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Media Advisory

**As Leaders Convene at the 2026 UN Biodiversity Conference,
UN Secretary-General António Guterres to Formally Launch
Report on Progress Against 2022's Global Biodiversity Commitments:
The "State of Biodiversity Action"
(embargo: Thursday, 15 October, 4:30 p.m. local Yerevan time)**

News conference (in person/online):

Thursday, 15 October

4:30 p.m. Yerevan / 8:30 a.m. EDT /

12:30 p.m. GMT / 1:30 p.m. UK*

(confirm all local times at timeanddate.com)

***Note: the press conference may be delayed by up to a half hour due to high-level scheduling, and we will aim to keep press updated.**

Registration is required for media (online [here](#), on site [here](#))

UN Secretary-General António Guterres will join senior UN officials and Armenia's Environment Minister for a press conference to formally launch the *State of Biodiversity Action*, the first global report on collective progress in implementing the historic Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

Adopted in 2022, the Framework commits countries to halt and reverse biodiversity loss through 23 targets for 2030. At the halfway point, the report examines where action is advancing, documents the implementation gaps, and identifies what needs to change to accelerate progress.

State of Biodiversity Action draws on 129 national reports, more than 160 sets of national targets, over 80 updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and other sources of information.



It brings together evidence on how countries are translating the global Framework into national action.

Its findings provide the evidence base for the first global review of implementation by the Convention on Biological Diversity's 196 Parties at COP 17 (Yerevan, Armenia, 19-30 October). That review will inform decisions and new initiatives on accelerating action, including the proposed "Yerevan Pathway," which is subject to negotiation.

Held days before the launch of the UN Biodiversity Conference including COP 17 and on the eve of the Leaders' Summit, "Leaders for Nature," on Friday, 16 October, the Secretary-General's press conference offers an opportunity to connect the findings of the global review to COP 17 objectives and actions needed to address pressures driving biodiversity loss.

Speakers will discuss the implications for governments, business and society, and the finance, capacity and other support needed to turn commitments into action.

The embargoed report will be available [here](#) from 13 October.

Speakers:

- **António Guterres**, Secretary-General of the United Nations
- **Hambardzum Matevosyan**, Armenia's Minister of Environment and COP17 President
- **Inger Andersen**, UN Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme
- **Astrid Schomaker**, Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity

When and where:

Date: 15 October 2026

Time: 4:30–5:10 p.m., Yerevan local time (a delay of up to half an hour may be expected)

Venue: Online and on site, Press conference room, UN Biodiversity Conference venue, blue zone, Yerevan, Armenia

Interactive online media participation (registration required): [Press Conference - Launch of Global Report "State of Biodiversity Action" - Conference of the Parties \(COP 17\) | Join meeting in Teams | Microsoft Teams](#)

Webcast (15 Oct. news conference and 16 Oct Leader's Summit): webtv.un.org



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Accreditation and access for on-site media: www.cbd.int/participation/2026/media/checklist

On site reporters are asked to advise **arrival / departure** dates [here](#).

New: An **informal WhatsApp group** to help provide media with an additional source of quick information during the conference. Click [here](#) if you would like to join this group.

About the Leaders' Summit

As incoming Presidency and host of COP 17 and its concurrent meetings, Armenia has invited leaders to a one-day pre-COP summit on **16 October 2026** in Yerevan.

The Summit will bring together Heads of State and Government, leaders of international organizations, globally recognized scientists, prominent cultural figures, representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities and other key stakeholders. It will serve as the political anchor for COP 17, providing strategic direction, elevating ambition and mobilizing coordinated global action to safeguard life on Earth.

About COP 17

The 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 17) to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) will take place in Yerevan, Armenia, from 19–30 October 2026, alongside meetings of the Parties to the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols.

The centerpiece of COP17 will be the first global review of collective progress in implementing the 2022 Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and consideration of how governments can accelerate action toward its 2030 targets.

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Convention on
Biological Diversity

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