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INFORMATION NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Delegations

Subject: Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD): Third meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group on Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (Part 1) (Online, 23 August - 3 September 2021)
– Statements and written submissions by the EU and its Member States

Delegations will find in annex, for information, a compilation of statements delivered and written submissions made to the plenary of the abovementioned meeting on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, as well as, annexed, a written submission by the European Union and its Member States made in four Contact Groups for OEWG-3 Agenda Item 4.

**Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD): Third meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group
on Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (Part 1)**

(Online, 23 August - 3 September 2021)

- Statements and written submissions by the EU and its Member States -

Agenda item 4: Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

Opening Statement for the Plenary Session

The European Union and its Member States would like to thank the Co-Chairs and the Secretariat of the CBD for the preparation of the first draft of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and related documents.

The OEWG-3 virtual meeting will be followed by in-person negotiation meetings. The EU and its Member States' positions on the first draft of the GBF and the related documents are preliminary and will not prejudge our final positions.

We welcome the first draft as a good basis for consultations and further negotiations.

For us, the GBF must be ambitious enough to achieve the 2050 Vision and effectively respond to the worldwide deterioration of biodiversity.

The GBF needs to aim to halt and reverse the loss of biodiversity by 2030 with strong goals and targets as well as strengthened implementation, and the ecosystem approach as an overarching principle throughout it.

High ambition must go hand in hand with strong implementation. Reinforced implementation, monitoring, reporting and review mechanisms are a priority for the EU and its Member States and should be adequately reflected in the GBF, including national planning through NBSAPs and national reports, which are currently missing. All goals and targets must be backed up by concrete action.

Implementation support mechanisms, such as resource mobilisation, capacity-building and development, technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer, are also essential for the success of the implementation. Key elements of these mechanisms should be reflected in the GBF.

Mainstreaming is indispensable for the transformative change needed to halt and reverse biodiversity loss. Therefore, we propose to address mainstreaming throughout the framework, including in goals B and D.

The GBF should also reflect the interlinkages between biodiversity loss and climate change, along with the important potential for synergies. Both global emergencies are interdependent, mutually reinforcing and need to be addressed together. We should build on the strong momentum for Nature-based solutions, embedding social and environmental safeguards in their definition.

Marine issues, including fisheries, need to be strengthened and adequately covered in the GBF and the monitoring framework, given that seas and oceans are essential for life on Earth, but being increasingly exploited in the last decades.

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect the lives of billions of people. We need green and just recovery and a move from “business-as-usual” to reduce the risk of pandemics of zoonotic origin. Therefore, the GBF need to trigger changes to exploitation, trade, and consumption patterns that threaten the health of ecosystems and people. Hence it is essential to include holistic approaches such as the One Health Approach.

Sustainable use of biodiversity components should be operationalised in relevant milestones and targets.

The EU and its Member States recognise the contribution of IPLCs to the conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems, species and genetic diversity. We stress the need to include this aspect adequately in the GBF and the implementation of several targets.

Also, gender issues need to be better integrated throughout the framework.

We generally support the structure with outcome-oriented 2050 goals, 2030 milestones and 2030 action-oriented targets. However, some of the milestones for Goals B and D overlap with some of the targets and this should be resolved.

As regards goal A and its related milestones and targets, we have suggestions for making them more precise and measurable, and to raise the level of ambition for some elements, for example, increase in the integrity and connectivity of all ecosystems, decrease in extinction rate and risk, amount of genetic diversity maintained.

We broadly support goal B and related milestones and targets. It is very important to address the delivery and valuation of ecosystem services as the benefits of conservation, restoration and sustainable use measures. For us, this is closely linked to an urgent need to reduce our ecological footprint.

We appreciate the improvements concerning the benefit-sharing goal and targets, however, several challenges remain, especially measurability.

The EU and its Member States' support a goal addressing Means of Implementation broadly and equally to close the gap, including through an increased financial flow and a strong target on eliminating harmful incentives.

We need to strike the right balance between keeping goals and targets short and communicable and at the same time covering all relevant elements and being as SMART as possible. This is challenging and we will continue to look for solutions.

We further consider the Glossary and so-called “one-pagers” important elements for such an approach, but they need to be updated and further complemented.

The monitoring framework is a critical part of the GBF. The goals, targets and indicators must be coherent and adopted together, to provide clarity for Parties and others for reporting on progress. A robust and clear set of indicators will strengthen the goals and targets.

We are willing to contribute constructively and positively to the work of the OEWG and next meetings to adopt an ambitious post-2020 GBF for the benefit of the planet and people.

Thank you.

Written Submission for the Plenary Session

The EU+MS thank the Co-Chairs for the preparation of the First draft of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework (GBF) and the Secretariat for all the documents related to this agenda item. We welcome the first draft of the post-2020 GBF and the improvements made.

The OEWG-3 formal virtual meeting undertakes formal consultations, that will be followed by formal negotiations during in-person meetings. Addenda documents for this meeting have been posted later than 6 weeks before the start of this meeting. Therefore, any positions expressed at this meeting by the EU and its Member States (MS) on the First draft of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, the Proposed headline indicators of the monitoring framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and the Glossary for the first draft of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework are preliminary and do not prejudice our final positions, to be expressed in the future.

The first draft is a step in the right direction, and it provides a good basis for consultations at this virtual meeting. For us it is important to reach the necessary ambition of the GBF to be able to respond to worldwide deterioration of biodiversity at an unprecedented rate with a grave impact on the benefits and services provided by nature.

