**Template for the Advanced Comments on Draft Documents on Planning, Reporting and Review Mechanisms for the Resumed Session of the Third Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation**

**TEMPLATE FOR COMMENTS: Revised guidance and template for the seventh and eighth reports contained in annex to CBD/SBI/3/11/ADD1/AMEND1**

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| **Advanced comments on the draft documents on Planning, Reporting and Review Mechanisms for the Resumed Session of the Third Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation** |
| **Scope of this template for comments**  | Revised guidance and template for the seventh and eighth national reports, contained in annex to the document CBD/SBI/3/11/ADD1/AMEND1 which includes a draft of Annex C to CBD/SBI/3/CRP.5. This template aims to collect feedback on that Annex.  |
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| **Comments** |
| Please provide any general comments on the structure of the draft template for the seventh and eighth national reports, as well as the introduction to the template. Switzerland welcomes the work undertaken by the Secretariat in order to update document CBD/SBI/3/11/Add.1. We support the establishment of clear guidance and templates for the drafting of the national reports, leading to an easier reading and allowing transparency and encourage learning from others parties experiences in implementing the post-2020 GBF. We highlight the importance of increasing synergies in the reporting to the other relevant MEAs and to the SDGs. In this regard, we welcome the multiple references in the introduction text to the digital data reporting tool DaRT developed by UNEP InforMEA. However, ideally, we would favor a redesigned reporting scheme established and coordinated within the biodiversity related conventions with harmonized reporting cycles and modular data content allowing a synergetic drafting of the national reports. DaRT is an interesting project with an enormous potential for facilitating reporting duties and giving broad access to relevant data. It should indeed allow to streamline and simplify reporting, to reduce reporting burden for Parties, to diminish overlaps and duplications, and at the same time to ensure a comprehensive overview of progress towards the GBF. In this sense, DaRT should also be explicitly mentioned at the end of par. 9. We welcome the placeholder at the end of par. 12 for a decision on DaRT.The possibility to provide narrative information to further substantiate the answers given in the template (cf. par. 8) should remain short. It is important to encourage parties to stick to the common structure and remain succinct.Par. 10 says that the national reports could be used to inform i.a. a mid-term and final review (a) and global stocktaking (b). While we understand the need for a mid-term assessment based on reports, it is still not clear what’s really the difference between the review and the global stocktake?Switzerland is of the opinion that the use of the online tool should be made compulsory. Par 13 should be adapted accordingly. |
| Please use the table below to provide any specific comments on the template:  |
| **Section** | **Comment** |
| I | Please include comments or specific suggestions for Section I. Executive summary of the seventh and eighth national reports.- |
| II | Please include comments or specific suggestions for Section II. Brief overview of the process of preparation of the report- |
| III | Please include comments or specific suggestions for Section III. Status of the updated or revised NBSAP in the light of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework (This section is for the seventh national report only) Why do we speak of “NBSAP *or biodiversity action plan*”? The understanding of Switzerland is that actions plans are already included in the NBSAP’s acronym. Therefore. It should be deleted.  |
| IV | Please include comments or specific suggestions for Section IV. Assessment of progress towards the 2050 goals of the post-2020 global biodiversity frameworkWe would argue that reporting on milestones will depend on the final structure of the GBF, therefor it should be maintained in brackets.  |
| V | Please include comments or specific suggestions for Section V. Progress towards the 2030 action targetsIn the introduction to this section, it is written “assessment of national progress and contributions could draw on information related to actions taken by relevant sectors and stakeholders and indigenous peoples and local communities to implement their voluntary commitments”. Switzerland would like to point out that this indication should not imply that States could simply rely on voluntary contributions of some non-state actors. They still have to take their responsibilities as Parties of the Convention. The same remark applies to par. 6 of the introduction. |