

## Background document

### Key entry points for mutually supportive action on biodiversity and chemicals & waste

#### 1. Introduction and goal of the workshop

The “Capacity Building Workshop on the Implementation of Biodiversity and Chemicals and Waste Multilateral Environmental Agreements” (MEAs) will take place in Dakar, Senegal, between 26 and 28 November 2024. The overall objective of the workshop is to strengthen the implementation of global environmental commitments through coherent and synergistic implementation of MEAs at the national level, with a particular thematic focus on biodiversity and chemicals & waste. The workshop will provide an opportunity to exchange information on best practices and experiences in implementation, thereby facilitating improved and consistent implementation. Therefore, the focus will be on strengthening whole-of-government approaches through improved cooperation and coordination among the focal points and other government experts working across the two thematic clusters of MEAs. In addition, the workshop will focus on ways to enhance cooperation in preparing national reports and action plans for MEAs and facilitate exchanges on how the development of national legal frameworks and knowledge products could increasingly support the implementation of environmental conventions. In this regard, the opportunities for obtaining support through the Fifth Montevideo Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law (Montevideo Environmental Law Programme)<sup>1</sup> will be elaborated. The intention of UNEP is to utilize, as appropriate, the outcomes of the workshop to further develop training materials and tools for supporting countries in implementing relevant MEAs.

This background document seeks to support workshop participants by providing information on some of the options for action and key entry points that have been previously discussed. It is divided into two substantive sections. **Section III** highlights options and opportunities for action identified in the past in the field of cooperation and synergies in the implementation of MEAs at the national level. **Section III** provides an introduction to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the Global Framework on Chemicals - For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste and outlines preliminary consideration of key entry points for mutually supportive action in the context of the implementation of both frameworks. The annexes comprise a table illustrating the cross-mapping of MEA goals and targets with the Global Biodiversity Framework (**Annex I**) and a table illustrating key areas and targets of the Global Biodiversity Framework where chemicals and waste management can significantly contribute to implementation (**Annex II**).

#### 2. Previous discussion of options and opportunities for mutually supportive action

In 2022, the Nordic Council of Ministers issued a report on *Strengthening collaboration and coordination between biodiversity and chemicals and waste clusters*,<sup>2</sup> which was compiled by UNEP-WCMC. The purpose of the report was to improve the knowledge base on opportunities for action which could potentially lead to synergies between the clusters and the identification of ways to promote further cooperation. Drawing on the analysis, **options for action** were identified, where collaboration and coordination between biodiversity and chemicals and waste clusters could be strengthened, particularly with respect to implementation at the national level. The report was then made available for review by representatives of relevant convention secretariats and a range of

---

<sup>1</sup> UNEP, *Delivering for People and the Planet: Fifth Montevideo Programme for the Development and Periodic Review of Environmental Law*, Nairobi, 2019. Available at:

[https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/30819/Final\\_MonteV\\_Assess.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y](https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/30819/Final_MonteV_Assess.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y) (accessed 30 October 2024).

<sup>2</sup> Nordic Council of Ministers, *Strengthening Collaboration and Coordination Between Biodiversity and Chemicals and Waste Clusters*, Copenhagen, Nordic Council of Ministers, 2022. Available at:

<https://www.norden.org/en/publication/strengthening-collaboration-and-coordination-between-biodiversity-and-chemicals-and> (accessed 30 October 2024).

national representatives. These options were focused wherever possible on using existing mechanisms and processes, seeking to add value with a focused approach to common issues. In many cases, these options were related to activities already underway that could be learned from and built upon.

In 2023, UNEP and the Rwanda Environment Management Authority convened the *Capacity building workshop for national focal points of MEAs and the Montevideo Programme V to facilitate implementation of biodiversity and chemicals and waste MEAs*.<sup>3</sup> The event aimed at providing a practical understanding of how the interlinkages between the biodiversity and the chemicals and waste clusters of MEAs could be promoted at the national level to enhance and facilitate their implementation. It focused on strengthening coordination and collaboration among focal points from selected MEAs and the Montevideo Environmental Law Programme. During the plenary discussions and breakout group sessions, participants identified a range of **opportunities for action** - procedural and substantive areas for potential collaboration and cooperation between clusters at the national level, including mechanisms for collecting, sharing, and processing data and strategies to streamline reporting.

In **Table 1**, the options and opportunities for action from these two sources have been combined into a series of **actions for consideration**. These are presented together with a number of **indicative activities to further encourage and support identified actions**. Participants in the workshop may wish to consider this table as a basis for further discussion on concrete actions that can be taken, recognizing that any actions taken at the national level will necessarily be taken in the context of national circumstances.

Table 1 – Actions for consideration and indicative activities to further encourage and support identified actions

Actions for consideration	Indicative activities to further encourage and support identified actions
<b>ACTIONS RELATING TO INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL</b>	
<p><b>1. Encourage and facilitate cooperation amongst the <u>national focal points for each of the different MEAs and intergovernmental processes</u>.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish national mechanisms, committees, or similar bodies to facilitate cooperation and collaboration, including convening regular coordination meetings among focal points of the various MEAs and intergovernmental processes.</li> <li>• Identify opportunities and use incentives to encourage the participation of focal points in cross-thematic events and initiatives and bring focal points together to develop cross-thematic project proposals.</li> <li>• Design and implement continuous capacity-building interventions for national focal points and government officials, including on synergistic interpretation and implementation of national legal frameworks and MEAs.</li> <li>• Further collaborate with the focal points of the Montevideo Environmental Law Programme on strategic areas, such as capacity-building for judges, prosecutors, and law enforcement officials.</li> <li>• Facilitate the establishment of mechanisms that encourage peer-to-peer learning through the compilation and sharing of best practices and lessons learned.</li> </ul>

<sup>3</sup> UNEP, *Workshop on the Implementation of Biodiversity, Chemicals, and Waste MEAs and Montevideo Programme*, UNEP, 2023. Available at: <https://www.unep.org/events/workshop/workshop-implementation-biodiversity-chemicals-and-waste-meas-and-montevideo> (accessed 30 October 2024).

