

Subject: Invitation for views on the preparation, scope and content of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

(Ref.: SCBD/OES/DC/RH/KNM/87538)

With regard to Notification 2018-102, Japan would like to submit its view on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework as follows:

1. Key elements of basic principles of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

(1) Milestone toward the achievement of the 2050 Vision

- The post-2020 global biodiversity framework should be the direction of what is to be implemented for the next ten years toward the achievement of the 2050 Vision for biodiversity “Living in Harmony with Nature.”
- There should be various views among regions and/or Parties on the situation where “Living in harmony with nature” is realized. Accordingly, Japan considers it important that each Party clearly describes in what situation the 2050 Vision is considered to be fulfilled in its future National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) which is to be developed in line with the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

(2) Scope

- The Aichi Biodiversity Targets are like an exhaustive list of effective and urgent actions for halting the loss of biodiversity. Japan is of the view that their scope is still relevant to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and substantial change of the scope is not needed. In preparing post-2020 global biodiversity framework, it would be better to concentrate our effort in identifying and incorporating the elements to be added and/or updated, taking into account the progress after the adoption of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the evaluation thereof as well as the changes in the situation surrounding biodiversity.

(3) Effective implementation

- Despite various efforts that have been made so far, most of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets are not expected to be achieved. Learning from this experience, Japan is of the view that the post-2020 global biodiversity framework needs to have feasibility to a reasonable extent and embed the elements which are useful for effective review of its implementation (see 4th bullet of 2(1)).
- Mainstreaming will be the key to the successful implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. The post-2020 global biodiversity framework should be easy to understand for everyone so that it can be mainstreamed broadly, thereby contributing to the

three objectives of the Convention.

- In order to promote the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, Parties developed national targets, using the Strategic Plan as a flexible framework, and revised their NBSAPs in line with the Strategic Plan, including by integrating their national targets into their NBSAPs, pursuant to paragraph 3 of decision X/27. Japan considers that a similar approach should be applied to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and prioritized over other approaches including the development of voluntary commitments.
- Japan considers that national reports submitted by Parties and the Global Biodiversity Outlook should continue to be used as the main references in reviewing the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. The review of the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework needs to be carried out in a timely manner, to effectively accelerate efforts by Parties and other stakeholders toward its achievement.

(4) Enhancement of synergy with other conventions, international organizations and initiatives

- The linkage with global efforts in biodiversity-related areas and the other areas, such as effort toward a decarbonized society, should be taken into consideration in the preparation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.
- The possibility to incorporate non-biodiversity-related goals as well as the biodiversity-related goals of the SDGs into the post-2020 global biodiversity framework should be explored.

2. Specific proposals on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework

(1) Structure

- Some of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets contain various components and were not necessarily easy to understand. As a Party whose language is not an official UN Language, Japan had some trouble translating and promoting them. In this regard, Japan believes it important that the post-2020 global biodiversity framework contains goals which clearly indicate actions to be taken, while keeping them simple enough that people can understand well.
- Accordingly, we propose establishing two-layer goals consisting of (i) outcome goals showing outcome situations and (ii) output goals showing specific actions to be taken under each outcome goal.

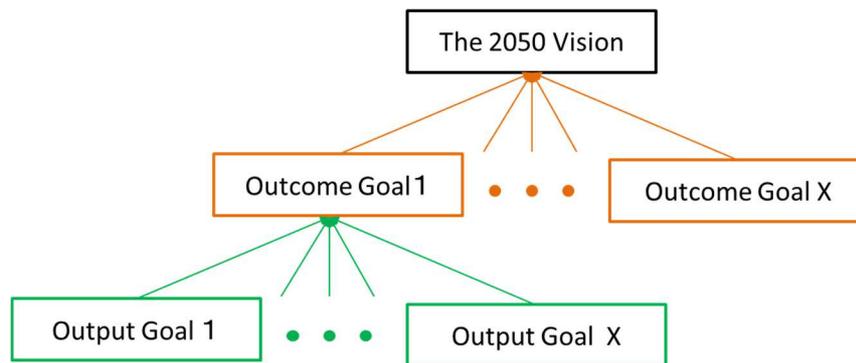


Fig1. Possible structure of post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

- Outcome goals cover most critical issues for biodiversity. Each goal basically deals with a single issue and is written in simple words, with a view to making it easy-to-understand for the public. The number of outcome goals should be up to 20, similarly to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, so that people can remember them.
e.g.) By 2022, all the Parties update and revise their NBSAPs in line with post-2020 global biodiversity framework.
- Output goals specify the concrete actions to be taken for the achievement of each outcome goal. The necessary amount of efforts should be clarified as quantitative as possible, so that the degree of achievement can be evaluated easily when reviewing its implementation.
e.g.) Regional consultation workshops will be held X times in 2021, to support the development of NBSAPs by Parties.
- Such a structure has similarity to SDGs.
- Indicators to evaluate both global commonness and regional difference are needed. Indicators could be developed at a later COP.

