

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY - CBD

COP17

ZSL RECOMMENDATIONS

Seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP17) - 19–30 October 2026, Yerevan, Armenia

COP17 must turn the findings of the first Global Review into rapid momentum for delivery. With just four years left to implement the goals and targets of the Global Biodiversity Framework, COP17 must deliver concrete, tangible outcomes, both inside and outside the negotiations, that accelerate implementation to 2030.

COP17 Expectations:

Global Review of Collective Progress: COP17 will deliver the first Global Review of Collective Progress under the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF), providing a critical moment of accountability. Parties must agree a strong, ambitious and action-oriented response that accelerates implementation of the Framework, addresses gaps in progress, and drives a rapid scaling of action to 2030 and beyond.

Climate-Nature-Land Synergies: COP17 should agree ambitious negotiated outcomes that send a clear signal of political commitment to integrated action across the Rio Conventions. Outcomes should support policy coherence, strengthen coordination across climate, biodiversity and land agendas, and enable implementation at national level that delivers benefits for climate, nature and people.

Resource Mobilisation and Finance: COP17 must deliver meaningful progress on resource mobilisation. Parties should work towards a constructive agreement on the future financial mechanism while accelerating efforts to mobilise at least US\$30 billion per year by 2030 and fully implement the KM-GBF Resource Mobilization Strategy. This should support delivery of Target 19 on biodiversity finance, Target 18 on the reform and redirection of harmful incentives and subsidies, and Target 14 on integrating biodiversity across government decision-making and policy frameworks.

Species and Ecosystems: Parties should adopt the new voluntary guidance on sustainable wildlife management and recognise species recovery as a cross-cutting objective across the Framework.

Programme of work on protected areas: COP17 should adopt an updated Programme of Work on Protected Areas, with clear language on the importance of ecological connectivity, and recognising the critical role of rangers and the wider conservation workforce in delivering Target 3 of the Global Biodiversity Framework.

Education for Biodiversity: COP17 should adopt the Global Plan of Action on Education for Biodiversity (GPA-EB), supported by clear indicators, baselines and an implementation roadmap. Parties should recognise zoos and aquariums as key delivery partners and utilise their expertise, networks and public reach to support lifelong biodiversity learning and action.

Biodiversity and Health: COP17 should strengthen implementation of the Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health, promote the integration of One Health approaches, and advance work on indicators, monitoring and reporting systems.

GLOBAL REVIEW OF PROGRESS

Agenda Item: Item 9(a): Global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global

Documents:

- Draft global report on collective progress in the implementation of the GBF - [CBD/SBSTTA/28/2/Add.1/Rev.1](#);
- Summary, conclusions and key messages of the global review of collective progress in the implementation of the GBF - [CBD/SBSTTA/28/2/Add.3-CBD/SBI/7/2/Add.1](#);
- Planning, monitoring, reporting and review: global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework - [CBD/SBI/REC/7/1](#);

We know that countries are not on track to meet the GBF's goals and targets. Although more than 80% of Parties to the CBD have now submitted national targets aligned with the Framework "fewer than half of reporting Parties considered their national targets aligned with any of the global targets of the Framework to be on track."¹ Meanwhile, monitored wildlife populations have declined by an average of 73.2% since 1970.²

Analysis of Party submissions in the summary, conclusions and key messages of the global report shows that limited finance, slow progress on reforming harmful incentives, weak coordination across sectors and levels of government, and data gaps remain the main barriers to substantive action, while stronger integration across the Rio Conventions and other MEAs is identified as a key opportunity to improve coherence and reduce duplication³.

The Global Review decision should acknowledge these conclusions and identify a focused set of priority gaps. The Review can be an invaluable tool for accelerating action during the rest of the decade, but only if it sends clear signals on where action, investment and support are most urgently needed, and if those signals are carried forward both within and beyond the formal negotiations.

WE CALL ON PARTIES TO:

Act on the key messages of the Global Report: Provide a clear mandate to accelerate implementation and close the implementation gaps identified in the report. This should include action to eliminate or reform environmentally harmful subsidies; align public and private finance with biodiversity commitments; accelerate and improve the establishment, representativeness and effectiveness of protected areas; and mainstream biodiversity across government decision-making, particularly in spatial planning, food systems, energy and national security.

Recognise climate, biodiversity and land interlinkages in the Global Review: The political response to the first Global Review of Collective Progress should explicitly recognise the interdependence of biodiversity loss, climate change and land degradation, including associated co-benefits, dependencies and trade-offs.

Support integrated implementation at national level: Parties should support the creation of national, regional and subregional coordination mechanisms that align climate, biodiversity and land

¹ CBD (2026). *Summary, conclusions and key messages of the global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework*. CBD/SBSTTA/28/2/Add.3-CBD/SBI/7/2/Add.1, 22 July 2026,

² WWF, *Living planet report 2026*.

³ CBD (2026). *Summary, conclusions and key messages of the global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework*. CBD/SBSTTA/28/2/Add.3-CBD/SBI/7/2/Add.1, 22 July 2026,

policies, to enable policy planning and implementation that can deliver multiple Rio Convention objectives simultaneously by 2030.

