Draft for peer review

GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY OUTLOOK

Considerations for the preparation of the fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook

4 I. INTRODUCTION

- In decision XIII/29 the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity decided to initiate the process for the preparation of the fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-5). In the same decision the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to prepare a work plan and proposed budget for the preparation of the fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook and related reports and products for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting prior to the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the
- Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting prior to the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the
- 11 Parties.

2. In line with the above decision the present note has been prepared to provide information on the modalities for the preparation of GBO-5. Section II of this note provides background information on GBO-5 while section III provides information on the content of the report, including key questions and elements of an outline. Information on the preparation process, including the main information sources, mechanism for oversight and peer review, elements of the communication strategy, information on related reports, a timeline for the preparation of the report and an indicative budget. The document also contains draft recommendations for consideration by the Subsidiary Body. A draft communication strategy, prepared jointly with the secretariats of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity

and Ecosystem Services and biodiversity-related conventions, is contained in an addendum to this note.

21 II. BACKGROUND

- 3. The fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook (GBO-4), published in 2014, provided a mid-term assessment of progress towards the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. In decision XII/1, the Conference of the Parties welcomed GBO-4 and requested the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to evaluate the scope, process and findings of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* in the light of, and avoiding duplication with, the ongoing work of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services on a global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services, and to report to the Conference of the Parties at its thirteenth meeting in order to inform its consideration of the modalities of potential future editions of the Global Biodiversity Outlook.
- 4. Information on the previous editions of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, including modalities for the fifth edition of the report was presented to the nineteenth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice1. Information on the relationship between the Global Biodiversity Outlook and the IPBES global, regional and thematic assessments as well as an overview of the timing for the preparation of GBO-5 as it relates to the work of the Convention was also made available to the meeting.
- 5. In recommendation XIX/5 the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice acknowledged that the deliverables of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, in particular its methodological, thematic, regional and global assessments are expected to contribute to the final assessment of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. As such these different deliverables will be critical elements in the preparation of the fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook.
 - 6. In decision XIII/29 the Conference of the Parties considered the overall scope of GBO-5 and decided that the report should provide a concise final report on the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and serve as a basis for the follow-up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity

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1 2	2011-2020, that the repo	to be considered by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting. Further it decided ort:
3	a.	Should provide:
4 5		i. A concise final report on the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;
6 7		 ii. A basis for the follow-up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, to be considered by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting;
8	b.	Should include:
9 10		i. A target-by-target analysis of progress towards the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, based on a transparent and replicable methodology;
11 12		ii. An analysis of the contribution of progress towards the Aichi Biodiversity Targets to the Sustainable Development Goals;
13 14	c.	Should draw upon official and the best available scientific information, such as the following:
15		i. The sixth national reports;
16		ii. Information from global indicators;
17 18 19 20		iii. The thematic, regional and global assessments of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and any relevant scenario analysis and modelling of biodiversity and ecosystem services undertaken as part of these assessments;
21 22		iv. Information from the other biodiversity-related conventions and Rio conventions and other relevant organizations;
23 24 25		v. Information provided by indigenous peoples and local communities, including information on the contributions of collective actions to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020;
26 27		vi. The outcomes of the dialogue on "Living in harmony with Nature", different visions, approaches and tools for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity;
28 29		vii. The analysis of progress in capacity-building activities to support implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, referred to in decision XIII/23;
30		viii. Additional relevant information presented by Parties and other Governments;
31	d.	Should be developed in a manner that avoids duplication with other processes;
32		III. CONTENT
33		A. Key questions
34 35 36 37	policy relev will address	line decision XIII/29 the fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook will answer four ant questions. Given the scope of GBO-5 and the cross cutting nature of the issues the report is, information addressing these questions will be found throughout the report and will not be a single section. The key questions that will be considered are:
38 39 40	each Aichi	(a) What progress has been made towards each of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets? For Biodiversity Target an explicit assessment of the progress made will be provided on the basis lines of evidence. Implications related to the scope and focus of the Aichi Targets in relation

(b) How have the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and progress towards them positioned the world community to realize the 2050 Vision of the Strategic Plan? Answering this question will help

to the follow up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity will be highlighted.

place the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, and progress towards their achievement, in context of the 2050 Vision of the Strategic Plan. This is a forward looking question which will require scenarios and models to determine if the current trajectory of progress will be sufficient to help us achieve the 2050 vision. It will also entail discussing options for sets of action as part of future plans and steps that may be needed after 2020.