The EU+MS are convinced that the GBF needs to aim to halt and reverse the loss of biodiversity by 2030, ensuring a net gain compared to the current situation, rather than just to stabilise the rate of loss that will continue to threaten biodiversity and our own wellbeing. The EU and its MS also insist that none of the targets should have a lower level of ambition than the Aichi targets. We are committed to leading by example and acting globally, through the GBF.

Throughout the GBF the ecosystem approach is needed as an overarching principle.

The EU+MS would also like to stress, that the interlinkages between biodiversity loss and climate change, along with the important potential for synergies between action to halt and reverse biodiversity loss and climate change mitigation and adaptation need to be an essential part of the GBF and thus should be better developed in the First Draft. Both global emergencies are interdependent, mutually reinforcing and need to be addressed in an integrated manner to resolve either of them. Nature-based Solutions are key applications of the ecosystem approach; hence they need to be re-integrated in the GBF.

High ambition must go hand in hand with strong implementation. Reinforced implementation, monitoring and review mechanisms are a priority for the EU+MS and should be adequately reflected in the GBF. Important mechanisms for the implementation of the GBF and the Convention in general, such as national planning through NBSAPs and national reports are clearly missing and should be added to the text, while at the same time it should be clear that also other implementation mechanisms from other relevant international agreements or instruments may be important for the implementation of the GBF because the GBF will be relevant for the implementation of both the CBD and other biodiversity related international agreements. The negotiations yet to be held at SBI-3 under Agenda Item 9 are of great importance for the further development of the implementation mechanism and once these negotiations are finalised, section J of the GBF needs to be updated to fully reflect the agreed elements of this mechanism.

Implementation support mechanisms are essential for the success of the implementation of the GBF, in particular capacity-building and development, technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer. Strategic approaches and general principles of these mechanisms need to be part of the text of the GBF. We see a need to strengthen section H of the draft.

The EU+MS consider that it is critical to strengthen biodiversity mainstreaming in the GBF, to provide a stronger basis for enhanced actions to ensure integration of biodiversity across government policies, into key economic sectors, including the financial sector and across society and uptake by other MEAs and relevant international organisations. Mainstreaming is indispensable for achieving the transformative change needed to halt and reverse biodiversity loss, as recognised in COP Decision 14/3. Therefore, in addition to including mainstreaming horizontally throughout the framework, we suggest including it in the goals B and D.

Marine issues, including fisheries, need to be strengthened and sufficiently covered in the GBF, given that seas and oceans are very biodiversity-rich, cover 2/3 of our planet, are essential for life on Earth, but has been increasingly damaged in last decades. Specific environmental characteristics of the marine environment, such as its connectivity and the stability of the deep-sea demand special consideration of permitted human activities, particularly seabed mining. The precautionary principle is especially important, including for oceans, since a significant part of marine biodiversity is still unknown and there is insufficient knowledge on the consequences of impacts of human activities on marine biodiversity. Marine issues must also be adequately included in the monitoring framework, also through a disaggregation of Headline Indicators to marine and terrestrial categories.

The COVID-19 global pandemic continues to cause extraordinary suffering and affects the lives of billions of people around the world. As the Leaders' Pledge for Nature commits to a green and just recovery, the GBF must require or encourage significant changes to "business-as-usual" to ensure a just, sustainable recovery and to prevent the next pandemic of zoonotic origin. This requires targets to make changes to exploitation, trade, and consumption policies that threaten the planet's ecosystems, as well as human and environmental health and wellbeing. Therefore, it is essential to include holistic approaches such as the One Health Approach, recognising the interconnectedness between the health of humans, animals, plants and their shared environment. To meet these complex challenges and find solutions cross-sectoral cooperation is necessary.

Sustainable use of biodiversity components should be operationalised in the GBF's relevant milestones and targets.

The monitoring framework is a critical part of the GBF. The goals, targets and indicators must be seen in coherence and adopted together, not least because they will provide clarity for Parties and others on how to report on progress against goals and targets. A robust, clear set of indicators will strengthen these draft goals and targets, but weak or imprecise indicators will hinder implementation and reviews of progress.

We support the structure and approach based on outcome-oriented 2050 goals, 2030 milestones to these goals and 2030 action-oriented targets. However, some of the milestones for Goals B and D overlap with some of the targets. This should be resolved by ensuring a clearer distinction and avoiding overlap.

The GBF goals and targets should be kept as short and clear as possible, understandable for all. The communication value of the wording of goals, milestones and targets is essential and needs to be considered and further developed in the time, leading to the COP 15 Phase 2. Currently, the targets are at the same time too detailed and yet often incomplete. It would therefore be useful to consider short and simple versions of the goals and targets supported by a more comprehensive text. This would help for the uptake and involvement of the GBF by all governments and all stakeholders as well as for communication purposes. This approach was taken for the SDGs whereby 17 short and clear goals are combined with several targets that are directly connected to indicators and a reporting framework. This facilitated a clear communication on 17 'topics' that are supported by a comprehensive set of SMART targets that address different parts of the 17 SDGs. It will be important to reflect on this after hearing the discussions at OEWG3 in August.

In this regard, the EU and its MS also welcome the Glossary and One pagers on the goals and targets of the first draft of the GBF as a rationale for them, describing them extensively, ensuring their common interpretation and providing their different components.

Gender issues¹ need to be better integrated in the framework, notably in target 21 and section I.