Planning, monitoring, reporting and review: global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (CBD/SBI/REC/7/1)		
Paragraph	Recommended Change	Rationale
1. Welcomes [with appreciation] the global report on collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and notes its overarching messages and key messages;	Welcomes the global report on collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and notes its overarching messages and key messages;	Welcoming the global report is vital to signalling political awareness of the implementation gaps identified in the report and action needed to mobilise progress to 2030 and beyond.
2. [Also welcomes][Recognizes] with appreciation that the Framework has generated unprecedented global engagement and has driven action, innovation, collaboration and learning;	2. Also welcomes with appreciation that the Framework has generated unprecedented global engagement and has driven action, innovation, collaboration and learning;	Welcoming, rather than only recognising, the unprecedented engagement and action generated by the Framework gives credit for progress made and builds the goodwill needed for the call to accelerate in the paragraphs that follow.
12. [Invites][Encourages] Parties and [actors other than national Governments] to consider, as appropriate and relevant, the non-prescriptive approaches identified in the global report to address the gaps, challenges and barriers in the implementation of the Framework and to foster possible opportunities to enhance collective progress in implementation, and notes that Parties may also use the policy-relevant actions described in relevant assessments of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in that regard;	12. Invites Parties and [actors other than national Governments] to consider, as appropriate and relevant, the non-prescriptive approaches identified in the global report to address the gaps, challenges and barriers in the implementation of the Framework and to foster possible opportunities to enhance collective progress in implementation, and notes that Parties may also use the policy-relevant actions described in relevant assessments of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in that regard;	Inviting, rather than encouraging, is stronger language that acknowledges the gaps identified in the global report and the scale of action needed by 2030.
15. Urges Parties to accelerate implementation of the Framework, including by [increased ambition and by] addressing the gaps, challenges and barriers related to implementation, [scope and coverage, means of implementation, whole-of-government approaches, whole-of-society approaches, and data and knowledge[, as noted in paragraph 5 of the present decision,]] in accordance with national circumstances, priorities and capabilities[, and the means of implementation available to them];	A. 15. Urges Parties to accelerate implementation of the Framework, prioritizing the gaps, challenges and barriers related to implementation, noted in paragraph 5 of the present decision, in accordance with national circumstances, priorities and capabilities;	Anchoring acceleration in the gaps, challenges and barriers ties the call for action directly to the evidence in the global report. Prioritising gives Parties a clearer signal on where to focus effort to 2030.
[16. Emphasizes that accelerating implementation would need to be supported through increased action	16. Emphasizes that accelerating implementation would need to be supported through increased action to address both the underlying drivers of	Implementation cannot speed up while finance continues to flow overwhelmingly towards activities that degrade nature. Removing the

to address [both] the underlying drivers of biodiversity loss [and the transformation of economic and financial systems] [and sectors that have a [negative] impact on nature];]	biodiversity loss and the transformation of economic and financial systems and sectors that have a negative impact on nature	brackets keeps the decision focused on the systemic shifts needed to deliver Targets 14, 15, 18 and 19.
32. Encourages Parties, in accordance with their national circumstances and priorities, to promote policy coherence across biodiversity and other areas, including climate, food, water, health, land-use and sustainable development, in, inter alia, the implementation of national strategies and policies developed under the Rio conventions and other biodiversity related multilateral environment agreements;	Retain in full	Policy coherence across the Rio Conventions is vital for meeting all elements of the GBF, alongside its fellow UNFCCC and UNCCD conventions. This paragraph builds on mandates that already exist, including decision 16/22 and the roadmap on policy coherence in SBSTTA recommendation 27/3, and it complements the whole-of-government approach in paragraph 31. With all three Rio Conventions holding COPs in 2026, keeping it in full sends a timely signal that joined-up action on climate, nature and land is central to faster delivery.

RESOURCE MOBILISATION AND FINANCIAL MECHANISM

Agenda Item 8(a). Resource mobilization and financial mechanism

[Document: CBD/COP/17/5](#)

The current resource mobilisation gap remains one of the greatest barriers to implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. COP17 will be a critical moment for Parties to scale progress, address barriers to unlocking finance and agree a constructive pathway forward on the future financial mechanism. Discussions on finance should support implementation across the Framework, while also contributing to wider efforts to improve policy coherence and alignment between biodiversity, climate and land objectives.

WE CALL ON PARTIES TO:

Deliver meaningful progress on the future financial mechanism: Parties should work towards a constructive and consensus-based solution that maintains confidence in the CBD process and supports implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

Accelerate the Resource Mobilization Strategy: Rapidly implement the 2025–2030 Strategy, including progress towards mobilising at least US\$200 billion per year by 2030 from all sources, of which at least US\$30 billion per year should be international finance.

Act on the findings of the review of biodiversity finance: Parties should address barriers to effective biodiversity finance, improve the accessibility and predictability of funding, and strengthen the efficient delivery of resources to support implementation on the ground.

Deliver Target 18 and harmful subsidy reform: Accelerate efforts to identify, eliminate, phase out or reform incentives harmful to biodiversity, reducing them by at least US\$500 billion per year by 2030, while scaling up positive incentives for conservation, restoration and sustainable use.

