

On behalf of the European Union and its Member States

SBI3 - AI11 Mainstreaming of biodiversity within and across sectors and other strategic actions to enhance implementation - Long term approach to Mainstreaming

Thank your Mr. Chair.

I speak on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

The European Union and its Member States would like to thank the secretariat for the preparation of the documents related to agenda item eleven of the SBI, highlighting that biodiversity mainstreaming is critical for achieving the objectives of the Convention, as well as the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity.

Biodiversity mainstreaming should be one of the key elements of the post-2020 framework to achieve the transformative change required throughout society and economies.

The EU and its Member States are committed to enhance the implementation, integration, and mainstreaming of actions for biodiversity in relevant plans and policies, and to strengthen and strongly scale up efforts to mainstream biodiversity into all sectors of society.

The EU and its Member States think that effective mainstreaming will depend on effective and efficient synergies between the CBD and other conventions and UN processes and that effective and prompt mainstreaming of biodiversity is essential for achieving the transformational change needed as well as the SDGs.

The entire GBF, including all Goals and Targets, depend on and contribute to mainstreaming biodiversity.

The alignment of NBSAPs with the GBF would support the joint implementation of actions to meet the Goals and Targets of the GBF, other biodiversity-related conventions, the Targets of the SDGs, and relevant international commitments. Other Multilateral Environment Agreements, regional and international organisations, and other relevant initiatives are crucial for strengthening implementation and mainstreaming in the GBF.

In particular, we welcome the initiative on the Edinburgh Process on the contribution of subnational and local governments to the GBF and recall that the Edinburgh Declaration, provided in SBI 3 INF/25, is open for signature by additional subnational governments, cities, and other local authorities until the fifteenth COP.

The EU and its Member States welcome the work being done on the LTAM. We consider that the Action Plan for the LTAM contains useful elements to support mainstreaming of biodiversity in the three identified strategy areas and can provide key guidance and

a toolbox to integrate biodiversity into decision making, involving multi-layers and multi-players listed in the AP, in particular, non-state actors.

However, some elements have not been entirely included in the LTAM and need improvement. In fact, the LTAM and current AP approaches, with an entry "government, company/finance, society", does not include all sectors and their value chains (natural resources, primary production to upstream end).

Therefore, the EU and its Member States consider that further work is needed to ensure that all sectors are addressed, including economic sectors such as energy/mining and infrastructure or cross-cutting activities (trade/supply chain).

In this view, the EU and its Member States request the Executive Secretary to invite parties to submit comments on the LTAM and AP to the secretariat in writing and request to compile and analyse these submissions and prepare an updated revised draft for consideration by the COP-15, ideally before the ending of SBI-3.

The EU and its Member States could support the continuation of an extended network and an Informal Advisory Group after renewal but is also open to other possible structures to follow up specifically on mainstreaming after COP-15, acting as a specific dialogue arena, exchange platform, and consultative network on issues related to mainstreaming and implementation. In this case, we stress the need to develop a recommendation on the future mandate, composition, and funding of the group, following the needs of the parties.

The LTAM and its AP should support the implementation of the GBF by providing guidance on mainstreaming. To avoid overlap, duplication, or parallel processes, we strongly emphasize the need for alignment of and support for the LTAM to the GBF. The LTAM and AP are relevant to all GBF Goals/Targets and must be fully used to support them.

A potential midterm review of the implementation of the LTAM in coherence with the review process of the GBF should be envisaged. Concerning elements to strengthen mainstreaming into the Goals and Targets of the GBF, the EU and its Member States want Annex I to emphasize that all goals and targets of the GBF are entry points or directly linked to mainstreaming.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.