¹ Understood in accordance with the definitions given in the UN Women 2018 report *Towards a gender-responsive implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity*, where gender equality focuses on the goal of achieving equality in rights, responsibilities, opportunities and benefits/outcomes for all women and men and providing potential for both women and men to shape their own lives and contribute to the society in all areas.

On goal A and its related milestones and targets, the EU+MS see the need to raise the level of ambition expressed for several elements regarding e.g. increase in area of the planet that is under conservation, restoration, or sustainable use, and including both natural and managed ecosystems, as well as the increase in area of natural and semi-natural ecosystems, decrease in extinction rate and risk, amount of genetic diversity maintained, and rate of introduction of priority invasive alien species.

Goal A and its related milestones and targets need clearer wording, to make them as SMART as possible, and that measures addressed in targets to reduce pollution, protect and restore all ecosystems, species and gene pools, are appropriate and effective in supporting goal A. The milestones need to reflect an appropriate degree of progression towards the goal.

The EU+MS recognise the contribution of IPLCs to the conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems, species and genetic diversity, and stress the need to safeguard the traditional sustainable use of species by IPLCs and in this regard respect the rights of indigenous peoples to be secure in the enjoyment of their own means of subsistence and development, in accordance with national legislation, and to engage freely in all their traditional and other economic activities, in support of the GBF. We also need to increase the focus on equitable conservation approaches that recognize and support the important role of the IPLCs.

Based on the information supplied, the EU+MS believe that the suggested headline indicators do not fully capture the overall scope of goal A and its related targets. Some of the suggested headline indicators are useful, and relate to important elements of the goal and targets, whereas others are not relevant, or offer a very limited coverage of the scope.

The EU+MS broadly support goal B and related milestones and targets. It is very important to address the delivery of ecosystem services as the benefits of conservation, restoration and sustainable use measures. It is very important to also address valuation. For us, this is closely linked to mainstreaming and to reducing our ecological footprint. In addition to technical suggestions, the changes we propose aim at reflecting more clearly these priorities, whilst adding a few measurable elements. Issues related to urban biodiversity need to be addressed better,

We appreciate the improvements concerning the benefit sharing goal and targets, however several challenges and issues remain, in particular concerning their measurability.

The EU+MS support a goal addressing Means of Implementation broadly and equally and would like to add mainstreaming as a highly important cross-cutting issue to goal D.

A strong and actionable target on eliminating harmful incentives is a priority for the EU+MS.

With regard to biotechnology target, the EU+MS believe that it should address the adverse impact of biotechnology on biodiversity as defined in the CBD, including »taking also into account the risks to human health«, and we suggest that this target should be more ambitious and aims to avoid or minimise both the risk and intensity of negative impacts.

Finally, for enhanced common understanding of the framework, we suggest the Glossary and One Pagers are corrected and complemented.

Statement on the draft COP15 Decision on the Global Biodiversity Framework

The EU and its Member States thank the Co-chairs for this draft decision which will be important to provide guidance to the Parties on the implementation of the GBF. The preliminary draft provides the opportunity for a first reflection among Parties on the kind of aspects of the GBF that may need to be dealt with in an accompanying COP decision.

Several of the elements in the draft are however subject to the ongoing negotiations under SBI3 and SBSTTA24 as well as the OEWG3 itself. A discussion of this draft decision now in parallel to the ongoing discussions in those fora risks duplicating or pre-empting those negotiations.

Therefore, the EU and its Member States believe it is premature to address this decision in detail during the OEWG given that it will have to be revised in the light of the outcomes of those meetings and that only COP15 will be in a position to integrate those outcomes of the OEWG3, the SBSTTA24 and the SBI3 that are relevant for the implementation of the GBF.

For that reason, the EU and its Member States will refrain from submitting concrete text proposals or engaging in textual negotiations of the draft decision.

We stand ready to share some preliminary views but given the shortness of time we would step back from delivering it here orally.

The EU and MS want to reiterate their willingness to contribute to the future discussions on this draft decision at the appropriate moment during COP15.

Written Submission on the intersessional work between OEWG3.1 and 3.2

The EU and its Member States want to stress the need for **intersessional work** before the in-person sessions in January. This should focus on the draft GBF, the monitoring framework, the glossary and the draft COP15 recommendation on DSI.

- On the draft text of the GBF, the EU and its MS believe that the CoChairs, in consultation with the Bureau, are within their mandate to engage in informal or formal consultations on key issues such as through outreach to all regions, submissions, webinars, thematic consultations, informal dialogues, etc. in order to make progress on the basis of the contributions during this session of the OEWG.
- Regarding the monitoring framework, the Parties should receive a full proposal of this framework by end of November 2021, in time for the January meetings. It should be developed in consultation with the SBSTTA Bureau and the CoChairs.
- An updated glossary should be made available as soon as possible, capturing terms that are missing in the current draft, to be submitted to a peer-review process, resulting in a revised version end of November for consideration by the OEWG in January. The EU/MS would be happy to provide their suggestions on missing terms in writing to the CoChairs.

- Further informal dialogues on **DSI**, preferably outside of formal negotiations, are needed to enhance mutual understanding. Other intersessional work on this issue include a SWOT analysis of the options identified, an overview of existing practices of open access to data and open science and their benefits as well as a revised draft COP15 recommendation on DSI.