Multi-benefit finance: Develop guidance on optimising biodiversity and climate finance co-benefits, supported by transparent tagging and safeguards against double counting to avoid duplication and maximise co-benefits.

CLIMATE, BIODIVERSITY AND LAND SYNERGIES

Agenda Item 13: Cooperation with international organizations and bodies established under other conventions

Document: [CBD/SBI/REC/6/6](#)

Agenda Item 18 (a): Other scientific and technical issues related to the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework: Biodiversity and climate change

Document: [CBD/SBSTTA/REC/27/3](#)

The crises of biodiversity loss, climate change and land degradation are deeply interconnected, and decisive action over the next four years is critical. Each of the three Rio Conventions carries commitments and milestones to 2030, a critical staging post on the pathway to transformative change by 2050. With implementation underway of the GBF, the Paris Agreement and the UNCCD 2018-2030 Strategic Framework, the interconnectedness of these environmental crises is increasingly evident, and the need for coherent and coordinated implementation more urgent. Enabling greater coherence across the three Conventions would increase the likelihood of successful biodiversity, climate and land restoration outcomes, reduce the risk of failure and offer a practical means of accelerating implementation.

The Global Report found that Targets 1 and 14, which depend most directly on whole-of-government approaches, have shown limited progress, particularly on integrated spatial planning, mainstreaming biodiversity into policy and development processes, and integration across levels of government and sectors. It identified better integration of planning, monitoring and implementation across the Rio Conventions and other multilateral environmental agreements as a way to improve efficiency, reduce duplication and strengthen policy coherence.⁴

The decisions on cooperation and on biodiversity and climate change under Items 13 and 18(a) should therefore strengthen policy coherence, promote joint implementation, and encourage Parties to identify and scale actions that deliver benefits across climate, biodiversity and land degradation objectives.

⁴ [CBD/SBSTTA/28/2/Add.3-CBD/SBI/7/2/Add.1](#) Key Message 4, pp. 21–22.

WE CALL ON PARTIES TO:

Maintain and strengthen negotiated text under agenda items 13 and 18(a): Protect and increase the ambition reflected in the draft decisions on cooperation with other conventions (Item 13) and on biodiversity and climate change (item 18a).

Welcome, endorse and operationalise the Multilevel Roadmap: Formally endorse the multilevel roadmap for enhanced cooperation and policy coherence across the Rio Conventions, agree on concrete next steps, and encourage its application by Parties, COP Presidencies, Convention Secretariats, non-state actors and implementation partners.

Strengthen the Joint Liaison Group: Agree to strengthen the mandate of the Joint Liaison Group (JLG) and enable it to fully implement its existing mandate to enhance coordination and explore further cooperation between the Rio Conventions.

Develop practical guidance on policy coherence: Request the JLG to develop and recommend guidance for enhanced policy coherence across the CBD, UNFCCC and UNCCD.

Resource the Joint Liaison Group: Provide adequate, predictable and accessible financial and technical resources to the JLG for the requested activities.

Strengthen national coordination mechanisms: Establish or strengthen arrangements between Rio Convention focal points and relevant ministries to align NBSAPs, NDCs, NAPs and Land Degradation Neutrality targets.

Item 13: Cooperation with international organizations and bodies established under other conventions (Documents: CBD/SBI/REC/6/6). We recommend that all bracketed text be unbracketed and resolved.		
Paragraph	Recommended Change	Rationale
4. [Welcomes][Notes] the entry into force of the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction[,5 recognizes the importance of ensuring coherence, complementarity and mutual supportiveness between its implementation and the Convention on Biological Diversity,] [and expresses its readiness to strengthen cooperation and mutual supportiveness between the Secretariat of the Convention and the interim Secretariat of the Agreement];	4. Welcomes the entry into force of the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction, 5 recognizes the importance of ensuring coherence, complementarity and mutual supportiveness between its implementation and the Convention on Biological Diversity, and expresses its readiness to strengthen cooperation and mutual supportiveness between the Secretariat of the Convention and the interim Secretariat of the Agreement;	Effective cooperative policy between the BBNJ, the CBD and the other Rio Conventions will be central to its long-term success. A strong statement that welcomes the convention and states its significance is especially important with the first COP of the BBNJ taking place in early 2027.
6. [Also welcomes][Notes] the ongoing efforts of, and actions taken by, Parties, the governing bodies and secretariats of the other Rio conventions, biodiversity-related conventions,	6. Also welcomes the ongoing efforts of, and actions taken by, Parties, the governing bodies and secretariats of the other Rio conventions, biodiversity-related conventions, chemical and	Substantive work has been taking place across negotiated and non-negotiated spaces in the Rio Conventions. Welcoming this work recognises this and