Actions for consideration	Indicative activities to further encourage and support identified actions
<p><b>2. Ensure that <u>appropriate institutional mechanisms</u> are in place to bring together the competent national authorities responsible for implementing each of the different MEAs and intergovernmental processes.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Define clear mandates and roles for cooperation and collaboration in the context of government agencies and ministries where this is needed.</li> <li>• Enhance the effectiveness of existing national MEA coordination committees and similar bodies, including through establishing topic/issue focused subcommittees.</li> <li>• Couple existing committees of technical experts with steering committees comprised of high-level representatives to enhance political influence.</li> <li>• Establish formal institutional frameworks at the national level, such as task forces and cross-cutting committees, designed to streamline and enhance monitoring and reporting processes.</li> <li>• Improve modalities for data collection and create mechanisms to allow different stakeholders to cross-check information provided by national focal points during reporting processes.</li> </ul>
<p><b>ACTIONS RELATING TO STRATEGIC PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL</b></p>	
<p><b>3. Align national <u>work plans and strategies</u> for implementing the various MEAs, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, the Global Framework on Chemicals, and the Montevideo Environmental Law Programme.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider actions that can be taken at the national level to increase integration when developing plans for implementing each of the MEAs.</li> <li>• Mainstream issues such as collaboration, cooperation, and joint targets and indicators into work plans and strategies, including national development plans.</li> <li>• Integrate awareness-raising initiatives about existing tools to support MEA monitoring and reporting into national work plans and strategies.</li> <li>• Promote and strengthen national programming for the integrated implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.</li> <li>• Implement the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in line with national circumstances and mindful of the “considerations” in section C of the Framework, including rights-based approaches.</li> <li>• Map and consult national focal points and other relevant stakeholders in the development of coordinated approaches to implementing MEAs, the Global Framework on Chemicals, and the Montevideo Environmental Law Programme.</li> </ul>

Actions for consideration	Indicative activities to further encourage and support identified actions
<p><b>4. <u>Create opportunities for collaboration in developing and implementing national strategies and plans relating to the implementation of MEAs in the biodiversity and chemicals and waste clusters.</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create opportunities at the national level to engage relevant stakeholders from various sectors in reviewing and updating relevant national plans.</li> <li>• Issue open calls and establish official mechanisms to invite stakeholders to nominate representatives for monitoring and reporting task forces and similar bodies.</li> <li>• Review, utilise and improve existing tools to assist in monitoring and reporting.</li> <li>• In updating NBSAPs, prioritize Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework targets through a consultative process that engages stakeholders from multiple sectors.</li> </ul>
<p><b>5. <u>Strengthen legal and policy frameworks for the national-level implementation of MEAs, including through collaboration with the Montevideo Environmental Law Programme.</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create joint legislative guidelines on different cross-cutting aspects relating to biodiversity protection and sound Management of chemicals and waste.</li> <li>• Develop capacities to review, develop, implement and enforce legal frameworks to tackle biodiversity and pollution crises, including through the Montevideo Environmental Law Programme.</li> <li>• Build the capacity of legal stakeholders at the national and regional levels to address environmental issues, including the judiciary and law enforcement officials.</li> <li>• Review and develop targeted legal frameworks for environmental crime, together with specific national guidance materials and awareness-raising activities.</li> <li>• Adopt multistakeholder approaches in the development and revision of environmental legal frameworks.</li> <li>• Further develop guidance materials and promote existing knowledge products relating to the establishment of specialized environmental courts.</li> <li>• Strengthen partnerships with universities and judicial training academies to offer national and international environmental law training.</li> <li>• Strengthen the provision and receipt of technical legal assistance, including through UNEP's Law and Environment Assistance Platform (UNEP-LEAP).</li> </ul>

Actions for consideration	Indicative activities to further encourage and support identified actions
<p><b>6. Increase coordination in addressing common needs such as <u>monitoring, reporting, review and the use of indicators</u>, and more broadly the access to and use of knowledge.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design mechanisms and tools to connect existing national databases focused on environment-related data and promote cross-fertilization of monitoring efforts across clusters to support and facilitate reporting.</li> <li>• Involve national statistical agencies in the collection and analysis of environmental data, including on topics such as natural capital accounting.</li> <li>• Allocate funding to research and collaboration with universities and research institutions, especially in the context of developing indicators and collecting data.</li> <li>• Improve knowledge management across thematic clusters, including through increasing access to available tools, guidance and knowledge products that are useful for MEA implementation and reporting.</li> <li>• Collaborate in the development of an effective science-policy interface at both national and international levels.</li> </ul>
<p><b>7. Identify opportunities for cooperation/ collaboration across clusters, where working together can help <u>achieve common aims and bring clear benefits</u>.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooperate on communications relating to the interconnections between biodiversity and chemicals and waste, including the links to the health agenda.</li> <li>• Collaborate in the identification of risks, and in contingency planning for recognising and mitigating the potential impacts of known risks.</li> <li>• Promote and support research in key areas identified as a priority by both the clusters and facilitate wide access to the results.</li> <li>• Initiate cross-cluster collaborative projects as a vehicle for working together to achieve common interests, to increase efficiencies in resource use, and to optimise opportunities for finance.</li> </ul>
<p><b>ACTIONS RELATING TO REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION</b></p>	
<p><b>8. Identify opportunities to enhance regional and international cooperation on <u>knowledge management, communications, and joint messaging relevant to both the biodiversity and chemicals and waste clusters</u>.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a regional communication plan and collective key messages on collaboration and cooperation between the biodiversity and the chemicals and waste clusters.</li> <li>• More welcome packages and orientation sessions for new focal points to ensure a smooth transition, which could include information on collaboration and synergies.</li> <li>• Work collaboratively with UNEP and secretariats to make platforms and tools more user-friendly, updated, and tailored to national circumstances.</li> <li>• Design further capacity-building and training on the use of global tools (such as DaRT) and the implementation of international guidelines.</li> </ul>