Regarding the input for the **in-person session**,

The EU and its MS encourage the CoChairs to prepare documents on both agenda items 4 and 5, which could reflect on and pre-digest the wealth of suggestions made during this session, giving clear guidance on the best way forward in the January session, building on the discussions held at this meeting, to enable more targeted negotiations and facilitating the preparations by all participants. These CoChair documents should be available latest by the end of November to allow for timely preparations for the January session.

Regarding agenda item 4, we would further encourage the co-chairs to apply a holistic approach, including all parts of the GBF, and to strike the right balance between ensuring SMART formulations of the goals, milestones and targets, also covering further key elements like e.g. implementation and accountability, while keeping the text concise and communicable. Suggestions to add new text on cross-cutting issues, to merge or separate targets/goals and to add new targets should not be overlooked.

It will also be important to continue the discussions on the relation between the GBF and strategies on capacity building, resource mobilization, mainstreaming biodiversity, gender, youth and indigenous peoples and local communities including sector integration. Additionally, input from and cooperation with the other biodiversity-related conventions and other agreements need to continue.

Agenda item 5: Digital sequence information on genetic resources

Statement and Written submission to the Plenary Session

The EU and its Member States would like to reaffirm their commitment to continue the DSI discussions. We attach great importance to it in the ongoing negotiations of the post-2020 GBF and look forward to a constructive discussion at OEWG3.

We recall that DSI is not a specific term defined either in the CBD or the Nagoya Protocol. In light of the diversity of terms used in the scientific world, DSI only serves as a placeholder for the duration of our discussions.

The EU and its Member States wish to recall that the generation of, access to, analysis and use of DSI can have important positive effects on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity. Therefore, how we deal with this issue can play a role in the implementation of the GBF. We believe that the global pandemic caused by Covid 19 has highlighted the important role of DSI in the protection of human, animal and plant health. Timely and unrestricted access to and sharing of such data has proven to be essential for the rapid development of detection tools and effective responses to threats to public health. We should bear in mind this lesson learnt.

We wish to express our appreciation for the work done on DSI in the intersessional period; in particular, we welcome the outcomes of the AHTEG (CBD/DSI/AHTEG/2020/1/7) which brought more clarity to the different possible understandings of the term DSI and its scope, as well as of the possible implications of any of those understandings.

The EU and its Member States notice that we still need to deepen the analysis of the options for dealing with DSI that have been put forward. As also recalled in the DSI note by the Executive Secretary (CBD/WG2020/3/4, paragraph 23), the informal discussion forum was a collection of personal opinions and observations. Not only do we need to build a common understanding on the options and relevant criteria, but we also need to prepare a solid analysis of the benefits and costs of their implementation.

With a view to keeping the DSI discussion on a pragmatic level, we welcome the separation made between access to DSI and possible sharing of benefits from DSI utilization.

The EU and its Member States would like to stress that the principle of "open access" to DSI must be preserved, and thus any possible future solution for DSI should not lead to hindering open access to DSI nor negatively affect the open science model. Rather - as highlighted by the AHTEG report (paragraph 26) - any approach to DSI should incentivize the use of DSI, and avoid unnecessary monitoring, tracing, and tracking requirements, which would greatly reduce the cost-effectiveness of a possible solution.

We would like to recall that public or open access databases are promoted and maintained by considerable public funding. Data published in these databases are the results of the work of researchers, that is made available for free, and contribute to the exchange and generation of additional information and knowledge worldwide. Therefore, public databases and open access to their data are an important form of non-monetary benefit-sharing.

We acknowledge that many countries still lack capacity to generate, access, analyse and use DSI. This limits the possibility of taking advantage of these benefits to their full potential, hampers international scientific research and also hinders the successful implementation of the CBD objectives. We therefore wish to reiterate our support for further development of DSI capacity by all Parties.

In this context, we would like to highlight that open access to data, as well as the development and publication of tools to analyse the data, are at the basis of several education and scientific research projects carried out in the framework of development cooperation by the EU and its Member States with other Parties. This cooperation also contributes to building DSI capacity in these countries and their research entities.

The exploratory work done in this intersessional period has shown that DSI is used by many different sectors, business and for different purposes. We have also learnt that very rarely does one single sequence data alone lead to a commercial application. Typically, some sequences contribute to an application, some sequences contribute to several applications and some may never contribute to any application. Consequently, it is extremely difficult to assess the added value of one single sequence to a final outcome or product. The real value lies in the possibility to aggregate and compare a multitude of data. Therefore, the way DSI is typically used significantly differs from the traditional understanding of the utilisation of genetic resources (GR) under the Nagoya Protocol.

We recognize that conditions for generating and using DSI can already be specified in mutually agreed terms when GR, from which DSI was obtained, was accessed. We would like to recall that the AHTEG highlighted the importance of having legal certainty regarding the usage of DSI for all (public and private) sectors and therefore that any approach to handling DSI should provide legal certainty.

The EU and its Member States would therefore like to reaffirm that any potential DSI solution should:

- Preserve open access to DSI from databases;
- Be practical, easily implementable, efficient and cost-effective, i.e., it should generate more benefits than costs;
- Ensure that the benefits generated will contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in support of the SDGs;
- Be ‘future-proof’, to allow technological developments to be addressed
- Be adaptable to the requirements of other ABS instruments, including possible future instruments.

In addition, we note that most of the studies on potential modalities for DSI benefit-sharing show that the multilateral approach seems, in principle, better suited and more efficient for DSI than the bilateral model.

