

Initial Views on the Aspects of the Scope and Content of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework by Special Policy Studies on post 2020 biodiversity framework of the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED)

I The Vision

The framework and targets shall meet the request and criteria of sustainable development goals (SDGs) and the '2050 vision'. The vision of post 2020 biodiversity conservation shall enable a path towards ecological civilizationⁱ to facilitate the living in harmony with nature for the human community of common future.

We propose that the 2050 vision of post 2020 biodiversity framework is expressed as A Healthy Planet for Healthy People, shortly H² P² (or HHPP). This expression is attractive and has relevance to all stakeholders.

II The Mission

We propose the Mission to be: Take effective and urgent action to bend the trend of biodiversity loss in order to reverse the decline in habitats and species by 2030, to secure our planet's variety of life and to contribute the benefit to nature and to the future generation of human community. In order to achieve this, these elements are needed:

- the root causes of loss and pressures on biodiversity are reduced,
- ecosystem services are restored,
- the utilization of biodiversity including production and consumption are managed in sustainable manners,
- the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of utilization of genetic resources are enhanced,
- efforts to reduce the risks of modern and emerging technology on biodiversity conservation are taken,
- adequate financial resources are provided,
- capacities building and technology transfer in biodiversity conservation are enhanced,
- appropriate mechanisms for implementing the framework are established and effectively prioritized, and
- decision-making is based on sound science and the precautionary approach.

III The Elements

1. Ecological civilization adding a political and cultural dimension to sustainable development and as a strategy which complements the SDGs to "live in harmony with nature: The realization of living in harmony with nature needs guarantees of national authority. China has successful experiences in enhancing biodiversity conservation, guided by Ecological Civilization principles, through administrative means and mechanisms by mainstreaming biodiversity in the national plans, in the institutional

reform, in the process of administrative appointment and in the inspection of officials. It should be incorporated into the future framework.

2. Building a community with a shared future for mankind is in essence to connect prospects and destinies of every nation and country closely together. The human community of shared future will benefit from the living in harmony with nature, in which the former is one important main body of this theme. In regarding of nature and biodiversity conservation, different regions, nations and people of various cultures all have the same interests and motivation. Loss of biodiversity and natural habitats will challenge all the lives on the earth and the future generation of human community. Unity of people and international agreements are key elements to realize living in harmony with nature and to form human society of ecological civilization.
3. Recognizing the Common but Differentiated Responsibility (CBDR) principle: All parties and stakeholders have the responsibility and obligation to conserve biodiversity, but also taking into consideration the differences in development stages, hosting of key biodiversity areas, responsibilities and capabilities of conservation, funding generation, and technology and know-how transfer. This principle of CBDR is used to define national voluntary contributions (NVCs) and national implementation strategies and action plans. The NVCs will be developed once/after the 2021-2030 biodiversity conservation plan has been established and adopted.
4. Enhancing synergies with other international agenda for environment: taking the UNFCCC as an example, synergizing the CBD Post 2020 framework with the goals of UNFCCC; realizing the close interdependence between the protection goal of biodiversity and the aim to limit the increased temperature; fully recognizing the role of nature-based solutions in climate mitigation, and ensuring that 1.5C solutions do not jeopardize the integrity of ecosystems, nor the products and services the ecosystems provide.
5. Based on science and scientific evidences to develop measurable and operational indicator for biodiversity conservation evaluation. The term 'science' here refers to natural, social and anthropological sciences. Those indicators need to be simple and easy to be understood.
6. 30% of land and sea protected by 2030: The percentage of protected areas is an appropriate indicator for biodiversity conservation, which however shall base on scientific calculation and prediction. There two issues need to be addressed: 1) protected areas should be put where represents the highest biological value, 2) with the highest quality of management. The

midterm protection goals could be related to the half-earth concept, the latter can be set as the goal of 2050. Conserving key biodiversity areas and meet the sustainable livelihood of people, “three conditions” should be considered:

- extensively human occupied and interfered areas by people: set minimum goals
 - medially interfered areas that supports moderate production and consumption: set medium protection goals
 - wild places where are barely occupied by human: set high protection goals
 - The advanced and positive experiences in the top level design and planning under the guidance of ecological civilization ideology can be integrated into the design of protection goals. For example, the national ecological function zoning in China has been divided into ecological space, production space and living space, which reflects a gradient of impact by human activities. It is appropriate to set up conservation goals of different human intervention degree for various spaces.
7. To bend the loss trend of biodiversity by 2030, we need to consider all the drivers that led to biodiversity loss, include but are not limited to economic development, subsidies and consumption etc. based on current various evaluation reports. The targets on drivers will mandate other sectors in a country to deliver nature agenda.
 8. A mechanism of transparency in data collection and data use in biodiversity loss and the sharing of environmental information is crucially important for establishing goals and implementing the plan.
 9. High level of political participation since the beginning in developing post-2020 framework is very important for setting up ambitious goals and enforcing implementation. This can be high level summit such as UN general assembly, G20 etc., can also be a Heads of State Declaration on Nature. In the process, the voices from global South should be well listened. Important international organizations and NGOs shall be involved, such as UNEP, UNDP, IUCN, WWF and so on.
 10. Encourage all sectors’ participation, including government, non-government organizations (NGOs), civil society organizations, private companies and individual person, especially local communities and indigenous peoples.

