



Convention on Biological Diversity

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Agenda item 7

Cooperation with other conventions and international organizations

Recommendation adopted by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation on 29 May 2024

4/9. Cooperation with other conventions and international organizations

The Subsidiary Body on Implementation,

Reaffirming the importance of cooperation among all relevant conventions, organizations and initiatives for the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity, its Protocols and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, in a manner respectful of their respective mandates,

Stressing the importance of close cooperation among the three Rio conventions,

1. *Requests* the Secretariat and invites the Chair of the fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation to invite the secretariats and relevant bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, to continue to foster cooperation and enhance synergies, in line with their respective mandates;

2. *Recommends* that, at its sixteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopt a decision along the following lines:

**[The Conference of the Parties,*

Recalling the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,¹

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 78/155 of 19 December 2023,

Recalling further decisions XIII/24 of 17 December 2016, 14/30 of 29 December 2018 and 15/4 and 15/13 of 19 December 2022 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,

* The present draft decision was prepared by the Chair of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation with the support of the Secretariat following the first reading of agenda item 7. The text was not reviewed by the Subsidiary Body at its fourth meeting.

¹ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

Welcoming the outcomes of the sixth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme and the inclusion of an item on cooperation with multilateral environmental agreements in its agenda,

Noting the work of the United Nations Environment Management Group in promoting a United Nations system-wide contribution to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,²

Noting also the work undertaken by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme to support the implementation of the Framework at all levels, including in the context of the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration and the One Health approach,

Noting further the relevance of the Man and the Biosphere Programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the biosphere reserves nominated under that programme to the implementation of the Framework,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 77/334 of 1 September 2023 and welcoming the development of the United Nations system-wide water and sanitation strategy by the Secretary-General to enhance system-wide coordination and policy coherence between water action and sectors that are dependent on water resources and water-related ecosystems,

Stressing the need for further collaboration between the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the Science-Policy Interface of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,³

Welcoming the role of the joint statement on climate, nature and people,⁴ issued at the margins of the twenty-eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,⁵ in promoting accelerated and integrated action for climate, nature and sustainable development,

Recognizing the contribution of regional strategies, frameworks, plans and initiatives, such as the Carpathian Biodiversity Framework,⁶ to the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,

Reaffirming the importance of continued efforts to enhance cooperation and synergies among all relevant conventions, organizations and initiatives, in a manner respectful of their respective mandates and with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, to contribute to and monitor progress of the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, in line with its 2030 mission and the provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity⁷ and its Protocols, and to identify common challenges and solutions for achieving global biodiversity objectives,

Noting with appreciation the support provided by the Government of Switzerland and the leadership provided by the United Nations Environment Programme in the Bern process, the organization of the Bern III Conference on cooperation among the biodiversity-related conventions for the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and follow-up activities,

² Decision 15/4, annex.

³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

⁴ The joint statement was an output of the nationally determined contributions – national biodiversity strategies and action plans ministerial, held on 9 December 2023 (see www.cop28.com/en/joint-statement-on-climate-nature).

⁵ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

⁶ Adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Framework Convention on the Protection and Sustainable Development of the Carpathians at its seventh meeting, held in October 2023, in its decision COP7/1.

⁷ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

Noting with appreciation also the work of the Co-Chairs of the Bern III Conference and the active participation of representatives of Parties to the conventions, secretariats of various multilateral environmental agreements, relevant organizations and stakeholders that participated in the Conference,

1. *Welcomes* the decisions of the governing bodies of other conventions and organizations in which they recognized, welcomed or endorsed the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework⁸ and the coordination of their strategies and action plans with the Framework, in line with paragraph 4 of decision 15/13 of the Conference of the Parties;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the contribution of United Nations entities, other intergovernmental agreements and processes, international organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth and other stakeholders, including the private sector, to the development of tools and guidance on biodiversity and the Framework;

3. *Welcomes* the outcomes of the Bern III Conference as an important contribution to effective implementation of the Framework;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions for enhancing cooperation among the conventions, including with regard to global objectives related to biodiversity, climate change and land degradation, and invites them to take actions in support of the implementation of the Framework;

5. *Invites* Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity that are also Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, to consider, as appropriate, opportunities to foster stronger synergies and coordination in the planning and implementation of national climate, biodiversity and land restoration plans and strategies and to strengthen, as appropriate, coherence among revised national biodiversity strategies and action plans, the next round of nationally determined contributions and the updated national adaptation plans;

6. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Environment Programme, in collaboration with the Rio conventions and other relevant partners, to continue to implement the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including through the road map for Target 2,⁹ in consultation with Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth groups, people living with disabilities, other marginalized and disadvantaged groups and relevant stakeholders;

7. *Invites* the Parties to the Convention that are members of the United Nations Forum on Forests to consider, as appropriate, the alignment of forest-related commitments and actions in their national biodiversity strategies and action plans and voluntary national contributions with the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030;

8. *Invites* Parties to consider, as appropriate, the alignment of water-related voluntary commitments and actions set out in the Water Action Agenda, launched at the United Nations Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018–2028, with their national biodiversity strategies and action plans;

9. *Invites* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to support cooperation and collaboration among biodiversity-related conventions and of relevant multilateral environmental agreements, contributing to the effective and efficient implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols, the Framework and the Sustainable Development Goals;

⁸ CBD/SBI/4/10, paras. 7–27.