(2) Possible elements

Japan proposes the following four specific elements which should be further promoted through the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, based on its experience of the implementation of Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and taking into account the changes of the situation surrounding biodiversity as follows;

1) Contribution through promoting the SATOYAMA Initiative

- The SATOYAMA Initiative, proposed by Japan and United Nations University, aims to achieve both the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in human-influenced natural environments that people have developed and maintained through agriculture, forestry and other human activities. Such environments are called “socio-ecological production landscapes” in short. During the period of COP 10, the International Partnership

for the SATOYAMA Initiative (IPSI) was launched as a platform for promoting information sharing and cooperative activities between interested parties. 240 organizations including national governmental organizations from 20 countries, international organizations, academic research organization and NGOs are participating in the IPSI as of December 2018.

- The SATOYAMA Initiative has been achieving a steady success in maintaining and reconstructing the relationship between mankind and nature, in a way to promote the sustainable management and use of natural resources and improve the livelihoods of local people in socio-ecological production landscapes, taking into account the characteristics specific to each region.
- Japan is convinced that the SATOYAMA Initiative contributes to the realization of the 2050 Vision “Living in Harmony with Nature” as well as the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

2) Ecosystem-based Approaches to Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction

- Ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction came out recently. The discussion on the approaches started at COP10 and eventually its guidelines were adopted at COP14, as a result of vigorous discussion until then.
- Japan believes that the approaches are quite important as they can synergize efforts for biodiversity, climate change and disaster risk reduction, and therefore they should be underlined in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

3) Consideration for biodiversity in procurement of raw materials

- The IPBES Report “the Assessment Report on Land Degradation and Restoration” points out that the full impact of consumption choices on land degradation worldwide is not often visible due to the distances that separate many consumers and producers, and that such distances are likely to cause the situation where many of the actors who benefit from the overexploitation of natural resources are among the least affected by the direct negative impacts of land degradation, and therefore have the least incentive to take action. This trend is attributed to the expansion of supply chains beyond national boundaries and their growing complexity. Japan is of the view that the challenge caused by such “distances” should be addressed further through the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.
- Environmental, social and governance (ESG) investments can be a solution to address such “distances”. A possible approach to facilitate ESG investments in the context of biodiversity conservation is promoting public disclosure of corporate activities related to biodiversity, such as an effort for the biodiversity-friendly procurement. The information on such corporate activities would be useful reference for investors who are interested in companies which give consideration for biodiversity. Furthermore, relevant organization and initiatives

are encouraged to develop and improve metrics, indicators, baselines and other tools to measure the biodiversity dependencies of businesses and their impacts on biodiversity as mentioned in paragraph 16(b) of COP14 decision (CBD/COP/14/L.20), since such tools assist companies in preparing and publishing a report of their business activities including in terms of biodiversity and hence make more credible information available to investors.

- In addition, it seems also important that major investors show their “investors' ideology” especially in relation to biodiversity, as it can give companies an incentive for taking biodiversity-friendly actions and making the information of such actions publically available.

4) Prevention from and control of unintentional introduction of invasive alien species through logistics, such as trade and transport pathways

- The risk of unintentional introduction of invasive alien species has been growing due to the increase in the amount of distribution and the expansion of distribution networks. The prevention of unintentional introduction is often difficult, and the introduction pathway can be identified only after the introduction in most cases. Global cooperation is needed to address the cases of transboundary introduction.
- Japan is of the view that Aichi Biodiversity Target 9 will be a good basis to develop a new goal on invasive alien species, and the prevention from and control of unintentional introduction can be an additional element of the goal. Japan hopes that we will have comprehensive discussion on such an element during the process for the preparation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, with the recognition that each country around the world can be a victimizer as well as a victim of unintentional introduction.