- (c) How does implementation of the Strategic Plan and progress towards the Aichi Targets contribute to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development? The Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 is consistent with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. GBO-5 will include a qualitative assessment of the contribution of implementing the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity towards the Sustainable Development Goals. Issues related to the mainstreaming of biodiversity will also be addressed in answering this question. Further as part of this assessment, relevant issues that could be considered in the development of a post 2020 biodiversity strategy will be identified.
- (d) What challenges remain to be addressed? In answering this question the focus will be on the post 2020 period and on identifying possible options for advancing progress in the attainment of the Vision of the Strategic Plan. The information used to answer this question will be based, in part, on forward looking biodiversity scenarios and on the analysis of options for accelerating progress towards the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity. Further issues related to biodiversity mainstreaming will be considered in relation to broader social objectives.
- 8. On the basis of the analyses and assessments in answering these questions, the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting would be expected to have the elements that would enable a decision regarding the possible follow-up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

22 B. Outline

- 9. GBO-5 will have four main sections as well as an executive summary that will summarize the main findings of the report and an annex with the references used in the report and additional notes:
- (a) Section one of the GBO-5 will serve as an introduction to the report and provide relevant background information such as information on the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and the Global Biodiversity Outlook.
- (b) Section two of the report will provide an assessment of progress towards each of the Aichi Biodiversity, similar to what was done in GBO-4, as well as identify any lessons with regards to the implementation of these. It is expected that this section will draw heavily from the sixth national reports², including for the identification of case studies, information from national biodiversity strategies and action plans is also expected to be an important source of information for this section of GBO-5. The second section of the report will also make use of indicator information provided by the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership. Similarly information from the IPBES global and regional assessments would also be used. These information sources will be complemented with information from other relevant scientific assessments and literature.
- (c) Section three of GBO-5 will provide a synthesis of progress towards the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, particularly as it relates to its 2020 mission of taking effective and urgent action to halt the loss of biodiversity. This section will also include a critical review of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. It is expected that this section will draw heavily from the IPBES global and regional assessments. The issue of biodiversity mainstreaming as well as the contribution of biodiversity to the attainment of societal objectives, such as poverty eradication and the alleviation of hunger, will also be addressed. In this section the links between biodiversity and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals, will also be discussed.

 $[\]underline{2}$ Document UNEP/CBD/COP/13/8/ADD2/REV1 prepared for the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties provides an example of the types of information from the national reports that could be included in the fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook.

(d) Section four of GBO-5 will be forward looking. It will highlight the challenges and opportunities that exist, particularly as they relate to the 2050 Vision of the Strategic Plan and the implication of these relate to the possible development of a follow up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.

