



Summary of the Third COBSEA
Webinar on the Post-2020
Global Biodiversity Framework
Virtual meeting, 8 July 2021



1. On 8 July 2021, the COBSEA Secretariat hosted the third webinar in a series of webinars on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. The webinar series provide a platform for dialogue on how COBSEA can be leveraged to support countries during development and implementation of the framework. The first webinar, held 28 May 2020, took stock of the process for development of the framework, and UN Environment Programme's (UNEP's) role in this, including its work with and through Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans (RSCAPs). Based on this COBSEA's mandate and current activities relevant to the framework were discussed. The second webinar, held 3 December 2020, discussed the updated zero draft of the framework, provided an update on preparations for meetings of subsidiary bodies, and shared information on projects and initiatives linking the Regional Seas and the framework as well as the ICRI Recommendation on the inclusion of coral reefs and related ecosystems within the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.
2. The third webinar discussed pathway to the Conference of Parties (COP) 15 of the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD), including outcomes of the second consultation workshop of biodiversity-related conventions on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework ('Bern-II'); updates of meetings of subsidiary bodies, and information about the third open-ended working group meeting (OEWG-3). A demonstration of the Data reporting tool for Multilateral Environmental Agreements (DaRT) was further provided and its utility discussed among COBSEA countries. Further steps were further deliberated upon. The Agenda is provided in Annex 1. Presentations can be found on COBSEA's website¹.
3. Over 30 attendees from multiple countries, including seven COBSEA countries, representing governments, research institutions and non-governmental organizations, participated in the event along with presenters and resource persons from UNEP's Law Division, UNEP's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and the COBSEA Secretariat.

Opening remarks and introduction to webinar – Mahesh Pradhan, COBSEA Coordinator a.i and Katrin Eitrem Holmgren, COBSEA Secretariat

4. Mr. Pradhan welcomed participants to the third webinar. He highlighted a number of items that have taken place since the previous post-2020 global biodiversity framework webinar, including the adoption of UNEP's Medium-Term Strategy 2022-2025 which notes biodiversity loss as one of the three pillars of the planetary crisis as well as the finalization of the Regional Seas Strategic Directions 2022-2025 in which biodiversity is reflected as an important element. Mr. Pradhan reminded all participants that the first part of the Twenty-fifth Intergovernmental Meeting of COBSEA (IGM 25) will be held virtually 8-9 September 2021 while the second part will be held as soon as possible in 2022 in Viet Nam. Biodiversity will be discussed during the Intergovernmental meeting, including COBSEA's role in relation to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Ms. Eitrem Holmgren introduced the agenda and speakers.

Pathway to CBD COP 15 including updates on Bern-II, subsidiary bodies and OEWG-3 – Diane Klaimi, Law Division, UNEP

5. Ms. Klaimi presented that 13 Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) participated in Bern-II, the second consultation workshop of biodiversity-related conventions on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, which was convened virtually between 18 January and 2 February 2021. The

¹ www.cobsea.org

meeting formulated a number of conclusions concerning opportunities for setting up increased cooperation in planning, monitoring, reporting and review of the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Further, the meeting addressed technical and political options to advance its operationalization through cooperation on capacity development, mainstreaming, and resource mobilization. When developing the post-2020 monitoring framework, the importance of using already established indicators was noted, along with the notion of using common indicators. The close interaction amongst national focal points for different MEAs was further highlighted as essential for strengthening cooperation and collaboration in implementation.

6. Ms. Klaimi informed that formal CBD subsidiary body meetings, meetings of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) and the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI), have been convened virtually over a series of plenary and contact group discussions 3 May to 13 June 2021. Both SBSTTA 24 and SBI-3 were adjourned until such time in-person discussions may take place to finalize agenda items, including on marine and coastal biodiversity. The third open-ended working group meeting will take place 23 August to 3 September 2021. Ms. Klaimi recommended COBSEA to maintain communication with national CBD focal points in COBSEA countries. She further recommended Secretariats of Regional Seas programmes to participate in meetings as observers and support countries as needed. Ms. Klaimi noted discussions are ongoing related to the CBD COP set-up including the first part tentatively planned for October 2021.

