

(July 2021)

## Developments on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework: the Road to Kunming CBD COP15 and Beyond

Briefing note by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity  
to the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UNEP

1 July 2021

---

### I. Background

The process for developing the post-2020 global biodiversity framework was determined by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), at its fourteenth meeting held in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, in November 2018.<sup>1</sup> The Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (WG2020), under the auspices of the two Co-Chairs, respectively from Uganda and from Canada, has met twice since its inception. The first meeting of the WG2020 took place in August 2019, in Nairobi, Kenya, and the second meeting took place in February 2020, in Rome, Italy. The third meeting of the WG2020 is scheduled to take place virtually from 23 August to 3 September 2021, in collaboration with the Government of Colombia. Several informal consultations have also been organized with different stakeholders mostly taking place via virtual means during the period of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Two zero drafts of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework have been launched. The first in January 2020 and the second updated version in August 2020<sup>2</sup> following months of extensive consultations and input from various stakeholders. The latter updated version takes into account the outcomes of the second meeting of the WG2020.<sup>3</sup> This “first draft” of the post 2020 framework is currently being prepared by the Co-Chairs of the Working Group, building upon the earlier drafts and discussions at the formal virtual sessions of the twenty-fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA24) and the third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI3), which took place from 3 May until 13 June 2021<sup>4</sup>. The “first draft” will also draw on the advice resulting from thematic consultations. It will be issued as the first draft on 12 July 2021, six weeks prior to the third meeting of the WG2020. Looking ahead, it is anticipated that a physical meeting will be needed to complete the work of the Subsidiary Bodies as well as of the Working Group before the final version of the framework is presented for consideration and adoption at COP15. The COP Bureau is currently examining scenarios to develop the timetable for the meetings ahead of and at COP15 itself. Such plans will need to ensure effective preparation and convening of COP15 with full participation of all stakeholders. To keep up the momentum, the Co-Chairs supported by the Secretariat, have organized a series of open stakeholder webinars to familiarize Parties and other stakeholders, with key concepts relevant for the preparation of the framework.

### II. Content

The post-2020 global biodiversity framework builds on the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and its Aichi Biodiversity Targets and sets out an ambitious plan to implement broad-based action to bring

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cbd.int/conferences/post2020>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.cbd.int/article/2020-01-10-19-02-38>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.cbd.int/article/zero-draft-update-august-2020>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.cbd.int/conferences/sbstta24-sbi3/>

*(July 2021)*

about a transformation in society's relationship with biodiversity and to ensure that, by 2050, the shared vision of living in harmony with nature is fulfilled. The framework aims to galvanize urgent and transformative action by governments and all of society, including indigenous peoples and local communities, civil society and businesses, to achieve the outcomes it sets out in its vision, mission, goals and targets, and thereby contribute to the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and other biodiversity related multilateral agreements, processes and instruments.

The draft framework currently proposes four overarching goals for the long-term vision to 2050, with a set of 2030 milestones to assess progress towards this vision, and twenty action targets for 2030. This, of course, may change as negotiations continue. The action targets for 2030 build on and are supportive of international commitments, including the Sustainable Development Goals. This alignment will help ensure that the implementation of the many relevant international processes, including the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, mutually support each other. It is also anticipated that the 2030 milestones and targets, where they address issues related to the 2030 Agenda, will also help to assess progress towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Substantial resources will be needed to implement the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and new, innovative and additional resources need to be identified and committed prior to its adoption at COP15.

This is a discussion that will need to take place soon with countries that are in a position to provide additional resources, in order to finalize modalities for quick disbursement soon after its adoption. In response to the request from the Parties to the Convention, the draft framework's means of implementation, including a resource mobilization strategy, capacity building and technology transfer, accountability and transparency frameworks, have been developed and equally are expected to be adopted at COP15. Strong support from Member States for these means of implementation will allow for the adoption of an ambitious and transformational post-2020 framework. In addition, ambitious national commitments undertaken at the level of Heads of State/Government are critical to ensure effective implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and achievement of many global goals, including the Paris Climate Agreement and many of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Furthermore, as part of the mandate for the negotiations towards the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention agreed to consider how to address the issue of digital sequence information on genetic resources in the context of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. This stems from a recognition that there is a divergence of views among Parties regarding benefit-sharing from the use of digital sequence information on genetic resources and from a commitment to work towards resolving this divergence with the aim of, among other things, strengthening the fulfilment of the third objective of the Convention concerning access to genetic resources and fair and equitable benefit-sharing. The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, in support of the co-chairs of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, led a series of webinars on Digital Sequence Information (DSI) with two related informal papers.

### **III. Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety's post-2020 implementation plan and capacity-building action plan**

In its decision CP-9/7, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol (COP-MOP) stressed the importance of including biosafety in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework as well as the necessity of developing a specific implementation plan for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (implementation plan) as a follow-up to the Strategic Plan for the Cartagena

*(July 2021)*

Protocol on Biosafety for the period 2011-2020. The COP-MOP outlined a process for the development to the implementation plan that is anchored in and complementary to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

In decision CP-9/3, the COP-MOP acknowledged the need for a specific action plan for capacity-building for the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol and its Supplementary Protocol (capacity-building action plan) that is aligned with the post-2020 implementation plan and complementary to the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building beyond 2020 (decision 14/24) and agreed on an indicative schedule of activities for its development.

The draft implementation plan and capacity-building action plan have been developed through an extensive consultative process involving, among others, the submission of views, open-ended online discussions, review by the Liaison Group on the Cartagena Protocol, as well as a review process by Parties and observers.

The current draft implementation plan and capacity-building action plan are submitted for review by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, at its third meeting and are expected to be adopted by the COP-MOP, at its tenth meeting, in October 2021, in Kunming, China.

The Implementation Plan has been developed as a framework of broad desirable achievements and accomplishments to help guide Parties in their implementation of the Protocol and measure progress for the period 2021-2030. The Plan is anchored in and complementary to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, as its goals, objectives and outcomes contribute to achieving the framework's 2050 vision and its mission. The Implementation Plan is intended to facilitate the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol and is addressed to Parties to the Cartagena Protocol. The Implementation Plan can also support and guide Parties in meeting goals and targets relevant to biosafety within the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

-----