Finally, we think that the ongoing discussion on DSI as well as on ABS in the context of the GBF offer an opportunity to improve the implementation of ABS. It is thus important to place the work on DSI in the overall context of the post-2020 GBF, as mandated by COP14 (CBD/COP/DEC/14/20, paragraph 12).

Document CBD/WG2020/3/4 provides a useful compilation of the knowledge that has been generated over the last years, but it doesn't provide a clear basis for operational conclusions yet. We are ready to work further on this in these two weeks. We will make suggestions to the draft recommendation in the contact group.

Written Submission on the intersessional work between OEWG3.1 and 3.2

Regarding agenda item 5 on DSI, we would like to signal that clarification of the nature of the document CBD/WG2020/3/CRP.1 is needed. This document reflects the views and opinions expressed by Parties and observers during the Contact Group, but it was not negotiated and should not be the basis for starting negotiations in Geneva, as we already stated in the contact group. Instead, we would prefer to receive an updated version of the note by the secretariat (CBD/WG2020/3/4), including section IV, to facilitate the negotiations on this issue.

Finally on the meetings in January, the EU and MS also want to highlight that due consideration should further be given to the outstanding issues from the virtual meetings of SBSTTA and SBI.

EU and its Member States written submission made in four Contact Groups for OEWG-3

Agenda Item 4

~~Strikeout text~~ in Suggested formulation by EU+MS – deleted text of the First draft of the post-2020 GBF

Bold underlined text in Suggested formulation by EU+MS – proposed addition of the text to the First draft of the post-2020 GBF

As this is not a negotiation of the first draft text, we have in our written text submissions in a few cases used square brackets to indicate that we are still considering our position on an element, or where to address it, and we would like to hear arguments from other Parties first.

A. Background

Suggested changes in GBF text:

1. Biodiversity, **with its intrinsic value** and the benefits it provides, is fundamental to human well-being and a healthy planet. Despite ongoing efforts, biodiversity is deteriorating worldwide **at an unprecedented rate,** and this decline is projected to continue or worsen under business-as-usual scenarios, **putting at risk of extinction over 1 million species, jeopardising the provision of ecosystem services essential for human well-being and increasing the risk of emergence and spread of zoonotic diseases. Climate change is affecting biodiversity profoundly, increasing the risk of ecosystems to collapse. Loss of biodiversity and natural ecosystems can weaken natural carbon sinks all the way to turning them into sources of greenhouse gases, as well as reduce their ability to adapt to future climate. Biodiversity loss and climate change are interdependent and mutually reinforcing and both emergencies need to be addressed in an integrated and urgent manner.** The post-2020 global biodiversity framework⁵ builds on the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and sets out an ambitious plan to implement broad-based action to bring 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.

B. The Purpose

Suggested changes in GBF text:

2. The framework aims to galvanize urgent and transformative action by **all** Governments and all of society, including indigenous peoples and local communities, civil society, **women and girls, youth, elderly,** and businesses **and finance institutions,** to achieve the outcomes it sets out in its vision, mission, goals and targets, and thereby to contribute to the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, its Protocols, and other biodiversity related multilateral agreements, **international organisations,** processes and instruments.

3. The framework aims to facilitate **and enhance** implementation, ~~which will be primarily through activities at the national, level, with supporting action at the subnational, regional and global levels,~~ **recognising the responsibilities of Parties to the relevant Conventions and Agreements**. Specifically, it provides a global, outcome-oriented framework for the development of national, and as appropriate, regional, goals and targets and, ~~as necessary,~~ the updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans **and other relevant strategies and action plans** to achieve these, and to facilitate regular monitoring, **reporting** and review of **ambition and of** progress at the global level. It also aims to promote synergies and coordination between the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols, and **other Multilateral Environmental Agreements, relevant international organisations, other international frameworks and** other relevant processes.

C. Relationship with 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Suggested changes in GBF text:

4. The framework is a fundamental contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.⁶ At the same time, progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals will ~~help to~~ create the conditions necessary to implement the framework. **Unsustainable practices and other drivers of biodiversity loss jeopardize sustainable development and poverty eradication efforts. Therefore, biodiversity conservation and sustainable development need to be tackled in an integrated manner to achieve the 2050 vision of living in harmony with nature.**

⁶General Assembly resolution 70/1

D. Theory of change

Suggested changes in GBF text:

5. The framework is built around a theory of change (see figure 1) which recognizes that urgent policy action globally, regionally and nationally is required to transform economic, social and financial models so ~~that the trends that have exacerbated~~ **addressing the direct and indirect drivers of** biodiversity loss, **so as to halt and reverse current trends and achieve** ~~will stabilize in the next 10 years (by 2030)~~ **a net positive outcome compared to 2020** and allow for the **further** recovery of ~~natural~~ **all degraded** ecosystems in the following 20 years, ~~with net improvements by 2050 to achieve the Convention's vision of "living in harmony with nature"~~. It also assumes that a whole-of government and society approach is necessary to make the changes needed ~~over the next 10 years~~ **before 2030** as a stepping stone towards the achievement of the 2050 Vision. As such, **all actors, in particular all levels of** Governments ~~and societies,~~ **business, financial institutions and civil society,** need to determine priorities and allocate financial and other resources, internalize the value of ~~nature~~ **biodiversity** and recognize the cost of inaction.

