



March 2021

Statement by Switzerland for the informal session in preparation of CBD SBI-3 on agenda item 6 (Resource mobilization and the financial mechanism)

- We would like to thank the Secretariat for its excellent work of preparing the documents on resource mobilization and express our great appreciation to the Panel of Experts for the very helpful reports, which focus on the four key concepts of 1) mobilizing additional resources, 2) doing less harm, 3) increasing the effectiveness and 4) aligning all financial flows with a net-positive biodiversity development. In our view these four concepts will all have to be reflected in an ambitious outcome.
- Switzerland recognizes the overall importance of resource mobilization and is glad to report today that we have achieved the doubling of our international biodiversity finance from public and private sources. Switzerland has also significantly reduced its domestic biodiversity funding gap including by applying the above mentioned key concepts of the Panel of Experts.
- In this sense, Switzerland strongly believes that any target speaking to the mobilization of resources, should always include all sources; public and private, and should always have an international and a domestic component.
- In line with this broad understanding of resource mobilization Switzerland would like to anchor a new goal speaking to the alignment of financial flows with net-positive biodiversity development ensuring the increased resilience of people and nature. Anchoring an overarching goal, which speaks to the broader financial flows, has the potential to have a significant impact on shifting the trillions for the benefit of nature. We should not miss this opportunity to set an ambitious goal as well as giving a clear signal to the financial world.
- While the target on means of implementation should be commensurate with the ambitions of the framework, Switzerland is of the opinion that a qualitative target, which will also include a focus on national resource mobilization strategies and implementation plans will lead to a much higher ambition than a purely numerical target. Therefore, Switzerland does not support any numerical target. In addition, any target working with a baseline like the past doubling target will punish those, who have been ambitious in the past and might lead us to lose focus on achieving an ambitious agreement overall.
- Switzerland concurs that reducing or redirecting resources causing harm to biodiversity is a crucial component of resource mobilization and believes any target in this regard should not be limited to the most harmful subsidies but cover all harmful subsidies. A limitation of the scope would be a step backwards compared to the Aichi Targets (Target 3).
- Finally, regarding procedure, the current draft recommendations foresee the agreement of the goals and targets on means of implementation at the same time as adopting the revised strategy on resource mobilization. However, Switzerland believes it would be more useful to first focus on defining and agreeing on goals and targets at COP15 and in a second step adopt the strategy on resource mobilization at COP16.
- We will submit these and additional proposed changes to the Draft Element on Resource Mobilization for possible inclusion in the post-2020 GBF and Annex II on Draft Element of a possible successor to the current Strategy for Resource Mobilisation in writing at the formal SBI meeting.