Actions for consideration	Indicative activities to further encourage and support identified actions
<p><b>9. <u>Facilitate technical and scientific cooperation on key issues relevant to both the biodiversity and chemicals and waste clusters.</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take advantage of regional blocks, such as the Southern African Development Community, to raise the profile of key issues.</li> <li>• Strengthen bilateral and regional cooperation in priority areas, including transboundary environmental crime.</li> <li>• Share good practices on national-level institutional and legal frameworks established to promote cooperation and collaboration between thematic clusters.</li> <li>• Map, prepare, and broadly share national guidance materials on tackling environmental crime at the regional level.</li> <li>• Utilize calls for submissions under MEAs as an opportunity to coordinate and raise awareness of priority areas for the region.</li> <li>• Work with UN partners to translate guidance documents and guidelines into more languages.</li> </ul>
<p><b>10. <u>Encourage financial institutions and mechanisms to support integrated approaches on biodiversity, chemicals and waste.</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborate across clusters at all levels in mobilizing resources for capacity-building activities.</li> <li>• Cooperate at all levels to develop cross-thematic project proposals for the Special Programme, the Global Biodiversity Fund, the GEF, and other funding mechanisms.</li> <li>• Connect to GEF national focal points, creating mechanisms for engagement and coordination at the regional level and raising the awareness of GEF focal points concerning regional priority areas and projects.</li> <li>• Broaden the scope of exemplary practices to encompass additional sectors, such as the GEF-funded planetGOLD Programme that includes biodiversity criteria for ASGM.</li> </ul>
<p><b>11. <u>Identify opportunities to raise the profile of cross-cluster collaboration through intergovernmental processes and projects.</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and further develop bilateral cooperation agreements and standard operating procedures for the coherent implementation of MEA provisions.</li> <li>• Establish communities of practice at the regional and international levels for focal points and other government officials.</li> <li>• Design sustainability strategies and guidance for projects addressing both clusters.</li> <li>• Convene information sessions and training on how to use existing tools such as InforMEA, DaRT, <i>inter alia</i>.</li> <li>• Convene training workshops that bring together national focal points working on different clusters, allowing for information-sharing, networking, mutual learning.</li> <li>• Review led by UNEP and secretariats to map interlinkages between MEAs and reporting on the Kuming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework targets, including on how to tie these into coherent NBSAP review.</li> <li>• Consider proposing actions at the international level within each instrument that might support increased cooperation and collaboration across clusters.</li> </ul>

### 3. Key entry points for mutually supportive action in the context of the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the Global Framework on Chemicals

The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (referred to as the ‘Global Biodiversity Framework’) and the Global Framework on Chemicals are important instruments in the promotion of action on biodiversity, chemicals, and waste, as well as in the achievement of related global commitments under these subject matter areas. Both frameworks have particular legal characteristics and nature, thematic scope, strategic objectives, focus areas, and resourcing, which are linked to the instruments and processes under which they have been adopted. Nonetheless, there are a number of areas for potential synergies between them, such as a focus on addressing interconnected environmental problems through integrated, collaborative approaches; an emphasis on cross-sectoral implementation through a whole-of-society and whole-of-government approach; and areas of mutual interest.

Cooperation, collaboration, and synergies are highlighted as important components of the implementation of both frameworks. This is clearly referred to in Section C (considerations for implementation) of the Global Biodiversity Framework and CBD COP Decision 15/13 on cooperation with other conventions and international organizations,<sup>4</sup> as well as Sections IV (principles and approaches) and VI (mechanisms to support implementation) of the Global Framework on Chemicals and Resolution V/6 on international cooperation and coordination of the International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM).<sup>5</sup> Within this context, the present section explores preliminary key entry points for synergistic action in relation to both frameworks. It provides a concise introduction to the frameworks and their main features and further identifies thematic overlaps and opportunities for collaboration.

#### 3.1 Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

The Global Biodiversity Framework was adopted in December 2022 under the aegis of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).<sup>6</sup> In its fifteenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the CBD adopted the Global Biodiversity Framework through decision 15/4.<sup>7</sup> The latter was part of a package of associated decisions, which also addressed issues such as the monitoring framework for the framework (CBD COP decision 15/5); planning, monitoring, reporting, and review (CBD COP decision 15/6); resource mobilization (CBD COP decision 15/7), among others.