⁹ See www.fao.org/national-forest-monitoring/areas-of-work/restoration-monitoring/target-2-roadmap/en/.

10. *Invites* Parties to consider the report of the Bern III Conference, share its conclusions at meetings and processes under relevant conventions and organizations, as appropriate and without prejudice to their respective mandates, and consider action to implement the outcomes set out in the report, in line with national priorities and circumstances;

11. *Encourages* Parties, in line with national priorities and circumstances, to raise awareness of their ongoing process for the update or revision of national biodiversity strategies and action plans across various national policy and planning processes, sustainable development strategies, including for poverty eradication, and policy instruments relevant to the implementation of other multilateral environmental agreements;

12. *Also encourages* Parties to enhance knowledge and understanding of the potential co-benefits of synergies, cooperation or collaboration when implementing the Convention and its Protocols, including by increasing efforts to use, collect and share good practices, and foster information exchange, as appropriate;

13. *Invites* Parties and other Governments to continue to reinforce actions to enhance synergies at the subnational, national, subregional and regional levels in the implementation of the Framework, the Sustainable Development Goals, the biodiversity-related conventions, the Rio conventions and other relevant multilateral agreements and initiatives, in line with options for action at the national level provided in decision XIII/24, including for facilitating the alignment of financial flows towards their common objectives, in accordance with their national circumstances and priorities;

14. *Calls upon* Parties, in line with national priorities and circumstances, to establish effective national, regional and subregional coordination processes, mechanisms or approaches to support close collaboration among the national focal points of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols and the national focal points of other conventions and international processes relevant to the delivery of the Framework, including through the establishment of structured communication channels and the convening of relevant focal points, to support coherence in their respective policies, strategies and action plans, mainstream biodiversity across all relevant sectors and policies and improve the implementation of the Framework at the national level, without prejudice to the specific objectives of the various conventions and observing their independent and autonomous nature;

15. *Encourages* Parties to strengthen cooperation through a whole-of-government approach, including by promoting the active engagement and strengthening the capacity of subnational and local governments to contribute to the effective and efficient implementation of the Convention, other multilateral environmental agreements and the Framework at the national level;

16. *Calls upon* the secretariats of the chemicals and waste conventions¹⁰ and other relevant conventions and organizations to develop, in collaboration with the three Rio conventions, as appropriate, a pathway for Target 7 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework on the reduction of pollution to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity, in a manner coherent with the Global Framework on Chemicals – For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste, in consultation with Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant stakeholders;

17. *Invites* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to further cooperate with the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to develop tools and guidance on a human rights-based approach to the implementation of the Framework and requests the Executive Secretary to support the development of those tools, subject to the availability of resources;

¹⁰ Including the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal, the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade, the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants and the Minamata Convention on Mercury.

18. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources:

(a) To continue to collaborate with the secretariats of other conventions and the United Nations Environment Programme in monitoring and following up on the implementation of the outcomes of the Bern III Conference and supporting the coordination of dedicated groups for the implementation of specific targets of the Framework, as appropriate;

(b) To strengthen collaboration with the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, through such modalities as the Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions, to identify opportunities for the facilitation of national efforts to implement those conventions, facilitate the exchange of relevant information, continue to stress the importance of interlinkages between climate and biodiversity issues and explore the potential for a joint work programme among the Rio conventions;

(c) To further support cooperation among biodiversity-related conventions, chemicals and waste conventions, multilateral environmental agreements, other conventions and relevant science-policy bodies, including through joint activities and while respecting their specific mandates;

(d) To strengthen collaboration with the United Nations Forum on Forests and other relevant organizations, such as the International Tropical Timber Organization, and within the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, to support the coherent implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;

(e) To collaborate with the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat and UN-Water, in the context of the United Nations Water Conference to be held in 2026, to support the coherent implementation of relevant global water action, as well as voluntary commitments and the Framework;

(f) To facilitate the exchange of case studies and experiences among Parties in promoting synergies, cooperation and collaboration, as appropriate, in the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and other multilateral environmental agreements, including by convening regional dialogues or workshops;

(g) To further support the participation of representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth in the implementation of and processes related to the Framework, including in technical expert groups established under the Convention and its Protocols, activities related to cooperation and synergies among conventions and exchanges with Parties and relevant stakeholders;

(h) To report to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, at a meeting to be held before the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, on cooperation activities in support of implementation of the Convention and the Framework.]