IV. PREPARATION PROCESS

A. Information sources

- 10. The fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook will build on GBO-4 and will follow a similar methodology by drawing on a range of information sources, including scientific literature. As with GBO-4, information will be presented in a variety of ways including case-studies, text boxes, graphs, charts and other information graphics. In decision XIII/29 the Conference of the Parties specified that GBO-5 should draw on official and the best available scientific information and specified that this included:
 - a. The sixth national reports GBO-5 will draw on the contents of the sixth national reports in a similar manner to what was done in document UNEP/CBD/COP/13/8/ADD2/REV1 prepared for the thirteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. In order for the preparation of GBO-5 to take into account information from the sixth national reports it will be essential that the national reports are received by the 31 December 2018 deadline.
 - b. **Information from global indicators** An updated list of indicators for the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 was welcomed by the Conference of the Parties in decision XIII/28. Indicator information used in GBO-5 will be provided by the partners of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership. To the extent possible, the same indicators used in GBO-4 will continue to be reported on in GBO-5.
 - c. The thematic, regional and global assessments of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and any relevant scenario analysis and modelling of biodiversity and ecosystem services undertaken as part of these assessments Some of the assessments undertaken by IPBES are already available, such as the assessment of pollinators while others, such as the regional and global assessments, will be finalized in accordance with the IPBES work programme and become available in time for their incorporation in GBO-5.
 - d. Information from the other biodiversity-related conventions and Rio conventions and other relevant organizations several Conventions and organisations have officially recognized the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and address issues directly relevant to biodiversity. As appropriate GBO-5 will make use of information provided by these institutions. In particular it is expected that the members of the Biodiversity Liaison Group would be important contributors to GBO-5.
 - e. Information provided by indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs), including information on the contributions of collective actions to the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 Organizations and representatives of IPLCs have made important contributions to the preparation of previous editions of the Global Biodiversity Outlook. It is expected that for GBO-5 this will remain the case. There will be several avenues for representatives of IPLCs to contribute to the preparation of the GBO-5, including by participating in the preparation of the sixth national report, where appropriate, by engaging in the peer review process for GBO-5, and by directly providing information to the Secretariat. It is expected that information provided by representatives of IPLCs would also be used in the preparation of the next edition of the Local Biodiversity Outlook (LBO-2).
 - f. The outcomes of the dialogue on "Living in harmony with Nature", different visions, approaches and tools for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity This dialogue was held during COP-13 and the outcomes are contained in the report of the meeting.

g. Additional relevant information presented by Parties and other Governments – Parties to the Convention and other Governments can provide information to be considered in the preparation of GBO-5 in a variety of ways. These include information provided through the sixth national reports as well as through relevant reporting processes under the Protocols and for the resource mobilization strategy. In addition Parties and other Governments can provide relevant information directly to the Secretariat for consideration. Further Parties and other Governments can participate in the peer review process for the report.

B. Oversight and peer review

- 11. A draft of the fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook will be made available for public peer review for at least a six-week period. The peer review period will overlap, in part, with a meeting of SBSTTA so that that body can consider the draft. The peer review comments received as well as responses to them will be made publicly available through the Convention on Biological Diversity's website.
- 12. In addition to the formal peer review process it is proposed that, prior to making the draft available for public peer review, it is reviewed by a group of invited experts. These invited experts would be individuals with recognized scientific and technical expertise in the areas addressed in the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. These experts would be invited to comment on specific sections of the draft GBO-5 to help ensure that they are accurate.
 - 13. The preparation of GBO-5 will be overseen by the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to enable a more continuous interaction than would be possible with an external advisory body. The SBSTTA Bureau will help to ensure that the report is scientifically and technically sound, that it considers all available information and follows best practices in preparing these types of reports. The SBSTTA Bureau would also provide guidance on issues related to the work plan and communication strategy, the style and presentation of the report, as well as on scientific and technical issues related to the development of the follow up to Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. The SBSTTA Bureau will be provided with updates on the preparation of the report during its meetings as well as by electronic means. Further it is proposed that the COP Bureau be provided with updates on the preparation of GBO-5 so that it can provide guidance as needed. Throughout the preparation of the fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, regular updates will also be provided on the webpage for the report.

C. Communication and outreach

- 14. In decision XIII/29 the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary to prepare, subject to the availability of resources, a joint communication strategy with the secretariats of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and biodiversity-related conventions on the fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook and related reports and products and relevant deliverables of the Platform, and invites the secretariats of the Platform and the other biodiversity-related conventions to collaborate on this matter. To this end a draft communication strategy is under development, building on the experience of GBO-4. The development and implementation strategy will be a collaborative process between the Secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity, and Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and biodiversity-related conventions on the fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, other multilateral environmental agreements and relevant partner agencies and organisations.
- Through a range of products, GBO-5 will be a major communication tool, particularly as its publication will coincide with the conclusion of the United Nations Decade on Biodiversity and the anticipated adoption of a follow up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity. GBO-5 will also enhance awareness of the importance of biodiversity for human well being and its links to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