Presentation of DaRT – Eric Wiedmer, UNEP consultant

7. Mr. Wiedmer presented an overview of the UNEP-award winning Data Reporting Tool for MEAs (DaRT). He noted that DaRT is the first tool supporting parties to effectively use synergies in the field of national reporting by providing a framework to manage knowledge at national level. The aim of DaRT is to support Parties to Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) in managing, organizing, storing and sharing knowledge and information relevant for national reporting across conventions and Sustainable Development Goals. Mr. Wiedmer emphasized that the tool is not an additional reporting obligation, nor does it affect reporting processes established by agreements. Mr. Wiedmer showcased the tool and encouraged COBSEA countries to test it. He further mentioned the possibility to organize country-targeted workshops to demonstrate the tool in-depth.

Q&A including reflections from COBSEA countries – Representatives from COBSEA countries, moderated by Katrin Eitrem Holmgren, COBSEA Secretariat

8. COBSEA countries expressed interested in the DaRT tool. Several countries mentioned they will discuss the offer to use the tool with other ministries, including CBD focal points, noting the contact details to Mr. Wiedmer and UNEP colleagues. Some participants asked about the possibility to use the tool for pollution-related issues and UNFCCC reporting. Ms. Klaimi and Mr. Wiedmer noted that the tool is a national space for coordination among ministries and departments in countries and that the tool can be tailored to expressed needs of parties, including related to pollution and climate change. Ms. Klaimi emphasized that the tool has the potential to expand to any area and can be complementary to other existing tools eg UN Biodiversity Lab.

Next steps – Katrin Eitrem Holmgren, COBSEA Secretariat

9. COBSEA Secretariat seeks clarification and guidance from COBSEA countries on how to proceed with activities related to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Ms. Eitrem Holmgren mentioned that the first part of IGM 25 will be held in September 2021 while the first part of the CBD COP is planned for October 2021. Ms. Eitrem Holmgren further noted that the current COBSEA ends in 2022 and that COBSEA Secretariat is developing guidance for the new COBSEA Strategic Directions, 2023-2027, for country input and guidance. One of the elements to be discussed is how the post-2020 global biodiversity framework will be reflected in the new COBSEA Strategic Directions. Ms. Eitrem Holmgren further reminded COBSEA countries of a previously discussed consultative workshop in which COBSEA National Focal Points and CBD National Focal Points in COBSEA countries will be invited to discuss the post-2020 framework. It is suggested that this workshop takes place after the first part of IGM 25.
10. Ms. Eitrem Holmgren further provided information about ongoing related activities. She noted that COBSEA has initiated work towards establishing a COBSEA network of Marine Protected Areas, which will among others incorporate lessons learned from other Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans and their marine and coastal biodiversity efforts. Nairobi Convention is launching their MPA Outlook on 16 July 2021 which participants were encouraged to attend. Among others, the Outlook investigates achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 14.5 and provides lessons learned and opportunities to increase momentum for achieving post-2020 global biodiversity framework targets. On 5 July 2021 the final session of the Third ASEAN Conference on Biodiversity was held, co-organized by the Government of Malaysia with the ASEAN Center for Biodiversity. During the conference, which had the overall theme 'Towards 2050; Living in Harmony with Nature', ASEAN member states presented their recommendations for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and it was noted that further discussions will be needed to conclude text regarding marine and coastal biodiversity.

Summary and closing – Mahesh Pradhan, COBSEA Coordinator a.i.

11. Mr. Pradhan thanked participants for enriching discussions. He further thanked Ms. Katrin Eitrem Holmgren for her work in relation to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework as she is leaving COBSEA Secretariat to take up a position at the international affairs unit at the Swedish government agency the Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management (SwAM) in August 2021. Ms. Eitrem Holmgren thanked participants and presenters for their collaboration during the past year related to the post-2020 webinar series and wished good luck in further developing the work related to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.
12. Mr. Pradhan informed that meeting notes will be posted on COBSEA's website along with presentations. COBSEA Secretariat looks forward to continuing the discussion of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework with COBSEA countries and presenters, including at IGM 25.

Annex 1. Agenda

<i>Time</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Presenter</i>
14:00	Welcome and opening remarks Introduction to webinar	COBSEA Coordinator a.i. Katrin Eitrem Holmgren, COBSEA Secretariat
14.05	Pathway to CBD COP15 including updates on Bern-II, SBSTTA-24, SBI-3 and OEWG-3	Diane Klaimi, UNEP's Law Division
14.20	Presentation of DaRT	Eric Wiedmer, UNEP consultant
14.40	Q&A including reflections from COBSEA countries	Representatives from COBSEA countries
15.15	Next steps	Katrin Eitrem Holmgren, COBSEA Secretariat
15.25	Summary and closing	COBSEA coordinator a.i.