In general terms, the Global Biodiversity Framework aims at catalyzing, enabling, and galvanizing urgent action to halt and reverse biodiversity loss and put nature on a path to recovery for the benefit of people and the planet. It makes clear the importance of a whole-of-society and whole-of-government approach to implementation and enhanced collaboration, cooperation and synergies with other intergovernmental agreements and processes.

The Global Biodiversity Framework is divided into eleven substantive sections, which include considerations for implementation (section C), relationship with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (section D), a theory of change (section E), a 2050 vision and 2030 mission (section F), four long-term global goals for 2050 and twenty-three action-oriented global targets for urgent action over the decade to 2030 (sections G and H), as well as cross-cutting considerations related to

---

4 Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), *Decision Adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its Fifteenth Meeting: Decision 13 (COP-15)*, Montreal, CBD Secretariat, 2022. Available at: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-15/cop-15-dec-13-en.pdf> (accessed 12 November 2024).

5 UNEP, Resolution V/6: International cooperation and coordination, adopted at the fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management, Bonn, Germany, 25–29 September 2023. Available at: [https://www.chemicalsframework.org/sites/default/files/documents/Resolution%20V-6\\_27022024.pdf](https://www.chemicalsframework.org/sites/default/files/documents/Resolution%20V-6_27022024.pdf) (accessed 12 November 2024).

6 For more information, see <https://www.cbd.int/convention>.

7 CBD, *Decision Adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its Fifteenth Meeting: COP-15 Decision 15/04*, Montreal, CBD Secretariat, 2022. Available at: <https://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-15/cop-15-dec-04-en.pdf> (accessed 12 November 2024).

implementation and support mechanisms (section I); monitoring, reporting and review (section J); and communication, education, and awareness (section K).

Section C of the Global Biodiversity Framework provides that the framework, its vision, mission, goals and targets are to be understood, acted upon, implemented, reported on and evaluated consistent with a number of considerations, including but not limited to whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches; a human rights-based approach, including by respecting, protecting, promoting and fulfilling human rights; the contribution and rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities; national circumstances, priorities, and capabilities; intergenerational equity; enhanced collaboration, cooperation and synergies with other biodiversity-related conventions, other relevant multilateral agreements and international organization and processes, among other things.

In addition, the framework's twenty-three targets set out various actions relating to reducing threats to biodiversity (targets 1 to 8), meeting people's needs through sustainable use and benefit-sharing (targets 9 to 13) and tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming (targets 14 to 23). It is important to note that since the adoption of the Global Biodiversity Framework, there have been a number of exchanges and discussions on how other multilateral environmental agreements and processes -- including those under the chemicals and waste cluster -- could contribute to the implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework and its targets. **Box 1** introduces one of these initiatives, namely, the Bern III Conference and the cross-mapping of MEA goals and targets with the Global Biodiversity Framework. A matrix illustrating the cross-mapping is available as **Annex I** to the presented document.

Box 1 – Bern III Conference and the illustrative cross-mapping of MEA goals and targets with the Global Biodiversity Framework

In January 2024, UNEP convened the Bern III Conference on cooperation among MEAs in implementing the Global Biodiversity Framework.<sup>8</sup> The conference involved representatives of both parties and secretariats from sixteen MEAs across both biodiversity and chemicals and waste clusters. It emphasized the mutual benefits of collaborative efforts to address relevant aspects of the Global Biodiversity Framework, particularly at the national level. A background document prepared for the conference highlighted key entry points for cooperation and areas of mutual interest already identified by MEA secretariats and governing bodies.<sup>9</sup> A summary table, primarily based on the input from secretariats of MEAs and other processes, outlined potential relationships between the action targets of the Global Biodiversity Framework, MEA goals, and SDGs. During the conference, meeting participants were asked to review this table and consider which of the targets in the framework were most relevant to their interests and to 'score' their level of relevance. This exercise aimed to identify clusters of interest as well as possible "champions" for specific areas and foster future partnerships or collaborative arrangements. An updated version of the table is available as Annex I to this background note. More specifically, the following KMGBF targets were identified as relevant to two or more chemical-related conventions: Target 1 (spatial planning), Target 2 (restoration), Target 3 (protected areas), Target 4 (species conservation), Target 7 (pollution), Target 8 (climate change), Target 10 (other key sectors), Target 11 (nature's contributions to people), Target 12 (urban nature), Target 14 (mainstreaming), Target 15 (business and biodiversity), Target 16 (sustainable consumption), Target 20 (capacity-building), Target 21 (data, information, knowledge), Target 22 (IPLCs), and Target 23 (gender equality).

Concerning reporting, it is worth noting that, as per Article 26 of the CBD, CBD Parties are requested to present periodic reports on measures they have taken to implement the Convention and their

<sup>8</sup> UNEP, *Bern III Conference: Final Report*, Nairobi, UNEP, 2024. Available at: [https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/45489/Bern\\_III\\_Conference\\_final\\_report.pdf](https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/45489/Bern_III_Conference_final_report.pdf) (accessed 12 November 2024).

