

MEDIA ADVISORY

UN Biodiversity Convention holds virtual meetings essential to development of post-2020 global biodiversity framework

- *UN Biodiversity Convention's two subsidiary bodies holding virtual meetings over May and June.*
- *Discussions will include targets and pathways for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and sharing of the benefits for the next decade and beyond.*
- *Meetings essential to the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, to be adopted in October 2021 in Kunming, China.*

What: **Twenty-fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA-24); Third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI-3)**

When: **SBSTTA 24:** First plenary, 3-4 May; Second plenary, 23-26 May; Third plenary, 7-9 June
SBI-3: First plenary, 16-18 May; Second plenary, 28-30 May; Third plenary, 11-13 June
Plenaries held from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Montreal time (EDT, GMT/UTC - 4).

Where: **Media can view plenary sessions at: www.cbd.int/live**

Context: Governments agreed to negotiate a ten-year global framework for managing biodiversity, as a pathway to negotiate and achieve the 2050 vision of the Convention on Biological Diversity and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. The “post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework” is expected to be adopted at the United Nations Biodiversity Conference (COP 15) in Kunming, China later this year.

Due to the global pandemic governments agreed to conduct preparatory negotiations in a virtual format.

The meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Convention on Biological Diversity will address elements of the post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, as well as address other key issues on the protection and sustainable use of biodiversity and the equitable sharing of benefits from the use of genetic resources.

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice is the intergovernmental body responsible for providing scientific, technical and technological advice related to the implementation of the Convention. It plays a key role in assessing the current status of the world's biodiversity, identifying solutions and in bringing emerging issues related to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity to the attention of the global community. <https://www.cbd.int/sbstta/>

Issues discussed at SBSTTA-24

- [The Post-2020 global biodiversity framework: Scientific and technical information to support the review of the updated goals and targets, and related indicators and baselines](#)

- [Synthetic biology](#)
- [Risk assessment and risk management of living modified organisms](#)
- [Marine and coastal biodiversity](#)
- [Biodiversity and agriculture](#)
- [The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services \(IPBES\)](#)
- [Biodiversity and health](#)
- [Invasive alien species](#)

The Subsidiary Body on Implementation has four areas of work: (a) review of progress in implementation; (b) strategic actions to enhance implementation; (c) strengthening means of implementation; and (d) operations of the Convention and the Protocols. www.cbd.int/sbi

Issues discussed at SBI-3:

- [Review of progress in the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;](#)
- [Assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;](#)
- [Overview of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework process;](#)
- [Resource mobilization](#) and [the financial mechanism](#);
- [Capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation, technology transfer, knowledge management](#) and [communication](#);
- [Mechanisms for reporting, assessment, and review](#);
- [Review of the effectiveness of processes under the Convention and its Protocols](#);
- [Mainstreaming of biodiversity within and across sectors and other strategic actions to enhance implementation](#);
- [Specialized international access and benefit-sharing instruments in the context of Article 4, Paragraph 4, of the Nagoya Protocol](#);
- [Global multi-lateral benefit-sharing mechanism \(Article 10 of the Nagoya Protocol\)](#).
- [Implementation Plan and Capacity-building Action Plan for the Cartagena Protocol](#).

What is the post-2020 global biodiversity framework?

- Builds on the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. Sets out an ambitious plan to implement broad-based action to transform society's relationship with biodiversity and ensure that, by 2050, the vision of living in harmony with nature is fulfilled.

What does it hope to achieve?

- Aims to galvanize urgent and transformative action by governments and all of society, including indigenous peoples and local communities, civil society and businesses.
- The outcomes it sets out in its vision, mission, goals and targets, and
- Contribute to the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and other biodiversity related multilateral agreements, processes and instruments.

How will the two meetings address the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework?

SBSTTA-24: Will provide advice on the scientific and technical underpinnings of the framework:

- Information that was included in the fifth *Global Biodiversity Outlook, which informs the framework* (www.cbd.int/gbo5).
- Oversight on the updated elements of the draft post-2020 framework prepared by the Co-Chairs of the Open-ended Working Group (OEWG) on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

- Scientific and technical information to support the review of the draft framework with analyses of the linkages between the proposed goals, targets and monitoring framework of the post-2020 framework and the Sustainable Development Goals within the scope of the CBD.
- Review on the appendices to the draft framework prepared by the Co-Chairs of the OEWG and the Executive Secretary.
- Review of the range of relevant existing indicators, baselines, baseline dates, or other appropriate methods for monitoring changes in biodiversity, indicator gaps and, where relevant, options for filling such gaps and for a monitoring framework for the post-2020 framework, taking into account the outcomes of the second meeting of the OEWG.

SBI-3: Will contribute to the development of the post-2020 framework and to complement it with elements related to means to support and review implementation, including implementation support mechanisms, enabling conditions, responsibility and transparency, outreach and awareness and matters related to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing, and the Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions:

Documents: SBSTTA-24: www.cbd.int/meetings/SBSTTA-24 / SBI-3: www.cbd.int/meetings/SBI-03

Preparations for the Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework:

www.cbd.int/conferences/post2020

Updated zero draft of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework:

www.cbd.int/article/zero-draft-update-august-2020

UN Biodiversity Conference – 11-24 October 2021 (Fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity): www.cbd.int/meetings/COP-15; Tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety: www.cbd.int/meetings; COP-MOP-10 Fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing: www.cbd.int/meetings/NP-MOP-04

The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Opened for signature in 1992 at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, and entering into force in December 1993, the CBD is an international treaty for the conservation of biodiversity, the sustainable use of the components of biodiversity and the equitable sharing of the benefits derived from the use of genetic resources. With 196 Parties, the CBD has near universal participation among countries. The CBD seeks to address all threats to biodiversity and ecosystem services, including threats from climate change, through scientific assessments, the development of tools, incentives and processes, the transfer of technologies and good practices and the full and active involvement of relevant stakeholders including indigenous peoples and local communities, youth, NGOs, women and the business community. The Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-Sharing are supplementary agreements to the CBD. The Cartagena Protocol, which entered into force 11 September 2003, seeks to protect biodiversity from the potential risks posed by living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology. To date, 173 Parties have ratified the Cartagena Protocol. The Nagoya Protocol aims at sharing the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources in a fair and equitable way, including by appropriate access to genetic resources and by appropriate transfer of relevant technologies. Entering into force 12 October 2014, it has been ratified by 130 Parties.

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