

December 14, 2018

To: The Executive Secretary of the
Convention on Biological Diversity

Dear Dr. Cristiana Paşca Palmer,

It is a great honor for me to submit initial views on the scope and content of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, as per the attached message, on behalf of Aichi Prefecture, a founding member of the Advisory Committee of Subnational Governments (ACSNG) of the Convention on Biological Diversity, as an official reply to the "Invitation for views on the preparation, scope and content of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework" posted by the Executive Secretary on July 16, 2018.

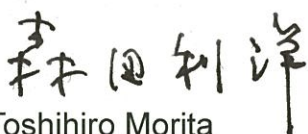
Our views are based on the "Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration" adopted by the High Level Segments of COP14, as well as on the "Roles of Subnational Governments with Respect to Biodiversity toward 2020 and beyond" posted to COP14 as CBD/COP/14/INF/38 by the Group of Leading Subnational Governments toward Aichi Biodiversity Targets (GoLS), the "Subnational Coalition for Biodiversity Action" launched by the ACSNG and the "Sharm El-Sheikh Communique" adopted by all participants of the 6th Global Biodiversity Summit of Cities and Subnational Governments on 23 and 24 November 2018, organized by ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability.

Since COP10 held in Aichi in 2010, Aichi Prefecture has developed its own Biodiversity Strategy and been promoting biodiversity actions, we established the "Network of Local Governments on Biodiversity" in Japan, and positively contributed to the "Global Partnership on Local and Subnational Action for Biodiversity." Furthermore, Aichi advocated for and established the GoLS at COP13, and has been sending messages to the global community on biodiversity ever since.

Toward COP15 in 2020, we commit to efforts for biodiversity conservation in our territory, to leading the GoLS and the ACSNG, and to constructively sharing our experiences and thoughts as a subnational government, with all the partners mentioned above, in possible opportunities along the preparation process of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

It would be our pleasure if our initial view could help the Parties and the Secretariat of CBD to work on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. I thank you in advance and remain attentive to answer further questions.

Sincerely yours,



Toshiiro Morita
Director General
Department of the Environment
Aichi Prefecture, Japan

Annex

Contribution of Subnational Governments, Cities and other Local Authorities to the scope and content of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

1. Subnational governments, cities and other Local Authorities have been playing important roles in the implementation of the 2011-2020 Strategic Plan on Biodiversity and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, especially on mainstreaming of biodiversity across sectors. Also, they are major promoters of the Sustainable Development Goals. Therefore, we expect the new post-2020 strategic framework of the CBD to clearly consider the importance of vertical mainstreaming and cooperation with local and subnational governments as the partners of the Parties.
2. We also suggest that the spirit of the current target 17 of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets can be scaled up by mentioning something like “each Party shall have developed national biodiversity strategies and action plans (BSAPs) with the full involvement of subnational governments, cities and other local authorities, and committed to encouraging and supporting local and subnational governments to develop their own BSAPs, with a view to letting at least all the immediate subnational governments in each Party establish their BSAP, by 2030 or possibly 2025, making efforts to enhance the capacity of local and subnational governments to achieve the post-2020 framework elements”.
3. Based on the fact that significant and growing numbers of subnational governments, cities and other local authorities have been actively involved in international cooperation among themselves and their partners, including under the Global Partnership of Local and Subnational Governments and the Advisory Committees of Cities and of Subnational Governments, we strongly suggest that the COP renew, expand and/or update the “Plan of Action on Subnational Governments, Cities and Other Local Authorities for Biodiversity (2011-2020)” and enhance the Parties’ support to the Global Partnership of Local and Subnational Governments for Biodiversity.