<sup>9</sup> United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), *Bern III Information Paper 3: Cross-mapping MEA Strategies*, Nairobi, UNEP, 2024. Available at: <https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/44506/Bern%20III%20information%20paper%203%20-%20Cross-mapping%20MEA%20strategies.pdf> (accessed 12 November 2024).



effectiveness in meeting the objectives of the Convention. The CBD COP, in its decision 15/6, requested Parties to submit their seventh national report by February 28, 2026, and their eighth national report by June 30, 2029, using the template provided in Annex II of the decision. Parties were also requested to use headline indicators and consider the monitoring framework of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in their national reports. To support this, the CBD Secretariat has developed an online reporting tool that enables the submission of national targets aligned with the Framework and facilitates national report submissions.<sup>10</sup>

### **3.2 Global Framework on Chemicals– For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste**

The Global Framework on Chemicals was adopted in September 2023 through resolution V/1<sup>11</sup> of the fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management.<sup>12</sup> The International Conference is responsible for decision-making and governance of the implementation of the framework, as well as reviewing progress and promoting cooperation among international instruments and programmes related to chemicals and waste.

The Global Framework on Chemicals builds on a unique multisectoral and multi-stakeholder approach. It aims to strengthen collaboration and coordination among stakeholders to address the pollution pillar of the triple crisis for our common environment alongside climate change and biodiversity loss, among other challenges. More specifically, it seeks to prevent or, where prevention is not feasible, minimize harm from chemicals and waste to protect the environment and human health, including that of vulnerable groups and workers. Its primary focus is on building chemicals and waste management capacities in all countries, including by catalyzing a transformational shift towards sustainable chemistry in the chemical and downstream sectors in a lifecycle approach. It does so through guiding principles, clear strategic objectives, defined time-bound programmes and initiatives, and measurable targets.

The Global Framework on Chemicals comprises twelve substantive sections and three annexes. These include the Framework's vision for a planet free of harm from chemicals and waste (Section II), its scope (Section III), key principles and approaches (Section IV), five strategic objectives and twenty-eight related targets (Section V), mechanisms to support implementation including focused implementation programmes and arrangements for national implementation (Section VI), the process for nominating, selecting, adopting and implementing issues of concern (Section VII), capacity-building and financial considerations (Sections VIII and IX), institutional arrangements (Section X), and matters relating to taking stock of progress and revising and updating the framework (Sections XI and XII). Annex I provides more guidance on the process and required information for the nomination of issues of concern. Annex II includes a list of principles and approaches, as well as relevant multilateral agreements. Lastly, Annex III outlines a measurability structure to facilitate reporting and monitoring of progress.

As per Section IV, implementation of the Global Framework on Chemicals should be guided by the principles and approaches in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, as well as those of knowledge and information, transparency, human rights, consideration of groups in vulnerable situations, gender equality, preventative approaches, just transition, and collaboration and participation. Such principles strongly support the sharing of knowledge and information in a manner that respects free, prior, and informed consent.

The framework's five strategic objectives are the following:

---

10 For more information, see <https://ort.cbd.int/>.

11 ICCM, *Resolution V/1: Adoption of the Bonn Declaration for a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste and of the Global Framework on Chemicals – For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste, adopted at the fifth session*, Bonn, Germany, 25–29 September 2023. Available at:

[https://www.chemicalsframework.org/sites/default/files/documents/Report-%20SAICM-ICCM.5-4\\_27022024.pdf](https://www.chemicalsframework.org/sites/default/files/documents/Report-%20SAICM-ICCM.5-4_27022024.pdf) (accessed 12 November 2024).

12 For more information, see <https://www.saicm.org/About/ICCM/tabid/5521/Default.aspx>.

- A. Legal frameworks, institutional mechanisms and capacities are in place to support and achieve the safe and sustainable Management of chemicals throughout their life cycle.
- B. Comprehensive and sufficient knowledge, data and information are generated, available and accessible to all to enable informed decisions and actions.
- C. Issues of concern are identified, prioritized and addressed.
- D. Safer alternatives and innovative and sustainable solutions in product value chains are in place so that benefits to human health and the environment are maximized and risks are prevented or, where prevention is not feasible, minimized.
- E. Enhanced implementation occurs through increased and effective resource mobilization, partnerships, cooperation, capacity-building, and integration into all relevant decision-making processes.

These strategic objectives are accompanied by twenty-eight associated targets (A1 to A7, B1 to B7, C1, D1 to D7, and E1 to E6) designed to guide stakeholders in their efforts at all levels to address the safe and sustainable management of chemicals and waste. **Box 2** and **Annex II** provide more information about ongoing efforts to explore interlinkages between the Global Chemicals Framework and the Global Biodiversity Framework, as well as how some of the Global Framework on Chemicals targets can contribute to the implementation of the biodiversity commitments.

*Box 2 - ICCM resolution V/6 and mapping of key areas of the Global Biodiversity Framework where chemicals and waste management can significantly contribute to implementation*

When the Global Framework on Chemicals was adopted at ICCM-5, a further resolution was adopted, namely, the previously mentioned resolution V/6 on international cooperation and coordination. The latter requested the Global Framework on Chemicals Secretariat to prepare, in collaboration with relevant organizations, a report on interlinkages between the Global Framework on Chemicals and the Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF), outlining entry points for enhancing collaboration and cooperation in the implementation of the two frameworks. This will be considered by the International Conference at its next session and is currently a work in progress with the support of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions Secretariat (which is working on something similar for its COPs when they meet in 2025). The data collected in this exercise so far supported the preliminary identification of KMGBF areas and targets where chemicals and waste management – including through the Global Framework on Chemicals – can significantly contribute to implementation, as outlined in Annex II to the present document. These identified areas may include: (a) mitigation of pollution impacts on ecosystems and species, (b) sustainable production and consumption, (c) enhancing knowledge and capacity for informed decision-making, (d) management and conservation efforts, (e) mainstreaming gender equality and social justice, and (f) an integrated financial approach. Annex II also provides examples of Global Framework on Chemicals targets and resolutions whose implementation supports the implementation of such areas.