chemical and waste-related conventions and other relevant multilateral environmental agreements, United Nations entities, other relevant organizations and stakeholders, including financial institutions and initiatives relevant to thematic sectors, to enhance cooperation in the context of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and other relevant frameworks;	waste-related conventions and other relevant multilateral environmental agreements, United Nations entities, other relevant organizations and stakeholders, including financial institutions and initiatives relevant to thematic sectors, to enhance cooperation in the context of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and other relevant frameworks;	encourages further work in this space.
7. [Further welcomes][Notes] the collaborative efforts of the Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions, and invites the secretariats of the conventions to identify best practices for improving the effectiveness of meetings and to share the findings among relevant secretariats for consideration by their respective governing bodies;	Further welcomes the collaborative efforts of the Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions, and invites the secretariats of the conventions to identify best practices for improving the effectiveness of meetings and to share the findings among relevant secretariats for consideration by their respective governing bodies;	The Joint Liaison Group (JLG) is an established mechanism for advancing cooperation and coordination across the Rio Conventions. Strengthening and supporting the JLG would help improve policy coherence, reduce duplication, promote information exchange and enable more effective implementation across climate, biodiversity and land agendas. Inviting secretariats to identify and share best practices on the effectiveness of meetings builds on the existing work and supports more coherent decision-making across governing bodies. Welcoming these efforts signals political support for the JLG to be given the mandate and resources to do more.
11. [Placeholder in relation to the outcomes of paragraph 6 of recommendation 27/3 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice];	11. [Placeholder in relation to the outcomes of paragraph 6 of recommendation 27/3 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice]; (new text) Welcomes the multilevel roadmap on the headline options for enhancing policy coherence across the Rio Conventions.	New suggested text in red. The multilevel roadmap is a clear set of proposed actions for all stakeholders, including Parties and non-Party actors, to take forward as a tangible way of strengthening cooperation and policy coherence. The roadmap was developed through a multi-stakeholder approach. It should be welcomed as a key outcome and tool.
[15. Invites the United Nations Environment Programme to build on the Bern process and continue to strengthen cooperation among biodiversity-related conventions and other relevant multilateral environmental agreements, contributing to effective and efficient implementation of the Framework, including by addressing the outcomes of the global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Framework, and requests the Executive	Unbracket and retain in full	The Bern process is an established forum for strengthening cooperation among biodiversity-related conventions. Continued engagement by UNEP and the Executive Secretary supports coordinated follow-up to the global review and more effective, efficient implementation of the Framework.

Secretary to continue to engage in the Bern process;]		
[(d) To enhance awareness-raising in alignment with the objectives of the programme of work on communication, education and public awareness on the interconnectedness of the biodiversity loss, climate change, land degradation and pollution challenges, including by addressing their interrelated direct and indirect drivers of biodiversity loss and the benefits of coordinated responses to those challenges;]	Unbracket and retain in full	The paragraph builds on the existing CEPA programme of work and supports the synergies called for elsewhere in the decision. Unbracket and retain in full.
Item 18 (a): Other scientific and technical issues related to the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework: Biodiversity and climate change (Documents: CBD/SBSTTA/REC/27/3)		
Paragraph	Recommended Change	Rationale
[Recognizing that biodiversity loss, climate change, desertification, land and ocean degradation, ocean acidification, invasive alien species, pollution and sea level [rise6][rise and decline][change] are interconnected and interdependent crises and challenges, requiring urgent action in a balanced manner under the respective frameworks, agreements and mandates, in full respect of their distinct principles, processes and decision-making authorities,]	Recognizing that biodiversity loss, climate change, desertification, land and ocean degradation, ocean acidification, invasive alien species, pollution and sea level rise are interconnected and interdependent crises and challenges, requiring urgent action in a balanced manner under the respective frameworks, agreements and mandates, in full respect of their distinct principles, processes and decision-making authorities,	Unbracket and retain text acknowledging sea level rise. Both paragraphs are key in recognising the importance of synergies as a response to the interconnected crisis.
1. [Takes note of][Welcomes] The Thematic Assessment Report on Interlinkages among Biodiversity, Water, Food and Health ("nexus assessment") [and The Thematic Assessment Report on the Underlying Causes of Biodiversity Loss and the Determinants of Transformative Change and Options for Achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity ("transformative change assessment")] of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and [its][their] relevance to the work undertaken under the Convention and to the implementation of the Framework;	Welcomes The Thematic Assessment Report on Interlinkages among Biodiversity, Water, Food and Health ("nexus assessment") and The Thematic Assessment Report on the Underlying Causes of Biodiversity Loss and the Determinants of Transformative Change and Options for Achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity ("transformative change assessment") of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and their relevance to the work undertaken under the Convention and to the implementation of the Framework;	Welcoming both IPBES assessments, rather than merely taking note of them, affirms them as the authoritative, consensus-based scientific evidence for the Convention's work.
[12. Requests the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to develop dissemination tools for Parties, other Governments, observers, relevant organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth on the use of the Voluntary Guidelines and its supplement, which could include the development of a Technical Series issue integrating both	12. Requests the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to develop dissemination tools for Parties, other Governments, observers, relevant organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth on the use of the Voluntary Guidelines and its supplement, which could include the development of a Technical Series issue integrating both	Unbracket and include new language in red requesting examples of how mainstreaming biodiversity into climate change policy can take place, alongside nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem based approaches. Such examples will give additional context and evidence to Parties in

the Voluntary Guidelines [and its supplement], examples of nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem based approaches, activity-based reporting templates, metrics for demonstrating multiple benefits or other practical tools or toolkits, and share them, as appropriate, through the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism and the network of regional and subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres, with a view to promoting both enhanced capacities and the effective uptake of scientific and technical guidance by Parties;]	the Voluntary Guidelines and its supplement , examples of mainstreaming biodiversity into climate change policy , nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem based approaches, activity-based reporting templates, metrics for demonstrating multiple benefits or other practical tools or toolkits, and share them, as appropriate, through the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism and the network of regional and subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres, with a view to promoting both enhanced capacities and the effective uptake of scientific and technical guidance by Parties;	the benefits and possibilities of synergistic approaches.
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MONITORING FRAMEWORK