6. The framework's theory of change assumes that transformative actions are taken to (a) put in place tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming, (b) reduce the threats to biodiversity and (c) ensure that biodiversity is used sustainably in order to meet **the people's needs of people and the planet** and that these actions are supported by enabling conditions, and adequate means of implementation, including financial resources, capacity, ~~and~~ technology **and knowledge**. It also assumes that progress is monitored in a transparent, ~~and~~ accountable **and efficient** manner with adequate stocktaking exercises to ensure that, by 2030, the world is on a path to reach the 2050 Vision for biodiversity.⁷

7. The theory of change for the framework acknowledges the need for appropriate recognition of gender equality, women's **and girls'** empowerment, youth, gender-responsive approaches and the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in the implementation of this framework. Further, it is built upon the recognition that its implementation **will must** be done in partnership among organizations at the global, **regional**, national and local levels **with both public and private sectors and civil society**, to leverage ways to build a momentum for success. It will be implemented taking a rights-based approach and ~~recognizing the principle of~~ **ensuring** intergenerational equity.

8. The framework is complementary to and supportive of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It also takes into account the long-term strategies and targets of multilateral environment agreements, including biodiversity-related and Rio conventions, to ensure synergistic delivery of benefits from all the agreements for the planet and people.

E. **Goals and milestones**

Suggested formulation by EU+MS

1. Reducing Threats to Biodiversity

Target 1. Ensure that all land and sea areas globally are under integrated biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning addressing land- and sea-use change, **based on the ecosystem approach**, retaining **[all] existing critical [and vulnerable] ecosystems and intact and wilderness areas, and [minimizing] [avoiding] loss of other natural and semi-natural ecosystems, as well as territories governed or managed by indigenous peoples.**

(In addition the EU and its MSs support adding wording on interests and rights of the IPLCs.)

Target 2. Ensure that at least ~~20 per cent of~~ **[X] billion hectares of** degraded freshwater, marine and terrestrial ecosystems are under **effective** restoration **measures, including a** ~~ensuring connectivity among them and focusing on~~ **restoration into natural and semi-natural** ~~priority ecosystems,~~ **and to support [climate change adaptation and mitigation], and ecosystem connectivity.**

Target 3. Ensure that at least 30 per cent globally of land areas and of sea areas, **respectively**, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and **ecosystem services** ~~its contributions to people,~~ are **effectively** conserved through ~~effectively and equitably~~ **and well managed** [conserved through effectively and equitably managed] [conserved through effectively **managed** and equitably ~~managed~~ **governed**], ecologically representative and well-connected **networks** ~~systems~~ of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and integrated into the wider land-~~scapes~~ and seascapes, **recognizing the contribution of indigenous peoples and local communities to their management.**

(In addition the EU and its MSs support adding wording on interests and rights of the IPLCs.)

Target 4. Ensure active management actions to ~~enable~~ **achieve** the recovery and conservation of species and the genetic diversity of wild and domesticated species, including through **in situ conservation supported by** ex situ conservation, **and restoration of genetically depleted populations,** and effectively manage human-wildlife interactions to avoid or reduce human-wildlife conflict, **for the benefit of both wildlife and humans.**

Target 5. Ensure that [all] the harvesting, trade and use of [all] wild **terrestrial, freshwater and marine** species is sustainable [and within safe ecological limits], [applying the ecosystem approach] legal, and safe for human, **animal, plant and ecosystem** health, **eliminating all unsustainable and all illegal harvesting, trade and use, while safeguarding the customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities.**

Target 6. Manage [priority] [all] pathways for the introduction of ~~invasive~~ alien species, preventing **introduction and establishment of all priority invasive alien species, and** or reducing their rate of introduction and establishment **of other [known or potential invasive] alien species** by at least 50 per cent, and ~~control~~ or eradicate **or control** invasive alien species to eliminate or reduce their impacts **on native biodiversity**, focusing on priority **native** species and ~~priority~~ sites.

Target 7. Reduce **emissions and deposits of pollution, including noise and light**, from all sources to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity and ecosystem functions and human health, **considering cumulative and interactive effects**, including by reducing nutrients lost to the environment by at least [half], and **[use] [emissions] of pesticides** by at least [two thirds]

(The EU+MS agree that greater efforts are still required, including to prevent, reduce and ultimately stop pollution of the environment with plastics and other pollutants; and strongly support a target element on plastic pollution instead of plastic waste in this target.)

Target 8. Minimize the impact of climate change **[and ocean acidification]** on biodiversity, **by strengthening ecosystem resilience, [limiting ocean acidification], enhancing adaptive capacity, reducing vulnerability and,** [contribute to **climate change** mitigation and, adaptation and disaster risk reduction through **nature-based solutions [with [social] [sociocultural] and environmental safeguards] and** ecosystem-based approaches] ~~contribute to mitigation and adaptation through ecosystem-based approaches, contributing at least 10 GtCO₂e per year to global mitigation efforts,~~ and ensure that all mitigation and adaptation efforts avoid negative impacts on biodiversity **and optimize co-benefits.**

Meeting People's Needs through sustainable use and benefit-sharing

Target 9. Ensure **the sustainability of all uses of wild terrestrial, freshwater and marine species, thereby generating** benefits including nutrition, food security, medicines, and livelihoods for people, especially for the most vulnerable through sustainable management of wild terrestrial, freshwater and marine species and protecting sustainable use **while safeguarding the** customary **sustainable use** by indigenous peoples and local communities.