In terms of reporting, all Global Framework on Chemicals stakeholders are invited to report to the International Conference through the Secretariat on implementation efforts and progress towards indicators and milestones. Such information is to be provided through an organized, transparent and accessible online tool. More guidance on the frequency and format for reporting is to be provided by the International Conference.

It is important to note that work is underway to operationalize the Global Framework on Chemicals and monitor progress toward the implementation of objectives and targets. For example, ICCM-5, through its resolution V/9, established an open-ended ad hoc group on measurability and indicators, with a mandate to prepare recommendations for the finalization of the measurability structure and a set of indicators for Annex III of the Global Framework on Chemicals to be considered at ICCM-6.<sup>13</sup>

---

<sup>13</sup> ICCM, *Resolution V/9: Measurability Structure*, adopted at the fifth session of the International Conference on Chemicals Management, Bonn, Germany, 25–29 September 2023. Available at: <https://www.chemicalsframework.org/page/resolution-v9-measurability-structure> (accessed 20 November 2024).

### E.3 Key entry points for mutually supportive action

Drawing on earlier sections in the present background note,<sup>14</sup> the following are offered as a preliminary consideration of **key entry points for mutually supportive action** in the context of implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework and the Global Framework on Chemicals. Note that this does not just concern the two frameworks but also how implementation of MEAs in the two thematic clusters relates to the two frameworks. No priority is implied by the order that follows, and it should be noted that the entry points are not mutually exclusive.

- a) Cooperate on strategic planning responding to globally adopted commitments and approaches: Following adoption of the Global Biodiversity Framework, Parties to the CBD are working on reviewing and update of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) to align with the new KMGBF in response to CBD COP decision 15/6 on planning, monitoring, reporting and review.<sup>15</sup> Meanwhile, it is assumed that in response to the adoption of the Global Framework on Chemicals, each Government will establish some form of “*national plans of action for implementation.*”<sup>16</sup> Development and implementation of these strategies and plans provide key entry points for sharing information and increasing cooperation amongst all relevant focal points across the biodiversity and chemicals and waste clusters (and other potentially relevant thematic clusters). These may include, for example, CBD national focal points, NBSAP coordinators, Global Framework on Chemicals national focal points, inter alia. This entry point for cooperation is anticipated in both the adopted frameworks and associated decisions and resolutions of the CBD COP and the International Conference, respectively.
- b) Focus on thematic areas of the Global Biodiversity Framework where chemicals and waste management can particularly contribute to the synergistic implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework and the Global Framework on Chemicals: As outlined in the previous section, these may include the mitigation of pollution impacts, the promotion of sustainable consumption and production, enhancing knowledge and capacities, supporting management and conservation efforts, mainstreaming gender equality and social justice, and an integrated financial approach. Annex II provides an overview of key clusters of targets of the Global Biodiversity Framework where action on chemicals and waste action particularly contributes and can contribute to advancing the implementation of biodiversity commitments. For example, these include the KMGBF Target 2 (restoration), Target 7 (pollution), Target 10 (other key sectors), target 16 (sustainable consumption), target 20 (capacity-building), target 21 (data, information, knowledge), target 22 (IPLCs), and target 23 (gender equality).
- c) In particular, focus on Target 7 of the Global Biodiversity Framework as an entry point for enhancing cooperation in implementing intergovernmental agreements and processes in both thematic clusters: Target 7 of the Global Biodiversity Framework (see Box 1) focuses on pollution reduction and is a key entry point for exchange, collaboration, and further joint action between conventions and initiatives from the biodiversity and chemicals and waste clusters including through whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches. This is an area of clear common interest relating to the implementation of all MEAs in the biodiversity and chemicals and waste clusters, and the Rio conventions. It is also directly relevant to the implementation of the Global Framework on Chemicals.

Box 3 – Target 7 from the Global Biodiversity Framework

**TARGET 7:** Reduce pollution risks and the negative impact of pollution from all sources by 2030, to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, considering cumulative effects, including: (a) by reducing excess nutrients lost to the environment by at least half, including

14 This section also draws on the preliminary consideration of areas of collaboration and cooperation in the implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework and the future Global Biodiversity Framework that was submitted to ICCM-5 by UNEP as CRP3 (SAICM/ICCM.5/CRP.3).

15 See paragraphs 5-6 and Annex I of [www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-15/cop-15-dec-06-en.pdf](http://www.cbd.int/doc/decisions/cop-15/cop-15-dec-06-en.pdf)

16 See Section VI(B) of [www.chemicalsframework.org/sites/default/files/documents/The Global Framework on Chemicals ENG 28022024.pdf](http://www.chemicalsframework.org/sites/default/files/documents/The%20Global%20Framework%20on%20Chemicals%20ENG%2028022024.pdf)

through more efficient nutrient cycling and use; (b) by reducing the overall risk from pesticides and highly hazardous chemicals by at least half, including through integrated pest management, based on science, taking into account food security and livelihoods; and (c) by preventing, reducing, and working towards eliminating plastic pollution.

