

Information Note on the development of the Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

prepared by the Co-Chairs of the Open-ended Working Group on Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework for the Resumed eighteenth session of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) (12-16 September 2022, Dakar, Senega)

1. This note provides an **update on the negotiations towards the adoption of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF)**. The Conference of the Parties, at its fourteenth meeting, adopted the preparatory process for the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework (decision [14/34](#)) and established an open-ended intersessional working group to support the preparation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.
2. The recent negotiation sessions (March and June 2022) on Post 2020 GBF, while having improved the text, did not bring it to a level ready for consideration by the COP. In light of this challenge, [the current text](#) of GBF produced by the Nairobi meeting will be streamlined through an intersessional process (see annex 1 to this note), so it can provide a good basis to expedite finalization and adoption of the GBF draft at CBD COP15.2 in December.
3. An ambitious and achievable Post-2020 GBF will be key for addressing the triple planetary crisis of biodiversity loss, climate change and pollution, supporting building back better from the COVID-19 pandemic, and advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
4. The framework is expected to be **sufficiently strong to reverse the current loss of biodiversity and put biodiversity on a path to recovery by 2030 at the latest**. And it must be **accompanied by the financial and other resources** needed to ensure its implementation.
5. As such, the Post 2020 GBF aims to be a comprehensive plan to address the biodiversity crisis, with four long term goals and some 20 action targets that address the full range of drivers of biodiversity loss and the linkages to climate, health, food systems and cities, and highlight the roles of public planning, finance and business. Draft framework also emphasizes the rights of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs) and the participation of women and youth.
6. Issues vital to both getting an agreement, and enabling its implementation include, among others:
 - a. **Additional financial resources to match the GBF ambitions on action and outcomes.** Over the last decade ODA has doubled and current commitments amounts to another doubling, yet this is not reaching the needs evaluated by experts for biodiversity conservation. While much bigger contributions from all sources, including business and finance sectors, will be critical (especially in the current context), it is clear that the solution will need to include additional Official Development Assistance (ODA) for biodiversity beyond what has already been committed. This will have to be supplemented by an even larger decrease in harm to biodiversity associated with harmful subsidies;
 - b. **Strengthening transparency and accountability of implementation.** Nearly all goals and targets of the draft GBF include numerical ambitions (for 2030 and/or 2050) to enable collective review of progress against agreed indicators being developed in the draft monitoring framework. Whilst these numerical elements need to be considered as part of the negotiation, they will provide a basis for understanding national contribution to global ambition, progress made in the implementation of, and the overall effectiveness of, the framework. Without such numerical elements, the framework may remain aspirational. Furthermore, the capacity to assess ambition and progress will depend on the availability of data from national to global scales, which in turn will depend on the availability of

resources to enable this. Strengthened transparency will be also linked to the availability of resources for implementation and monitoring, including indicators; and

- c. **The issue of Digital Sequence Information derived from genetic resources (DSI) related to the way data can be accessed and how benefit associated with commercial use if this data can be shared.**

There is both a desire to ensure that DSI data are quickly and easily available for science (e.g. for vaccine development) as well as a desire to ensure that any benefits arising from the commercial use of DSI is shared. While there is an increasing consensus around those principles, work remains to be done to determine the modalities. Please see a separate info note on DSI for further details.

7. **Linkage with UNFCCC COP 27.** There are clear linkages and mutual benefits between the two Conventions (UNFCCC and CBD) noting the importance of well-managed and functioning natural ecosystems in bolster carbon sequestration, adaptation, and resilience. There is an opportunity for ecosystem based approaches to contribute to adaptation (as well as mitigation) which was identified at COP 26 as needing more attention. Work on a number of issues done under either of the Conventions will mutually benefit each other. In identifying the drivers of biodiversity loss, IPBES identified climate change as one of the five such drivers (in addition to land use changes, over-exploitation, pollution and invasive species). Thus, action on the climate agenda is essential to achieve the biodiversity goals and vice-versa. With respect to ocean health, ocean warming and acidification cause severe damage to marine biodiversity, while healthy corals and mangroves protect coastal communities from climate related natural disasters. With respect to the issues in negotiation at the two COPs, aspects pertaining to financing, transparency, monitoring and reporting are similar in scope.

Annex 1. Intersessional Process of Post-2020 GBF from Nairobi (WG2020-4) to Montreal (COP 15.2)

The following intersessional process was set by the Nairobi meeting and the COP Bureau:

- 1) A new, small (25-person) **informal group** of key negotiators from Parties representing all regions and perspectives, as nominated by OEWG Co-Chairs under the guidance of regional COP Bureau members, will be meeting in Montreal, from 26 to 30 September, to review and simplify the GBF text and propose solutions to contentious issues, in advance of 5th meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group.
- 2) A **5th meeting of the OEWG** (WG2020-5), will be held from 3 to 5 December 2022, immediately ahead of the Fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 15.2) to the Convention. The work over those three days and further work to be completed during the first week of the CoP should advance the GBF to the point at which it can be finalized by ministers.
- 3) **Complementary work** related to the GBF will continue, including intersessional work on resource mobilization, indicators for the proposed monitoring framework and reporting mechanisms to understand progress of the implementation of GBF, and for agreeing on a way forward on the issue of digital sequence information on genetic resources.