- 1 16. The central information product of the fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook will remain a monograph of a size comparable to the fourth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook containing detailed data and case-studies on the content listed above. The report will be published in all official languages of the United Nations and the preparation of additional languages by Parties and other partners will be encouraged, as has been the case for previous editions of the GBO.
- 6 17. In addition to the central report, a number of ancillary products will also be developed to 7 communicate the messages, in a format suitable to a number of different groups. The types of products 8 developed will depend on the amount of resources available and the availability of partner organizations 9 to assist with their development. They could include, among other things, a second edition of the Local 10 Biodiversity Outlooks: Indigenous Peoples' and Local Communities' Contributions to the Implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 as called for in decision XIII/29, thematic reports, 11 12 publications related to the follow up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, flyers or brochures, 13 as well as technical series publications.
- 18. It will be important that by the time GBO-5 is official launched people are aware of the reports scope and significance. As such the communication strategy will reflect the need to begging promoting GBO-5 following the fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and throughout the lead up to the official publication of the report. The use of different social media platforms will play an important role in the communications surrounding the publication.
- 19. GBO-5 will be an important element in the preparation of the follow up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. It is expected the communication strategy for GBO-5 will emphasize this point. In addition it is expected that the implementation of the framework communication strategy for the Convention on Biological Diversity and the communication strategy for GBO-5 will be complimentary and mutual supportive.
- 24 20. Key for the successful implementation of the communication strategic for GBO-5 will be the early identification of funding sources and partner agencies. The early finalization and funding support of a communication strategy will facilitate its implementation.

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28 D. Related reports

21. In addition to the fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, a range of related reports will also be prepared. For previous editions of the Outlook the types of related products prepared have included technical and regional reports, and reports geared to specific audiences, such as indigenous peoples and local communities and the youth. Preparation of related reports have in the past depended heavily on identifying partners to prepare the relevant reports with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity providing support by commenting on drafts, making design files available, and providing financial resources when possible and appropriate. For GBO-5 a similar approach is planned. Given the reliance on partners for preparing these ancillary report, the extent to which these will be able to be prepared for GBO-5 will depend on the engagement of partners.

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39 E. Timeline

22. The multi-year programme of work adopted in decision XII/31 envisages that the Conference of the Parties will consider at its fifteenth meeting, in 2020, the final assessment of the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, including consideration of the implications of the global assessment on biodiversity and ecosystem services by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, future editions of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, as well as the follow-up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and related means of implementation, including resource mobilization. GBO-5,

- including its various products and underlying analyses will provide a final assessment of progress towards the implementation of the Strategic Plan for biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets.
- 23. In order for the Conference of the Parties to be able to consider the messages of GBO-5 and to take meaningful action based on them, GBO-5 will need to be available to the meeting of the SBSTTA and/or SBI help immediately before COP-15. With this in view the timetable below is proposed for the
- development of GBO-5. The timetable also indicates when certain key sources of information to the preparation of GBO-5 are expected to be available. The timetable assumes that a meeting of the SBSTTA,
- 8 at which GBO-5 could be considered, takes place June 2020. If this is not the case the timeline would
- 9 need to be revised. As such the dates below should be regarded as indicative.

Indicative timeline for the preparation of GBO-5

11	Product/element	Date
12	IPBES Regional Assessments	March 2018
13	National report deadline	18 December 2018
14	Draft Outline	December 2018
15	Preparation of first text elements	January 2019
16	IPBES Global Assessment	May 2019
17	Preparation of Zero	May-August 2019
18	Review by invited experts	August-September 2019
19	Revision of draft	August-September 2019
20	Peer review	October-December 2019
21	Development of graphic elements	November 2019
22	SBSTTA-23	November 2019
23	Revision of draft	January-March 2020
24	Translation into official UN languages	March 2020
25	Layout	March-April 2020
26	Printing and dispatch to launch events	May 2020
27	SBSTTA-24/SBI-3	June 2020
28	Launch of the main GBO-4 report	June 2020

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F. Resource and logistic requirements