Agenda Item 9(b): Monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

Documents:

- Technical updates to the metadata for the headline indicators: [CBD/SBSTTA/28/INF/4](#);
- Planning, monitoring, reporting and review, section B, Further enhancing planning, monitoring, reporting and review mechanisms, including the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework: [CBD/SBI/REC/7/1](#)

Effective monitoring and reporting is essential for implementation and accountability. Of the 129 Parties whose national reports were analysed for the Global Review, 116 reported on at least one headline indicator. However, for 19 of the 23 targets, fewer than 50% of Parties submitted any indicator data⁵. The summary, conclusions and key messages of the global report state that headline indicator data are not yet "sufficiently representative or consistent to draw firm conclusions on collective progress".⁶ These gaps weaken accountability and make it harder to direct resources to where they are most needed.

WE CALL ON PARTIES TO:

Fully operationalise the Monitoring Framework: Prioritise and resource the remaining headline indicator methodologies, with targeted support for Parties facing capacity constraints.

Close taxonomic and geographic gaps: Invest in data for under-represented species groups, freshwater and marine species, and data-poor regions, including through partnerships with knowledge institutions.

⁵ CBD (2026). *Report of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice on its twenty-eighth meeting*. CBD/SBSTTA/28/8, 3 August 2026. Recommendation 28/1, "Planning, monitoring, reporting and review", draft decision, para. 5(f)(ii) and (iii).

⁶ CBD (2026). *Summary, conclusions and key messages of the global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework*. CBD/SBSTTA/28/2/Add.3-CBD/SBI/7/2/Add.1, 22 July 2026.

Protect comparability: Keep the seventh and eighth national reports and the first and second global reports comparable so progress can be tracked over time.

Measure once, report many times: Align indicators and data flows with the UNFCCC and UNCCD wherever possible to reduce the burden on Parties.

Close methodological gaps: Establish an ad hoc technical expert group to advise on the further operationalisation of the monitoring framework for the next round of reporting and on improving the methodological readiness of headline indicators for which reporting remains low.

Planning, monitoring, reporting and review, section B, Further enhancing planning, monitoring, reporting and review mechanisms, including the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (CBD/SBI/REC/7/1)		
Paragraph	Recommended Change	Rationale
[17. Agrees to the inclusion of the additional component and complementary indicators contained in annex I to the present decision in the monitoring framework, noting that their use in national reporting is optional and subject to national circumstances;]	Remove brackets and retain in full	Remove the brackets. All additional indicators are voluntary, and these additions would provide Parties with further support for national monitoring and reporting.
18. Decides to establish an ad hoc technical expert group, with a mandate until the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, to advise on the further operationalization of the monitoring framework, and in particular to support the eighth round of national reporting in accordance with the terms of reference contained in annex II to the present decision;	Retain in full	Retain in full. An AHTEG is an important tool to strengthen use of the monitoring framework and close methodological gaps that are limiting reporting on key targets.

SUSTAINABLE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

Agenda Item 18b: Sustainable wildlife management.

Documents: [CBD/SBSTTA/REC/28/4](#)

Species recovery underpins Goal A, but it is too often treated as the concern of Target 4 alone. The voluntary global guidance agreed at SBSTTA-28 covers the management of wild species across terrestrial, freshwater and marine systems. Agreeing the guidance at COP17 is a key opportunity to mainstream species recovery across the GBF, rather than Target 4 alone.

WE CALL ON PARTIES TO:

- **Adopt the guidance in full:** Adopt the voluntary global guidance on the sustainable management of wildlife, retaining its focus on inclusive decision-making, multiple knowledge systems and the recognition of rights, and the equitable distribution of costs and benefits.
- **Link wildlife and health:** Retain references to One Health approaches, including in the context of the WHO Pandemic Agreement.
- **Recover species across the Framework:** Treat species recovery as a cross-cutting objective across all relevant targets, not only Target 4.
- **Connect management data to reporting:** Strengthen national wildlife inventories and monitoring so that they contribute to national reporting under the monitoring framework.

