



MEDIA ADVISORY

For immediate release

18 September 2024

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COP16 News Conference, Webcast from UN Secretariat, New York, 9:30 am EDT Monday 23 Sept.

Convention on Biological Diversity COP 16: What's on the Table, What to Expect at the UN Biodiversity Conference, Cali, Colombia, 21 Oct - 1 Nov

What: News conference on the vision, agenda and goals of COP 16 (Cali, Colombia, 21 Oct.-1 Nov.): what's on the table, what's at stake, and what to expect.

Who: Astrid Schomaker, Executive Secretary of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity, and Susana Muhamad, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of Colombia and COP16 President-designate.

Time: September 23 at 930 am US Eastern Daylight Time.

Where: UN Secretariat press briefing room and online. Journalists can take part via UN TV (<http://webtv.un.org/en>), with questions welcomed via email in advance or in real time.

Questions from outside the UN may be sent via email to ghannem@un.org, cc. tc@tca.tc

About COP16

In Cali, CBD Parties will take stock of progress towards the goals and 23 ambitious targets for 2030 agreed to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, December, 2022.

Resource mobilisation and technical and scientific cooperation will be central to the negotiations.

The financial ambitions set out in the Plan include investing US\$ 200 billion a year from all sources, and reforming US\$ 500 billion in government subsidies that undermine biodiversity.

The upcoming UN Biodiversity Conference in Cali is comprised of

- the 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.
- the 11th meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety



- the 5th meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing

Background Documents

Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework: www.cbd.int/gbf

COP16 website, www.cbd.int/conferences/2024

COP16 official documents: <https://www.cbd.int/meetings/COP-16>

COP16 Side events: www.cbd.int/side-events

CBD processes and meetings: www.cbd.int/process

Related CBD news release, 16 August:

Edging closer to operationalizing an agreement on the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of digital sequence information on genetic resources; In Montreal, negotiators advance text determining how the groundbreaking Multilateral Mechanism will work in practice

www.cbd.int/doc/press/2024/pr-2024-08-16-dsi-en.pdf

COP16 media accreditation is closed but all news conferences and briefings (including a daily update on negotiations) will be webcast in real time and recorded at <https://bit.ly/3ZpBMEI>

COP16 news conferences (times TBC):

- Opening ceremony, Sunday, 20 October
- Mid-conference briefing, Friday, 25 October
- High-level Segment: Opening, Tuesday, 29 October; Closing, Wednesday, 30 October
- COP16 Conclusion: Friday, 1 November

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About the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

Established in 1992, the CBD is an international treaty for the conservation of biodiversity, the sustainable use of the components of biodiversity, and the equitable sharing of the benefits derived from the use of genetic resources.

With 196 Parties, the CBD has near universal participation among countries. It helps to address threats to biodiversity and ecosystem services through scientific assessments, the development of tools, incentives and processes, the transfer of technologies and good practices and the active involvement of relevant stakeholders, including indigenous peoples and local communities, youth, women, NGOs, sub-national actors, and the business community.

The Cartagena Protocol to the CBD that entered into force in 2003 and currently having 173 Parties aims to safeguard biological diversity from potential risks posed by genetically modified organisms (GMOs) resulting from biotechnology. It focuses on safe transport, handling, and use of living modified organisms, considering their potential adverse effects on biodiversity and human health. It also has a supplementary protocol on liability and redress.

The Nagoya Protocol to the CBD entered into force in 2014 and has 141 Parties. It provides a transparent bilateral legal framework to providers and users for the fair and equitable sharing of benefits derived from genetic resources.

Website: www.cbd.int

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