- d) Assess the relevance of activities in the chemicals and waste cluster to the implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework: Every CBD Party is committed to supporting the delivery of the Global Biodiversity Framework, and there is value in considering how actions to implement MEAs in the chemicals and waste cluster, and how actions to implement the Global Framework on Chemicals, can help to support this. There are existing resources that can help national consideration, such as:
- The paper on “*key entry points for cooperation and collaboration*” illustrates a range of areas of mutual interest already identified by MEA secretariats and governing bodies,<sup>17</sup> including the summary matrix provided in Annex I to this background document (updated from the original source).
  - The document prepared for the COP of the Minamata Convention on Mercury relating to the contribution of the Convention to the Global Biodiversity Framework (UNEP/MC/COP.5/20)<sup>18</sup>, which provides a detailed analysis of both key entry points and opportunities for generating co-benefits.
  - There are also documents in preparation by both the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions Secretariat and the Global Framework on Chemicals Secretariat that are considering areas of mutual interest and entry points for enhancing collaboration and cooperation in response to their respective COPs and the International Conference.
- e) Consider how addressing the strategic goals and targets of the Global Framework on Chemicals could support the implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework: Addressing each of the five strategic goals and targets in the Global Framework on Chemicals could, directly or indirectly, support the implementation of the Global Biodiversity Framework if issues relevant to biodiversity and ecosystem services are considered in planning and deciding on response options. For example, with respect to GFC strategic objective B on the availability of sufficient knowledge, information and data for informed decisions, actions could address *inter alia* the knowledge, information and data needed to understand risk and response options related to the impacts of chemicals and their waste on biodiversity and ecosystem services. *Note that this is similar to the previous entry point, but while (d) starts from consideration of the Global Biodiversity Framework, (e) starts from consideration of the Global Framework on Chemicals, so the approach is different.*
- f) Consider whether there are opportunities to work together across sectors<sup>19</sup> to develop implementation support mechanisms that are potentially more cost-effective and mutually supportive: These relate to the activities that each sector will need to carry out anyway and where there may be opportunities to share resources and experience, and to jointly plan and implement activities. For example, this might include:
- Exploring possible areas for cooperation across the sectors with respect to monitoring, reporting and review, including development and use of indicators. Areas of common interest may include certain data and indicators (such as in the context of the work of

---

17 UNEP, *Bern III Information Paper 3: Cross-mapping MEA Strategies*, Nairobi, UNEP, 2024. Available at: <https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/44506/Bern%20III%20information%20paper%203%20-%20Cross-mapping%20MEA%20strategies.pdf> (accessed 12 November 2024).
















18 Minamata Convention Secretariat, *Contribution of the Minamata Convention to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (UNEP/MC/COP.5/20)*, 2024. Available at: [https://minamataconvention.org/sites/default/files/documents/working\\_document/UNEP-MC-COP.5-20-Kunming-Montreal-Global-Biodiversity\\_English.pdf](https://minamataconvention.org/sites/default/files/documents/working_document/UNEP-MC-COP.5-20-Kunming-Montreal-Global-Biodiversity_English.pdf) (accessed 12 November 2024).

19 Sectors are understood to include, but are not limited to, environment, agriculture, health, education, finance, development, construction, and labour.

the ICCM open-ended ad hoc group on measurability and indicators) but will also extend to common needs for improved monitoring and data sharing and for building engagement with national statistical offices, including sharing of experiences.

- Considering whether there is potential to work together across sectors to strengthen capacity-building and development to achieve common goals, and to share efforts to identify opportunities and resources, and to further build technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer.
  - Working together to mobilize resources to achieve common goals, recognizing that implementation of activities to tackle the biodiversity and pollution crises requires financing from all sources. Therefore, there may be opportunities to explore, cooperate and collaborate in addressing finance gaps and supporting integrated approaches.
  - Exploring opportunities for common messaging and communications relating to environmental issues, including addressing biodiversity loss, and the impacts of chemicals and waste on the environment.
  - Encouraging and facilitating research that addresses issues of common concern, providing information that supports decision-making in both sectors.
- g) Coordinating joint action to address the interrelated global crises of biodiversity loss, climate change and pollution: Given the recognized interlinkages among biodiversity loss, climate change and chemicals and waste, there may be a benefit in considering cooperation across all three sectors where this is appropriate. This could also be extended to address land degradation. Considering all of these environmental issues holistically could lead to more effective and more cost-effective national responses.

Annex I – Table illustrating cross-mapping of MEA goals and targets with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

																
<b>Target 1</b> (spatial planning)		✓✓		✓✓		✓✓✓		✓✓								
<b>Target 2</b> (restoration)						✓✓✓		✓✓			✓✓	✓✓	✓✓			
<b>Target 3</b> (protected areas)		✓✓				✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✓✓								
<b>Target 4</b> (species conservation)	✓✓	✓✓✓		✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✓✓	✓✓				✓✓	✓✓	✓✓			
<b>Target 5</b> (sustainable use of species)	✓✓✓	✓✓✓		✓✓												
<b>Target 6</b> (invasive alien species)			✓✓✓			✓✓										
<b>Target 7</b> (pollution)											✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✓✓✓	
<b>Target 8</b> (climate change)						✓✓			✓✓✓							
<b>Target 9</b> (species management)	✓✓	✓✓✓		✓✓	✓✓											
<b>Target 10</b> (other key sectors)				✓✓✓		✓✓						✓✓				
<b>Target 11</b> (nature's contributions to people)						✓✓	✓✓		✓✓✓							
<b>Target 12</b> (urban nature)																
<b>Target 13</b> (access and benefit sharing)				✓✓✓												
<b>Target 14</b> (mainstreaming)		✓✓														
<b>Target 15</b> (business and biodiversity)				✓✓✓												
<b>Target 16</b> (sustainable consumption)											✓✓	✓✓	✓✓			
<b>Target 17</b> (biosafety)																
<b>Target 18</b> (incentives and subsidies)																
<b>Target 19</b> (financial resources)				✓✓✓												
<b>Target 20</b> (capacity-building)				✓✓							✓✓	✓✓	✓✓			
<b>Target 21</b> (data, information, knowledge)				✓✓							✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✓✓✓			
<b>Target 22</b> (IPLCs)								✓✓			✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓		
<b>Target 23</b> (gender equality)								✓✓			✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓		

