**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: Modus Operandi of the open-ended forum of SBI for country-by-country review of implementation** **contained in CBD/SBI/3/11/ADD 5**

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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**  | Modus Operandi of the open-ended forum of SBI for country-by-country review of implementation, contained in the document CBD/SBI/3/11/Add.5, which includes a draft of Annex D 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 and specific suggestions on the proposed modus operandi of the open-ended forum of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation for country-by-country review of implementation.** We support continuous improvement in implementation by all Parties, and country-by-country review processes should aim to support improvement by sharing experience, learning and capacity building.
* All Parties should have the opportunity to participate in these review processes on a voluntary basis. However, careful consideration should be given to timescales and requirements to ensure that these processes are simple, effective, and manageable and do not place unnecessary burden on Parties or the secretariat.
* Any new actions or requests should be captured in the decision text rather than the annex, and the text in the modus operandi (e.g., “global stocktake on ambition and implementation”) should align with the decision text.
* We note the discussions in SBI on resource mobilisation and capacity building and any references to these should align with the outcome of those discussions.

We have concerns around the feasibility and effectiveness of the open-ended forum for country-by-country review of implementation as currently proposed in the draft modus operandi and we would like to seek clarification regarding timelines, dependencies, participation, and purpose: Timelines need to be clarified, especially as the period is now limited to 8 years rather than 10. There are also dependencies on the update of NBSAPs, submission of National Reports and for online sessions to be completed before SBI prior to each COP. Overall, this results in very condensed timescales. A balance needs to be struck between the need for in-depth discussion and the number of reviews that can be undertaken in any period. The details of how many Parties would be reviewed per year and by whom also need to be clarified. If the process is very demanding (both in terms of being reviewed and reviewing) this may limit the number of Parties willing to commit to these sessions. We are concerned that there would be duplication of effort between the first and second phases of the review (virtual and in-person), and we request further clarification that the second phase would be a discussion of the outcomes of phase one. 1. We think the third phase should say how COP will address the recommendations developed in phase two. We would want to make sure the proposed exhibition will bring valuable outcomes and is designed in a way that promotes engagement of Parties in these review processes. Exhibitions can take a lot of work to prepare and may not be very effective at communicating.
2. We would like further detail on how the outcomes of reviews will contribute to global stocktakes.
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