Target 10. Ensure **that** all areas under agriculture, **fisheries, aquaculture, forestry [and other uses]** are managed sustainably **and legally, increasing the resilience of these production systems**, in particular through the conservation, **restoration** and sustainable use of biodiversity, **inter alia by protecting pollinators and soil biodiversity and by ensuring that [X] per cent of agricultural land is managed under agro-ecology or other biodiversity friendly practices** ~~increasing the productivity and resilience of these production systems.~~

Target 11. Maintain and enhance **ecosystem services, such as** nature's contributions to **climate change adaptation and mitigation, the** regulation of **climate**, air quality, quality and quantity of water, **contributions to human, animal and ecosystem health** and protection from hazards and extreme events for all people, **especially through nature-based solutions [with social and environmental safeguards] and ecosystem-based approaches.**

Target 12. Increase the area of, access to, and benefits from green and blue spaces for human health and well-being in urban areas and other densely populated areas **to at least [X] per cent of their total area and enhance [biodiversity friendly] access to these areas, thereby contributing to biodiversity, ecological connectivity, human health and well-being.**

Target 13: Implement measures at global, **regional and national** level and in all countries to facilitate access to genetic resources and to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources, and as relevant of, associated traditional knowledge, [including through mutually agreed terms and prior informed consent,] **and including by easy, standardized and cost-effective procedures.**

Tools & Solutions for implementation and mainstreaming

Target 14. Fully integrate **values of** biodiversity values **and ecosystem services** into policies, regulations, **programmes,** planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies, **investments, public procurement,** accounts, and assessments of environmental impacts at all levels of government and across all sectors of the economy, **[in particular agriculture, forestry, fisheries, aquaculture, finance, tourism, health, manufacturing, infrastructure, mining, including deep-sea mining, and energy],** ensuring that all **public and private** activities and financial flows are aligned with biodiversity values **objectives.**

Target 15. All **[relevant]** businesses **and financial institutions** (public and private, large, medium and small) **fully integrate biodiversity values into decision making, and regularly** assess and **disclose** report on their dependencies and impacts on biodiversity, from local to global, and progressively reduce negative impacts by at least half and increase positive impacts **to align all activities to a nature-positive economy,** reducing biodiversity-related risks **from and** to businesses and **supporting a circular economy, where** moving towards the full sustainability of extraction, **including deep-sea mining,** and production practices, sourcing and supply chains, and **the use of natural resources** and disposal **are fully sustainable**

(The EU+MS are stressing the importance of applying the precautionary principle when implementing the GBF. We are considering additional wording to reflect that in this Target explicitly.)

Target 16. Ensure that people are **aware of,** encouraged and enabled to make **sustainable consumption** responsible choices, and have access to relevant information and alternatives, taking into account cultural **context** preferences, to reduce by at least half the **[food]** waste and, where relevant **eliminate** the overconsumption of food and other **natural resources** materials.

ALTERNATIVE **[Eliminate unsustainable consumption patterns in particular by reducing [food] waste by half and, where relevant, eliminating overconsumption of other natural resources including ensuring that people are encouraged and enabled to make responsible choices and have access to relevant information and alternatives.]**

Target 17. Establish, strengthen capacity for, and implement measures in all countries to prevent, manage or control potential adverse impacts of biotechnology on biodiversity and **taking also into account the risks to** human health,

(The EU+MS suggest that this target should be more ambitious and aims to avoid or minimise both the risk and intensity of negative impacts.)

Target 18. Identify and measure by [2025] the incentives harmful to biodiversity and Redirect, [repurpose, reform] or eliminate or redirect all these incentives harmful for biodiversity, in a just [and equitable] way, reducing them their annual amount by at least [US\$ 500 billion] per year, starting with including all of the most harmful subsidies, and ensure that all incentives including public [and private] economic and regulatory incentives, are either positive or neutral for biodiversity and that positive incentives are scaled up.

(The terms [repurpose, reform] and [and equitable] may be redundant but EU and its MS are open to further discussion. The EU and its MS consider it important to have numerical targets but continue to reflect on the actual figure in the context of the whole GBF.)

Target 19. Increase financial resources from all sources to an annual amount of at least [US\$ 200 billion] per year, [including new, additional and effective financial resources] by inter alia increasing the annual amount of by at least US\$ 10 billion per year international financial flows to developing countries by [at least US\$ 10 billion] per year, increasing leveraging private finance, and increasing domestic resource mobilization, including through taking into account national biodiversity finance planning or similar instruments, using financial resources effectively and efficiently, and strengthen capacity-building [and development] and technology transfer and [technical and] scientific cooperation, to meet the expressed needs for implementation, commensurate with the ambition of the goals and targets of the framework.

(The terms “new, additional and effective financial resources” could be referenced e.g. in section H on implementation support mechanisms or in the CoP Decision on resource mobilization, but EU and its MS are open to further discussion. The EU and its MS consider it important to have numerical targets but continue to reflect on the actual figures in the context of the whole GBF.)

Target 20. Ensure that relevant education, communication, research and knowledge, including the traditional knowledge, innovations, practices and technologies of indigenous peoples and local communities with their free, prior, and informed consent, guides underpin decision- making for the effective implementation and monitoring of the framework, enabling monitoring, and by promoting awareness, education and research including by ensuring that all people are aware of the values of biodiversity and the steps they can take to conserve and use it sustainably.