Agenda Item 18(b): Sustainable wildlife management (CBD/SBSTTA/REC/28/4)		
Paragraph	Recommended Change	Rationale
1. [Adopts and welcomes with appreciation] the voluntary global guidance on the sustainable management of wildlife applicable to multiple species and multiple practices [with a focus on: (a) inclusive and participatory decision-making; (b) the inclusion of multiple systems of knowledge and the recognition of rights; and (c) the equitable distribution of costs and benefits], as contained in the annex to the present decision	1. Adopts and welcomes with appreciation the voluntary global guidance on the sustainable management of wildlife applicable to multiple species and multiple practices with a focus on: (a) inclusive and participatory decision-making; (b) the inclusion of multiple systems of knowledge and the recognition of rights; and (c) the equitable distribution of costs and benefits, as contained in the annex to the present decision	Remove the brackets to ensure adoption of the guidance and maintain an inclusive approach to implementation.
3. [Also encourages][Urges] Parties, and invites other Governments, subnational and local governments, and relevant organizations and actors, to strengthen local, regional and transboundary cooperation on sustainable wildlife management for shared species and ecosystems, including on access to relevant technology, information and data [and, as appropriate, taking into consideration other dimensions of the sustainable use of biodiversity] in a manner that respects national laws and priorities;	Also encourages Parties, and invites other Governments, subnational and local governments, and relevant organizations and actors, to strengthen local, regional and transboundary cooperation on sustainable wildlife management for shared species and ecosystems, including on access to relevant technology, information and data and, as appropriate, taking into consideration other dimensions of the sustainable use of biodiversity in a manner that respects national laws and priorities;	Many species and ecosystems are shared across national and subnational boundaries, making cooperation essential for effective wildlife management. Strengthening collaboration on technology, information and data sharing can improve conservation outcomes, enhance implementation and support coordinated responses to shared challenges.
6. Also encourages Parties, to ensure, when implementing the voluntary global guidance and [relevant One Health approaches], including in the context of the WHO Pandemic Agreement]], that responses to disease risks, in particular zoonotic risks, are	6. Also encourages Parties to ensure, when implementing the voluntary global guidance and relevant One Health approaches, including in the context of the WHO Pandemic Agreement , that responses to disease risks, in particular zoonotic risks, are informed by the best available scientific evidence and traditional knowledge, taking	The reference to the WHO Pandemic Agreement supports coherence on zoonotic risk without creating new obligations.

informed by the best available scientific evidence and traditional knowledge, taking into account potential impacts on biodiversity, wildlife health, public health and customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities;	into account potential impacts on biodiversity, wildlife health, public health and customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities;	
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PROGRAMME OF WORK ON PROTECTED AREAS

Agenda item 17c: Strategic review of and updates to the programme of work on protected areas
Document: [CBD/SBSTTA/REC/28/5](#)

Protected areas are one of the most important tools for achieving Goal A and Target 3 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. However, effectiveness depends not only on expanding area coverage, but also on ensuring ecological connectivity, effective management, equitable governance, rights-based approaches and adequate capacity for implementation. The updated programme of work provides an opportunity to strengthen ecological connectivity within area-based conservation approaches and recognise the critical role of a professional, safe and adequately resourced conservation workforce in delivering biodiversity outcomes to 2030, in particular highlighting the critical role of rangers.

WE CALL ON PARTIES TO:

Strengthen ecological connectivity: Recognise ecological connectivity as a foundational condition for achieving ecologically representative, connected and effectively managed protected and conserved areas.

Maintain focus on delivery: Support practical implementation of connectivity measures now, rather than delaying action by awaiting future guidance, enabling rapid progress towards the GBF by 2030.

Invest in the conservation workforce: Recognise the vital necessity of an adequate, professionalised, safe and sufficiently resourced workforce, especially rangers, to support the effective management, monitoring and protection of protected and conserved areas.

Support ranger welfare and professional development: Promote safe and decent working conditions, professional development, workforce diversity and long-term workforce sustainability for rangers globally.

Agenda item 17(c): Strategic review of and updates to the programme of work on protected areas (CBD/SBSTTA/REC/28/5)		
Paragraph	Recommended Change	Rationale
Recognizing that [ecological representativeness and] ecological connectivity [are critical qualitative requirements][is a foundational condition] for achieving ecologically representative, well-connected, effectively conserved and	Recognizing that ecological representativeness and ecological connectivity are critical qualitative requirements for achieving ecologically representative, well-connected, effectively conserved and managed, and equitably	The importance of ecological connectivity is central to achieving Goal A and Target 3 of the GBF and should be