Annex 2. List of Participants

Participants in the Post-2020 Webinar 8 July 2021		
Cambodia	Mr. SRENG Sophal	Deputy Director of Marine and Coastal Zone Conservation Department
	Mr. THAN Monomoyith	Vice Chief of Marine and Coastal Zone Conservation Department
	Mr. SUM Dara	Official of Marine and Coastal Zone Conservation Department
	Mr. Sith Roath	Marine and Coastal Zone Conservation Department
China	Mr. Yunjun Yu	Senior Engineer, South China Institute of Environmental Sciences, Ministry of Ecology and Environment, China
	Ms. Wang Lei	Probationeer, Nanjing Institute of Environmental Science. Ministry of Ecology and Environment
	Ms. Zhang Naiwen	Engineer, South China Institute of Environmental Sciences, Ministry of Ecology and Environment
France	Ms. Meganne Natali	Doctor in law, student
India	Mr. Suman Kumar Ghose	Student
Indonesia	Ms. Nurwita Mustika Sari	LAPAN Indonesia National Institute of Aeronautics and Space
	Mr. Iwan Nirawandi	Coastal and Marine Pollution and Degradation Control, Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MOEF),
Malaysia	Ms. Nor Azlina Baharum	Environmental Management Division, Ministry of Environment and Water
	Ms. Therese Tiu Kok Moi	Principal Assistant Secretary Environmental Management Division Ministry of Environment and Water
	Mr. Muhammad Ammar bin Mohd Ghouse	Assistant Secretary Environmental Management Division Ministry of Environment and Water
	Mr. Harihanran	VJ Engineering Solutions Shd. Bhd
Philippines	Engr. Vizminda A. Osorio	Assistant Director, Environmental Management Bureau, Department of Environment and Natural Resources-(DENR)
	Ms. Delia M. Valdez	Chief, Ecological Solid Waste, Management Division

	Ms. Consolacion Crisostomo	Chief, Planning Division
	Ms. Fatima Anelgo Molina	Chief, Environmental Research and laboratory Services Division
	Ms. Michiko Sibunga	Senior Environmental Management Specialist, Water Quality Monitoring Section
	Ms. Regina Vallado	Engineer 1V, Office of the Assistant Director
	Mr. Artchie Maranac	Secretary-General, UNY Philippines
	Ms. Alita Sangalang	Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Quezon Ave., Diliman, Quezon City Philippines
Qatar	Ms. Nadeem Hasmat	Environmental Engineer
Republic of Korea	Mr. Sumin Song	International Affairs Dept. Korea Marine Environment Management Corporation(KOEM)
	Mr. Young Nam Kim	Senior Researcher/Oceanography Marine Ecosystem Management Team Korea Marine Environment Management Corp.(KOEM)
Sudan	Mr. Mohamed Hassan Ali	Volunteer, Organization Sudan youth Organization on Climate Change (SYOCC)
Thailand	Ms. Khunchanaporn Wuddhivorawong	Department of Marine and Coastal Resource, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
	Ms. Benchamaporn Wattanatongchai	Environmentalist, Senior Professional Level, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
	Mr. Wanlop Preechamart	Environmentalist, Senior Professional Level, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
	Ms. Vararin Vongpanich	Marine Biodiversity Specialist, Department of Marine and Coastal Resource, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment
Viet Nam	Mr. Tran Van Hung	Staff of Department of Science, Technology and International Cooperation Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MONRE)
UNEP Staff		
COBSEA Secretariat	Mr. Mahesh Pradhan	COBSEA Interim Coordinator
	Ms. Katrin Eitrem Holmgren	Associate Programme Officer
	Ms. Krittika Kleesuwan	Programme Assistant
Law Division	Ms. Diane Klaimi	Law Division, UNEP
	Mr. Kazuhiko Seriu	Law Division, UNEP
Regional Office of Asia Pacific Consultant	Ms. Makiko Yashiro	Programme Management
	Ms. Marie-yon Struecker	Consultant
	Mr. Eric Wiedmer	UNEP DaRT consultant