

## **China's views on the scope and content of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework**

The CBD Notification 2018-063 issued by the Secretariat of the Convention of Biological Diversity (hereinafter referred to as the Convention) on July 16, 2018 to invite initial views from Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, international organizations, civil society organizations, private sector and other stakeholders on the aspects of the scope and content of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, including (1) the scientific basis for the scale and scope of actions to achieve 2050 Vision; (2) possible structure of the Framework; and (3) the scope and content of resource mobilization within the Framework.

In response to the above notification, China would like to provide the following views and comments to contribute to the formulation of the Framework. These suggestions will be expected to be further developed and improved with the consultation progress of open-ended intersessional working group.

### **1. The scientific basis for the scale and scope of actions to achieve 2050 Vision**

China believes that solid research results are the basis for formulating the Framework. The published four regional assessments of IPBES (Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystems) and the thematic assessment of land degradation and restoration, and also the global assessments to be adopted and published provide important information for formulating the Framework. Besides, the fifth edition of Global Biodiversity Outlook, the sixth edition of Global Environment Outlook, and IPCC Special Report on global warming of 1.5°C are also important sources of information for the Framework.

The conclusions from the above reports show that habitat loss, contamination, overfishing, illegal trade of wildlife and their products, invasive alien species, and climate change are major driving forces that lead to biodiversity loss. Besides, over consumption and the lack of public awareness are also threatening biodiversity. The

root cause is that the attention paid by current social, economic, environmental, and technological policies on biodiversity protection and sustainable utilization is not enough. If we do not adjust and change current policies, the driving forces that lead to biodiversity loss will continue to increase by 2050.

To adjust and change current policies, protect biodiversity and achieve 2050 Vision, we need to employ scenario analysis, understand policy options, and identify milestones. China supports the scientific community to use scenario analysis to analyze the trend of biodiversity change and its influence on human wellbeing, so as to help the parties to identify the key areas for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

## **2. Possible Structure of the Framework**

### **(1) 2050 Vision**

China believes that the Framework should adhere to the direction of “living in harmony with nature”, and promote various parties to move forward along this right path, so as to promote the realization of 2050 Vision of “living in harmony with nature”.

### **(2) Time Scope**

While maintaining 2050 Vision of “living in harmony with nature”, the Framework should set a phased target up to 2030 to facilitate timely assessment of the effectiveness of the Framework and sum up lessons learned. China is also willing to explore and discuss the possibility of setting a phased target of 2040 with all other parties.

### **(3) Targets**

After being fully negotiated and discussed by various parties, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and Aichi Biodiversity Targets provide rational and helpful perspectives. China believes that the Framework should carry the core elements of the Strategic Plan and borrow experiences and lessons from the implementation of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets.

1) The description of the targets should be reader-friendly and easy to understand, so that the parties can clearly know what and how to achieve and take prompt actions .

2) The targets of the Framework should be quantified as much as possible so that the progress can be well evaluated around the world. Considering that some targets can not be quantified, specific measures to be taken for implementation could be identified to encourage parties to strengthen domestic work.

3) To further mobilize enthusiasm to implement the Framework, the targets could be designed in a form of “Common Contributions + Nationally Determined Contributions”, so as to guarantee the precondition of achieving certain targets and allow parties and other stakeholders to make their own contributions based on their own capabilities. For example, the target area of global protected area could be set as N%; and parties and other stakeholders could increase this N% to X%, by making alliances or making initiatives.

4) The parties are the major bodies to implement the Framework, and much work should be carried out at the national level. The formulation of the Framework should be based on national experiences, and incorporate successful practices and experiences. China has accumulated some experiences in the fields of planning and utilization of national land space, energy conservation and emission reduction, ecological protection and restoration of meta-ecosystem, or mountain-river-forest-farmland-grass system, as well as ecological compensation, and is willing to share with other parties.

5) The Framework should strengthen its connection with UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and incorporate some measures of SDGs into it so that the efforts to achieve SDGs will also help implement the Framework and enhance the accessibility of its targets. China also welcomes the proposal to connect the Framework with other international practices.

#### **(4) Review mechanism**

- 1) The vast majority of parties have formulated and published national biodiversity strategies and action plans, and regularly submit national reports. If the review mechanism of the Framework will be established, the national strategies and action plans and the national report mechanism could continue to be the focus
  
- 2) The review mechanism should reflect its humanity concern to highlight the efforts of Least Developed Countries, Small Island Developing States and the most environmentally vulnerable countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, to implement the Convention. Meanwhile, it should provide guidance to improve their implementation in terms of capacity building, resource mobilization and technology transfer.

#### **3. Scope and content of resource mobilization in the Framework**

- 1) Developing countries are still faced with huge stress from economic development and poverty reduction. China underlines that Article 20 of the Convention shall be fully implemented, that is, developed countries shall provide new and additional funding to developing countries concerned to enable the latter to implement the Framework and reach their goals.
  
- 2) Innovation in biodiversity financing mechanism will effectively expand the scale of resources. Global Environment Fund (GEF) still has no channels for private sectors to get involved, so it fails to attract stakeholders other than countries to participate in the protection and sustainable utilization of biodiversity. Thus, private sector participation mechanism could be explored under the Convention or GEF to stimulate social capital investment.
  
- 3) The injection of the funds should be matched with capacity building and technical support so as to ensure its appropriate and effective utilization.
  
- 4) In the process of financing and allocation of funds, the needs of vulnerable groups such as women, youth, indigenous peoples and local communities should be taken good care of so as to ensure their rights and interests are protected.