managed, and equitably governed systems[of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, recognizing indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable,] under Target 3 of the Framework, and contributes to the achievement of other relevant targets and Goal A of the Framework,	governed systems[of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, recognizing indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable,] under Target 3 of the Framework, and contributes to the achievement of other relevant targets and Goal A of the Framework,	clearly stated in this decision.
[11. [Decides to establish a fifth programme element][Endorses a cross-cutting complementary activity] on ecological connectivity within the programme of work, as set out in section II of the annex to the present decision, recognizing ecological connectivity as one of several foundational conditions for achieving ecologically representative, well-connected, effectively conserved and managed, and equitably governed systems[of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, recognizing indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable], to support the development and implementation of actions to meet the relevant targets of the Framework[, in particular Targets 1 to 6, 9 and 12];] [12. Invites Parties to reinforce ecological connectivity in the implementation of the updated programme of work, in line with the relevant complementary activities set out in the annex to the present decision and in support of the implementation of the Framework;] [13. Decides to consider at its eighteenth meeting, as appropriate, whether additional guidance related to ecological connectivity is required under the Convention, taking into account the findings of the methodological assessment of integrated biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning and ecological connectivity of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and other relevant scientific and technical information, as well as experiences in implementing the Framework and progress in the implementation of the programme of work;]	[11. [Decides to establish a fifth programme element][Endorses a cross-cutting complementary activity] on ecological connectivity within the programme of work, as set out in section II of the annex to the present decision, recognizing ecological connectivity as one of several foundational conditions for achieving ecologically representative, well-connected, effectively conserved and managed, and equitably governed systems[of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, recognizing indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable], to support the development and implementation of actions to meet the relevant targets of the Framework[, in particular Targets 1 to 6, 9 and 12];] 12. Invites Parties to reinforce ecological connectivity in the implementation of the updated programme of work, in line with the relevant complementary activities set out in the annex to the present decision and in support of the implementation of the Framework; [13. Decides to consider at its eighteenth meeting, as appropriate, whether additional guidance related to ecological connectivity is required under the Convention, taking into account the findings of the methodological assessment of integrated biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning and ecological connectivity of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and other relevant scientific and technical information, as well as experiences in implementing the Framework and progress in the implementation of the programme of work;]	Paragraph 12 is the clearest option, providing space for connectivity to be part of work programme activities while not limiting the pace of implementation.
	14(c). new clause x to sit between current clause (ix) and (x).	We recommend this new clause as it is vitally

14. Requests the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources and avoiding duplication with other ongoing initiatives and relevant programmes of work:	x: The necessity of an adequate, professionalised, safe and sufficient area-based workforce, especially rangers	important that this decision includes a reference to the PCA workforce, not only financing and other area-based concerns. New recommended language in bold red.
Annex Target 20 32. Strengthen capacity-building and development, technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer, on mutually agreed terms, for establishing and managing [protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, recognizing indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable], including with respect to new technologies and institutional support for the conservation workforce, such as rangers and other relevant personnel.	32. Strengthen capacity-building and development, technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer, on mutually agreed terms, for establishing and managing [protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, recognizing indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable], including with respect to new technologies and institutional support for the conservation workforce, such as rangers and other relevant personnel, including measures to promote safe and decent working conditions, professional development, workforce diversity and long-term workforce sustainability.	The role of rangers is central to capacity-building for effective implementation. Rangers play a key role in managing protected areas and their rights. Adding this clause would give necessary weight to the importance of rangers in the work of protected area management. New recommended language in bold red.

EDUCATION FOR BIODIVERSITY

Item 12c. Communication, education and public awareness and the Global Plan of Action on Education for Biodiversity.
Document: [CBD/SBI/REC/7/12](#)

The Global Plan of Action on Education for Biodiversity (GPA-EB), recommended by SBI 7, provides an important opportunity to strengthen the role of education, engagement and public participation in delivering the GBF. The GPA-EB recognises that achieving the Framework's goals and 2050 Vision will require transformative, lifelong learning that is accessible across formal, non-formal and informal settings. It calls for society-wide action to embed biodiversity education within institutions, communities and decision-making processes, while equipping people with the knowledge, skills and motivation to act.

As trusted public institutions with extensive reach, established expertise and global networks, zoos and aquariums are uniquely positioned to support delivery of these objectives. More than 700 million visits are made to World Association of Zoos and Aquariums (WAZA) member zoos annually, while British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums (BIAZA) members receive more than 31 million visits each year across the UK and Ireland alone. Across ZSL's two zoos, in 2025 alone over 615,000 visitors were part of ZSL zoo education and engagement programmes.

The recently developed Zoo Spheres of Influence framework⁷ highlights the sector’s contribution to biodiversity through education, conservation, advocacy, partnerships and community engagement. Through its reach, expertise and established networks, the zoo community can support biodiversity outcomes by engaging people with nature, driving behaviour change, sharing knowledge and mobilising coordinated action. National, regional and global zoo associations, together with the International Zoo Educators Association⁸, provide well-established channels for coordination, evidence exchange and rapid collective action.

WE CALL ON PARTIES TO:

Develop a robust implementation framework: Ensure the GPA-EB is supported by clear indicators, baselines, governance arrangements, resources, monitoring and reporting mechanisms, and an implementation roadmap that enables coordinated contributions from non-state actors. Without these foundations, the GPA-EB risks remaining aspirational rather than delivering measurable outcomes.

Recognise zoos and aquariums as key delivery partners: Explicitly recognise the contribution of zoos and aquariums within the implementation of the Global Plan of Action on Education for Biodiversity. Include zoos and aquariums in national education, engagement, consultation, monitoring, reporting and partnership mechanisms related to biodiversity implementation.

Mobilise existing networks and expertise: Utilise zoo association and educator networks to share evidence, build capacity and scale effective biodiversity education approaches nationally and internationally.