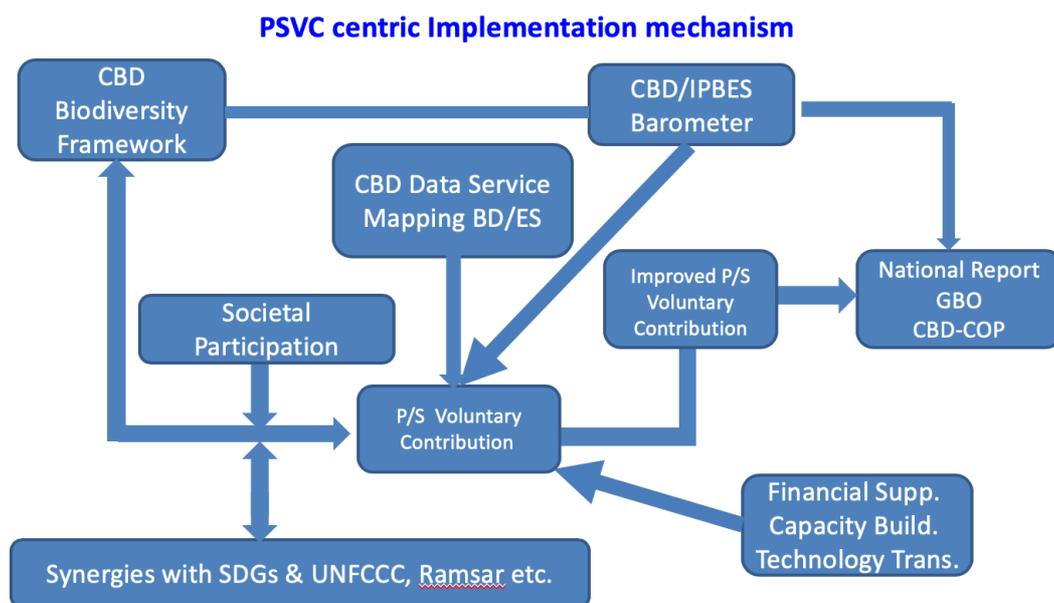
IV The Implementation

Compared to the Framework Convention on Climate Change, the main problem for the Convention on Biological Diversity is the weakness in implementation and accountability. As a consequence, the best appropriate conservation strategy may not be able to deliver desired outcome in time. Therefore, we propose to strengthen the compliance mechanism for the convention and to form a new mechanism to ensure party actions, synergy with other related international agreements, and broad multi-stakeholder participation. How to engage parties and

other stakeholders to effectively implement the post 2020 biodiversity framework is the key issue. We proposed a Party-Stakeholder Voluntary Contribution (PSVC) centric model (as shown in the figure below) for engaging parties and other stakeholders in this regard. To promote PSVC centric model, we should take into consideration of the following points:

1. A PSVC with state-set-goal is the key approach to enhance the compliance of parties for the convention. The previously requested national biodiversity conservation strategy plan, conservation action plan and national report have significant meanings for parties in the compliance of convention that have made a positive impact. However, the binding ability is far from enough that needs to be further strengthened. The PSVC guidelines for parties should be prepared. The exercise of the PSVCs can advance national biodiversity conservation policy-making and require parties to regularly review, update and strengthen these actions.
2. To effectively exert general impact of all parties in biodiversity conservation, it is necessary to plan as a whole and consider all the aspects of global biodiversity conservation priority, conservation gap and threat factors etc. to get fundamental support information and data. For that purpose, we propose to form a global biodiversity information service platform (CBD data service) and integrate the information resource of current institutions and organizations and experts, such as IUCN, WWF, GBIF, etc. and to map biodiversity and ecosystem services, in order to facilitate each party and other stakeholders to determine their own conservation priority and specific targets of PSVC. In addition, this platform can perform big data management and analysis, and the training of methodology and technology for PSDC development, which will help parties, especially developing countries, to enhance their capability in order to make PSVC of high quality.
3. To establish and improve self-evaluation and the way to combine with third party evaluation, which will be helpful to urge parties to fulfill their compliance commitments according to PSVC. It is possible for parties to adjust their PSVC by newly emerged situation and necessity during monitoring and evaluation, in order to better serve their conservation obligation defined by the convention.
4. The implementation of PSVC shall be ensured by enough funds, which is essentially important for developing countries. The fundraising for biodiversity conservation shall take multiple approaches. First of all, national budget should ensure the funding for biodiversity conservation in country, all adverse subsidies should be removed. The CBD itself shall set up effective fund mechanisms. In addition, governments, international society and private enterprises can directly contribute fund for a certain party.
5. To establish an innovation mechanism of broad participation for biodiversity conservation, especially attaching importance to the fully participation of women and native communities.

6. The biodiversity conservation is related to several international agreements, such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar Convention) etc. It is necessary to establish effective mechanism for cooperation to achieve synergies.



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