✓✓✓	Potential 'champion' or partner	✓✓	Contributing 'champion' or partner		Also relevant to the MEA
-----	---------------------------------	----	------------------------------------	--	--------------------------

Annex II – Table illustrating key areas of the KMGBF where chemicals and waste management can significantly contribute to implementation<sup>20</sup>

Key KMGBF areas for action on chemicals and waste	a. Mitigation of pollution impacts on ecosystems and species	b. Sustainable production and consumption	c. Enhancing knowledge and capacity for informed decision-making	d. Management and conservation efforts	e. Mainstreaming gender equality and social justice	f. Integrated financial approach
<b>KMGBF Targets</b>	Targets focused on reducing harmful pollutants that threaten biodiversity and natural habitats: <u>Target 4:</u> Halt species extinction, protect genetic diversity, and manage human-wildlife conflicts. <u>Target 6:</u> Reduce the introduction of invasive alien species by 50% and minimize their impact. <u>Target 7:</u> Reduce pollution to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity. <u>Target 8:</u> Minimize the impacts of climate change on biodiversity and build resilience.	Targets that promote efficient resource use and minimize chemical impacts through sustainable practices: <u>Target 15:</u> Businesses assess, disclose and reduce biodiversity-related risks and negative impacts. <u>Target 10:</u> Enhance biodiversity and sustainability in agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries, and forestry. <u>Target 16:</u> Enable sustainable consumption choices to reduce waste and overconsumption.	Targets that build data, research, and monitoring capabilities to support biodiversity-focused decisions: <u>Target 1:</u> Plan and manage all areas to reduce biodiversity loss. <u>Target 14:</u> Integrate biodiversity in decision-making at every level. <u>Target 20:</u> Strengthen capacity-building, technology transfer, and cooperation for biodiversity. <u>Target 21:</u> Ensure that knowledge is available and accessible to guide biodiversity action.	Targets that protect and restore ecosystems affected by chemicals and waste: <u>Target 2:</u> Restore 30% of all degraded ecosystems. <u>Target 3:</u> Conserve 30% of land, waters and seas. <u>Target 11:</u> Restore, maintain and enhance nature’s contributions to people. <u>Target 12:</u> Enhance green spaces and urban planning for human well-being and biodiversity.	Targets that prioritize inclusive approaches to address the needs of vulnerable communities: <u>Target 22:</u> Ensure participation in decision-making and access to justice and information related to biodiversity for all. <u>Target 23:</u> Ensure gender equality and a gender-responsive approach for biodiversity action.	Targets that align investments and mobilize resources for biodiversity-supporting, sustainable solutions: <u>Target 18:</u> Reduce harmful incentives by at least \$500 billion per year, and scale up positive incentives for biodiversity. <u>Target 19:</u> Mobilize \$200 billion per year for biodiversity from all sources, including \$30 billion through international finance.
<b>Examples of Global Framework on Chemicals (GFC) targets and resolutions that may contribute to the areas above</b>	<u>GFC Target D4:</u> Prioritize sustainable solutions and safer alternatives. <u>GFC Target E6:</u> Identify and strengthen synergies and linkages with other key environmental and health policies.	<u>GFC Targets B1, B2 and B3:</u> Generate and provide comprehensive data and information. <u>GFC Target B6:</u> Implement the GHS in relevant sectors. <u>GFC Target D1:</u> Advance sustainable chemistry. <u>GFC Targets D3, D6, and A3:</u> Minimize risks and develop sustainable management strategies. <u>GFC Target D5:</u> Implement policies for sustainable agricultural practices.	<u>GFC Target B6:</u> Implement the GHS in relevant sectors. <u>GFC Target E1:</u> Mainstream the sound management of chemicals and waste into sectoral plans, budgets, and development plans. -- <u>ICCM Resolution V/6</u> on international cooperation and coordination. <u>ICCM Resolution V/9</u> on the measurability structure.	<u>GFC Target A1:</u> Adopt legal frameworks and establish institutional capacities. <u>GFC Target D1:</u> Advance sustainable chemistry. <u>GFC Target D2:</u> Implement policies for safer alternatives and sustainable approaches, including circular economy.	<u>GFC Target B7:</u> Generate and share disaggregated monitoring and surveillance data. <u>GFC Target B5:</u> Develop and implement educational, training, and public awareness programmes. -- <u>ICCM Resolution V/4</u> on mainstreaming a gender perspective.	<u>GFC Target D2:</u> Implement policies for safer alternatives and sustainable approaches, including circular economy. <u>GFC Target E3:</u> Identify and mobilize adequate, predictable and sustainable financial resources in all sectors. <u>GFC Target E4:</u> Identify and consider funding gaps.

<sup>20</sup> The information contained in the table above is indicative and based on preliminary data collected by the Global Framework Secretariat and the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions Secretariat in response to paragraph 8 of ICCM-5 Resolution V/6 on international cooperation and coordination and decisions BC-16/22, RC-11/9 and SC-11/21 on international cooperation and coordination with other organizations, respectively.