Item 12(c) Communication, education and public awareness and the Global Plan of Action on Education for Biodiversity (CBD/SBI/REC/7/12)		
Paragraph	Recommended Change	Rationale
[5. Encourages Parties, and invites other Governments, [to use] [and implement] the draft global plan of action for education on biodiversity, with a view to supporting the transformative actions needed to achieve the goals and targets of the Framework and its vision of a world living in harmony with nature;]	5. Encourages Parties, and invites other Governments, to use and implement the draft global plan of action for education on biodiversity, with a view to supporting the transformative actions needed to achieve the goals and targets of the Framework and its vision of a world living in harmony with nature;	Unbracket the text and stress the importance of implementation to enable the full operationalisation of the Global Plan of Action on Education for Biodiversity as a key tool for delivering the KMGBF

⁷ Zoo Spheres of Influence framework: <https://zoosphere.org/>

⁸ International Zoo Educators Association: <https://izea.net/>

BIODIVERSITY AND HEALTH

Agenda Item 18(d): Biodiversity and health

Documents:

Draft COP17 decision: [SBSTTA/REC/27/10](#)

Progress report by CBD Secretariat on Biodiversity and Health: [COP/17/7](#)

The links between biodiversity loss, ecosystem degradation and human health are increasingly recognised across international policy processes. COP17 provides an opportunity to welcome the new WHO Pandemic Agreement, strengthen implementation of the Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health, support application of the One Health approach and establish the indicators and reporting arrangements needed to track progress.

WE CALL ON PARTIES TO:

Welcome the WHO Agreement on Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness and Response:

Recognise the agreement as a significant step forward in international cooperation on pandemic prevention and preparedness, with important implications for biodiversity conservation.

Integrate the One Health approach into national strategies and plans: Strengthen policy coherence across sectors including biodiversity, health, agriculture, transport, energy and housing, by embedding One Health approaches within national strategies and plans across sectors.

Establish a monitoring and reporting framework for the Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health: Develop clear indicators, reporting arrangements and review mechanisms to support implementation, measure progress and ensure the Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health is fully operationalised.

Agenda Item 18(d): "Biodiversity and health" (SBSTTA/REC/27/10)		
Paragraph	Recommended Change	Rationale
[2. Welcomes the adoption of the WHO Pandemic Agreement, and notes the potential for synergies with the implementation of the Framework;]	Unbracket, retain in full.	Unbracket, retain in full. The WHO Pandemic Agreement is a key new tool in pandemic preparedness, prevention and response, with major links to biodiversity management.
[5. alt. Urges Parties to apply the One Health approach on the basis of scientific evidence, including completed risk assessments, and by promoting the use of internationally agreed standards and guidelines;]	5. alt. Urges Parties to apply the One Health approach on the basis of scientific evidence, including completed risk assessments, and by promoting the use of internationally agreed standards and guidelines; such as the Quadripartite One Health Joint Plan of Action.	Unbracket and add details of the standards and guidelines that should be followed to support best practice. Recommended additional clarifying language in bold red.
[7. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Convention, subject to the availability of resources: (a) To complete the work conducted pursuant to paragraph 13 (a) of decision 14/4 of 22 November 2018	7. Requests the Executive Secretary of the Convention, subject to the availability of resources: (a) To complete the work conducted pursuant to paragraph 13 (a) of decision 14/4 of 22 November 2018	The Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health currently lacks an agreed set of indicators and a formal monitoring and reporting framework to assess progress and support implementation. While the work

on the development of integrated science-based indicators, metrics and progress measurement tools on biodiversity and health, as requested in paragraph 9 (a) of decision 16/19, through a participatory process, and taking into account: (i) Existing information, to avoid a reporting burden, from, among others, the Framework, the Sustainable Development Goals and other United Nations entities, including the discussions on health-related indicators in relation to adaptation to climate change used in the United Arab Emirates Framework for Global Climate Resilience, adopted at the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, 5 as well as any relevant action under the global action plan on climate change and health of the World Health Organization; (ii) Scientific information from all regions; [(b) To [provide opportunities][convene an expert workshop, [with representation from all regions nominated by Parties,]] to review the list of integrated science-based indicators, metrics and progress measurement tools on biodiversity and health, before their consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice;]	on the development of integrated science-based indicators, metrics and progress measurement tools on biodiversity and health, as requested in paragraph 9 (a) of decision 16/19, through a participatory process, and taking into account: (i) Existing information, to avoid a reporting burden, from, among others, the Framework, the Sustainable Development Goals and other United Nations entities, including the discussions on health-related indicators in relation to adaptation to climate change used in the United Arab Emirates Framework for Global Climate Resilience, adopted at the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, 5 as well as any relevant action under the global action plan on climate change and health of the World Health Organization; (ii) Scientific information from all regions; (b) To convene an expert workshop, with representation from all regions nominated by Parties and observers, to review the list of integrated science-based indicators, metrics and progress measurement tools on biodiversity and health, before their consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice;	requested of the Executive Secretary to compile and synthesise existing information is an important step towards strengthening the evidence base, and should be supported in this decision, it does not in itself establish a mechanism for tracking implementation or outcomes. Convening an expert workshop would help identify appropriate indicators, metrics and reporting approaches, support integration with existing CBD and international reporting processes, and provide clarity on the next steps needed to operationalise the Global Action Plan. Participation should be open to Party and observer nominations to ensure a broad range of scientific, technical and practical expertise is represented. Recommended additional clarifying language in bold red.
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