the Group's consideration.

228. At its 4th and 9th meetings, Working Group II heard interim progress reports on the work of the contact group. At the latter meeting, the Group also heard a brief report on the work of the United Nations Biorisk Working Group from a representative of the World Health Organization. It then considered a draft decision submitted by its Chair and approved it, as orally amended, for transmission to the plenary session as draft decision CBD/COP/15/L.18.

229. At its 5th plenary session, the Conference of the Parties adopted the draft decision as decision 15/31.

VII. FINAL MATTERS

Item 28. Other matters

230. In view of the suspension of the meeting as described under agenda items 2 A and 30 in the present report, the Conference of the Parties did not consider item 28.

Item 29. Adoption of the report

231. Owing to the suspension of the meeting as described under agenda items 2 A and 30 in the present report, the Conference of the Parties did not consider item 29.

Item 30. Closure of the meeting

232. As indicated under item 2 A of the agenda, it was not proved possible to conduct the election of officers and conclude the second part of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties at the 5th plenary session.

233. Accordingly, the President proposed to suspend the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to allow Parties to resolve their differences relating to the election of officers at a resumed session of the meeting, to be convened at a later date, and requested members of the Bureau of the meeting and officers of other bodies to remain in office until the conclusion of the resumed session. No Party expressed any view otherwise.

234. Following the customary exchange of courtesies, the President suspended the meeting at 1 a.m. on 20 December 2022.

Annex

**ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED AT THE FIFTEENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE
OF THE PARTIES, THE TENTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE CARTAGENA PROTOCOL ON
BIOSAFETY AND THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES
SERVING AS THE MEETING OF THE PARTIES TO THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL ON ACCESS
AND BENEFIT-SHARING**

[In preparation]