Target 21. Ensure equitable, full and effective participation in decision-making at all levels related to biodiversity by indigenous peoples and local communities, women, girls, youth and other stakeholders, ensure, in accordance with relevant national legislation, and respect their rights of indigenous peoples [and local communities] over lands, territories and resources, as well as by women and girls, and youth and ensure gender equality, women’s and girls’ empowerment and gender-responsive approaches as well as intergenerational equity.

H. Implementation Support Mechanisms

Suggested Changes

13. Implementation of the framework and achievement of its goals and targets will be supported **facilitated and enhanced** through support mechanisms under the Convention on Biological Diversity, including the financial mechanism, and strategies for resource mobilization, capacity-building and development, technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer, knowledge management, **mainstreaming of biodiversity** as well as through relevant mechanisms under other conventions and international processes.

Mobilizing resources is essential for achieving the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Resource mobilization requires transformative change across economies and society. A strategic approach to resource mobilization consists of:

1. **Redirecting or eliminating resources harmful to biodiversity;**
2. **Generating new financial and non-financial resources from all sources, including from private, public, domestic and international sources, as well as innovative financial mechanisms;**
3. **Enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of resource use;**
4. **Mainstreaming biodiversity and ecosystem services within and across all sectors;**
5. **National biodiversity finance plans or similar instruments.**

Capacity building and development, technical and scientific cooperation, knowledge management as well as technology transfer are key means of implementation. Countries are invited to address these Means of implementation through:

1. **Developing a national Capacity building and development plan**
2. **Integrating the plan in their NBSAP**
3. **Integrating the needs for financial resources for this plan in their national biodiversity finance plan**

Express the needs as well as opportunities for technical and scientific cooperation, technology transfer and knowledge management to implement the GBF

I. Enabling Conditions

Suggested Changes

14. The implementation of the global biodiversity framework requires **inclusive and** integrative governance and whole-of-government approaches to ensure policy coherence and effectiveness, political will and recognition at the highest levels of government. **Sound environmental governance is essential, including a well-functioning judicial and enforcement system.**

15. It will require a participatory and inclusive whole-of-society approach that engages actors beyond national Governments, including subnational governments, cities and other local authorities (including through the Edinburgh Declaration),¹² intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, women's groups, youth groups, the business and finance community, the scientific community, academia, faith-based organizations, representatives of sectors related to or dependent on biodiversity, citizens at large, and other stakeholders.

16. **The** Efficiency and effectiveness **of the implementation** will be enhanced for all by **strengthening cooperation and coordination** integration with relevant multilateral environmental agreements and other relevant international processes, at the global, regional and national levels, including through the strengthening or establishment of cooperation mechanisms.

16. Bis Implementation of the framework must respect the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, as set out in in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and in human rights law, including their right to be secure in the enjoyment of their own means of subsistence and development, and to engage freely in all their traditional and other economic activities, as set out in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

17. Further, success will depend on ensuring greater gender equality and **the** empowerment of women and girls **by mainstreaming and gender-responsive approaches**, reducing inequalities, full access to education, employing rights-based approaches ensuring intergenerational equity and addressing the full range of indirect drivers of biodiversity loss, as identified by the *Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services* issued by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services,¹³ including those not directly addressed by the goals and targets of the Framework, such as demography, conflict and epidemics, including in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

J. Responsibility and Transparency

Suggested Changes

18. The successful implementation of the framework requires responsibility and transparency, which will be supported by effective mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting and review. Countries, Parties to the Convention, have a responsibility to implement mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting and review.¹ These mechanisms allow for **a more effective implementation**, transparent communication of progress to all, timely course correction and input in the preparation of the next global biodiversity framework, while minimizing the **administrative** burden at the national and international levels, by:

- a. **Bis Updating National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), and other relevant strategies and plans, in line with the post-2020 global biodiversity framework shortly after CBD COP-15;**
- a. Establishing national targets as part of national strategies and action plans and as contributions towards the achievement of **all** the global **goals and** targets;
- b. Reporting national targets to enable the collation of national targets in relation to the global action **goals and** action targets, as needed, and their adjustment to match the global **goals and** action targets;
- c. Enabling the evaluation of national and collective actions against targets **through strengthened monitoring and reporting, including national reports, and, as necessary, the ratcheting up of ambition and corresponding implementation efforts.**

19. These mechanisms are aligned with and, where appropriate, complemented by national reporting under the Protocols of the CBD and integrated with other processes and other relevant multilateral conventions especially the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals.

20. The development of additional and complementary approaches, is **Other actors should be encouraged to allow other actors to contribute to the implementation of the framework through complementary** and report on commitments and actions **and report thereon.**

K. Outreach, Awareness and Uptake

Suggested Changes

K. Outreach, education, awareness and uptake

21. Outreach, awareness and uptake of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework by all stakeholders **actors** is essential to effective implementation **and behavioural change**, including by:

- (a) **Through education and communication** Increasing understanding, awareness and appreciation of the values of biodiversity **and ecosystem services**, including the associated knowledge, values and approaches used by indigenous peoples and local communities **with their free, prior and informed consent**;
 - (b) Raising awareness of all actors of **actions to implement** the existence of the goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and **the** progress made towards their achievement **of its goals and targets with a specific focus on the language used, level of complexity and thematic content adapted to the specific groups of actors**;
 - (c) Promoting or developing **repositories**, platforms and partnerships **and action agendas**, including with media, and civil society, **and educational institutions** to share information on successes, lessons learned and experiences **and to allow for adaptive learning** in acting for biodiversity.
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