

Subcommittee Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives
4 October 2018, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
United Nations Office at Nairobi Gigiri
Conference Room 4

Background Document for Agenda Item 7:
Briefing on the Outcomes of the second meeting of the Subsidiary Body on
Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols

This note serves as a background document for discussions under Agenda Item 7: “Briefing on the Outcomes of the second meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols”.



Second Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation

SUMMARY OF OUTCOMES

9-13 July 2018, Montreal, Canada

Background

The second meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI) was held on 9-13 July 2018 in Montreal, Canada. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Francis Meri Sabino Ogwal of Uganda.

The Subsidiary Body on Implementation has four areas of work: (a) review of progress in Implementation; (b) strategic actions to enhance implementation; (c) strengthening means of implementation; and (d) operations of the Convention and the Protocols. With less than five months before fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, SBI made important strides to pave the way for successful deliberations at the COP.

The meeting is at a critical juncture in the history of the Convention as this year marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention. With two years to go before the end of the Strategic Framework for Biodiversity 2011-2020, the meeting resulted in recommendations to accelerate and scale up actions needed to achieve existing global biodiversity targets by 2020 and addressed the process for negotiating a new and more effective global biodiversity framework for the post-2020 period.

Meeting Outcomes

Some of the key outcomes of SBI-2 are the following:

- SBI reviewed **progress in the implementation of the Convention and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets**, including a review of the national, regional and other actions and targets established within the framework of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020.
- **National reporting under the Convention and its Protocols:** SBI considered proposals for the alignment of national reporting under the Convention and its Protocols and recommended that the COP decide to commence with synchronized reporting cycles in 2023.
- **Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety:** SBI considered the assessment and review of effectiveness of the Protocol and invited Parties to submit their comments on the draft format of the fourth national reports. The Subsidiary Body acknowledged the entry into force of the Nagoya–Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety which provides international rules and procedures to be followed in case of damage to biological diversity caused by living modified organisms.
- **Nagoya Protocol on Access-benefit Sharing of Genetic Sharing:** SBI had the first opportunity to assess and review the progress made on the Protocol's implementation based on an analysis of information contained in the interim national reports and the ABS Clearing-House. SBI reviewed

a draft framework of indicators to consider reference points for the establishment of a baseline against which future progress would be measured. The meeting also addressed the way forward for advancing on a global multilateral benefit-sharing mechanism and the question of specialised international instruments related to access and benefit-sharing in the context of Article 4.4 of the Protocol to be considered by COP-14.

- **Mainstreaming and other strategic actions to enhance implementation:** SBI considered the mainstreaming of biodiversity in the energy and mining, infrastructure, manufacturing and processing and health sectors, and recommended a package of actions for governments, businesses and other stakeholders, to facilitate the incorporation of biodiversity considerations into these sectors. The High-level Segment of COP-14 (14-15th November 2018), themed “Investing in Biodiversity for People and Planet”, will build on this work. SBI-2 also considered institutional mechanisms at the national level and guidance for reporting by businesses on their actions related to biodiversity.
- **Resource mobilization:** SBI reviewed the progress made towards achieving the global targets on resource mobilization as well as the contribution of collective actions of indigenous peoples and local communities and safeguards in biodiversity financing mechanisms. SBI also considered modalities for fully implementing Aichi Biodiversity Target 3 and the preparatory process for the resource mobilization component of the post-2020 biodiversity framework.
- **Financial mechanism:** SBI welcomed the successful conclusion of the seventh replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund, and considered the fifth review of the effectiveness of the financial mechanism. Discussions were also held on the funding needs and potential sources for the post-2020 global framework for biodiversity.
- **Preparatory process for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework:** SBI considered proposals for a comprehensive and participatory preparatory process, as well as a timetable, for the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

Participation

A total of 703 delegates from 120 countries participated, as well as partner organizations, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs), women and youth organizations.

The meeting engaged new faces and fresh perspectives from eminent personalities, such as Dr. Roberta Bondar, Canada’s first female astronaut and the world’s first neurologist in space, who delivered a keynote speech at the opening of the meeting. Vice-Minister, Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT) of Mexico, His Excellency Mr. Carlos Hurtado and representatives from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, United Nations Environment, the World Economic Forum and the Dutch Research Institute for Transitions.

Transformational Change Seminar (8 July 2018)

A half-day seminar on transformational change for the biodiversity agenda, held immediately prior to SBI-2, provided an opportunity for a wide group of participants, including scientists, representatives of the World Economic Forum, governments and other stakeholders active in the Convention process, to explore possible sustainability transitions pathways for a systemic change and share insights in view of the process towards the post-2020 biodiversity framework.

The main premise for the seminar was that current efforts to conserve biodiversity are being countered by negative impacts of ever increasing levels of consumption and economic growth and that new strategies are needed to achieve transformative changes.