- 24. Preparing GBO-5 will require that the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity enter into contractual agreements for a variety of services. These include contracting a science writer, a graphic designer and securing translation services. In addition arrangements for printing the publication and shipping the report will need to be made. Resources to support the implementation of the communication strategy for the publication, including funding for launch events, support for United Nations Information Centres and travel to key events, will also need to be secured.
- As a result of United Nation's procurement requirements it will be important to secure sufficient resources early in the GBO-5 production process. Entering into contractual arrangements with suppliers for services such as translation, layout, and printing requires that funds be available before such arrangements can be made. It should be noted that these contractual arrangements can require several months to finalize. Owing to the tight timeline to prepare GBO-5 delays in identifying the necessary resources will make it difficult to finalize the report in time for its consideration as envisioned.
 - 26. The project will be coordinated by the Convention Secretariat where a core team has already been established which will work as part of the terms of reference of existing posts funded from the Convention's core budget. The financial resources required for the project are detailed below along with estimated costs for several related reports. Note that the resources require to prepare GBO-5 will vary with the scope of the report, the extent to which documentation from other processes, such as IPBES, and their alignment with other lines of evidence, requires an additional expert process, the range of related products desired and the level of ambition of the report's communication strategy. In order to reflect these

nuances the budget below contains annotations. Items identified with an asterisk are viewed as being essential to guaranteeing the preparation of GBO-5 in time for it to inform discussion on the possible

follow up to the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020. Given this, the total budget for the preparation

of GBO-5, based on current information and costs for services incurred for previous editions, ranges from

452,000 to 932,250 USD.

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Cost estimate for US dollars)	the preparation of the fifth edition of Global B	Biodivers	sity Outl	ook (in t	thousand	ls of
Expenditure type	Item	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total cost
Scientific underpinning of	Compilation of updated indicators information*3	20		20		40
biodiversity trends	Elaboration of biodiversity scenarios and assessment of policy options 4		100	115		215
Drafting of	Meeting of key contributors <u>5</u>			25		25
GBO-4	Science writer*		10	40	40	90
	Translation/ adaptation and proofreading for the 5 remaining UN language versions*				140	140
Production of GBO-4 monograph report in	Typesetting and graphic design (all products, all languages)*			10	20	30
languages	Printing and dissemination of main volume in all languages*				70	70
	Printing and dissemination of Summary*				30	30
Communication	Implementation of communication strategy Second edition of the Local Biodiversity Outlooks <u>6</u>		10	10	40	50
strategy and related reports	Regional Biodiversity Outlook reports7			15	30	45
remed reports	Documentation on the follow-up to the Strate Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020				40	40
Subtotal		20	120	255	430	825
Programme		2.6	15.6	33.15	55.9	107.25

<u>3</u> Some of this work may have been previously undertaken in relation to the preparation of IPBES assessments. To the extent possible, this information will be considered in the preparation of GBO-5. However, a request to provide indicator updates will benefit from a modest amount of funding.

 $[\]underline{4}$ Previous editions of the Global Biodiversity Outlook have drawn on biodiversity scenarios. Some of this work may be undertaken by IPBES as part of the preparation of the Global Assessment. To the extent possible the preparation of GBO-5 will take advantage of this work.

⁵ An additional expert process would be beneficial to analyse and draw conclusions from the different lines of evidence, including the IPBES assessments.

<u>6</u> The first edition of the Local Biodiversity Outlooks was prepared in collaboration with the Forest Peoples Programme, the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity. The report is accessible from https://www.cbd.int/gbo/gbo4/publication/lbo-en.pdf. The costs listed are based on the preparation of the first edition and may need to be adjusted in light of the plans for the preparation of the second edition.

<u>7</u> A series of regional reports based on GBO-4 were prepared in collaboration with UNEP-WCMC and UNEP Regional Offices. Reports were prepared for Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Caribbean and West Asia. Given that IPBES will be preparing regional reports, it may not be necessary to prepare regional reports in the relation to GBO-5.

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Support Costs (13%)					
Total	22.6	135.6	288.1 5	485.9	932.25