

CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN ENDANGERED SPECIES
OF WILD FAUNA AND FLORA

Seventy-third meeting of the Standing Committee
Online, 5-7-May 2021

Strategic matters

COOPERATION WITH OTHER BIODIVERSITY-RELATED CONVENTIONS:
CITES INPUT TO THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

1. This document has been prepared by the Secretariat.

Background

2. At its 18th meeting (CoP18, Geneva, 2019), the Conference of the Parties adopted Decision 17.56 (Rev. CoP18) on *Cooperation with other biodiversity-related conventions* and Decision 18.23 on *CITES Strategic Vision* as follows:

17.55 (Rev. CoP18) Directed to the Standing Committee

The Standing Committee shall, with support of the Secretariat, explore options consistent with the CITES Strategic Vision to strengthen cooperation, collaboration and synergies at all relevant levels between CITES and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, its Aichi Targets and the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, as appropriate, as well as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals. This should involve the members of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions, and, as appropriate, engagement with other relevant organizations and processes, including processes under the Rio Conventions. The Standing Committee shall report on the implementation of this Decision at the 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

18.23 Directed to Parties

Parties' Management Authorities are encouraged to communicate with their national Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) focal points to seek to ensure CITES aims are reflected in the outcomes of their domestic processes to develop contributions to the post-2020 Biodiversity Framework anticipated to be adopted by the Parties to the CBD in 2020.

3. In the *CITES Strategic Vision: 2021-2030* (Resolution Conf. 18.3), the Conference of the Parties recognizes *inter alia* that Parties' efforts to implement the Convention may also provide benefit to, and draw strength from, the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. Furthermore, its Goal 4 is that CITES policy development also contributes to and learns from international efforts to achieve sustainable development and Objective 4.2 specifically notes the importance of achieving CITES' aim as a contribution to post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

CITES' inputs to the development of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

4. In its report to the 70th meeting of the Standing Committee (SC70, Sochi, October 2018), the Secretariat explained that, as part of its reflection on the development of a post-2020 global framework for biodiversity, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) invited the Secretariat to participate in the Second Bogis Bossey Dialogue for Biodiversity Meeting (Chexbres, Switzerland, 4-6 March 2018). The [results](#) of the

meeting stressed the need for one key overarching post-2020 biodiversity narrative that can form an umbrella for the contributions of others, including Multilateral Environmental Agreements such as CITES. The Standing Committee requested the Secretariat to issue a Notification encouraging CITES focal points to liaise with their CBD counterparts to ensure that relevant CITES provisions are included in country submissions to CBD Notification 2018-063 with their initial views on the scope and content of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. This was undertaken in [Notification to the Parties No 2018/091 of 15 November 2018](#). The Standing Committee also invited the Secretariat to submit relevant reports adopted by CITES to the CBD Secretariat to assist with the work on the post-2020 Strategic Plan for Biodiversity.

5. The 14th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CBD held in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt from 17 to 29 November 2018 agreed [a decision on cooperation with other conventions, international organizations and initiatives](#). The decision *inter alia* requested the CBD Secretariat to organize a workshop to facilitate discussions among Parties of the various biodiversity-related conventions to explore ways in which the conventions can contribute to the elaboration of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and, based on the respective mandate of each convention, to identify specific elements that could be included in the framework.
6. This workshop was held in Bern, Switzerland from 10 to 12 June 2019 and CITES was represented by the Secretariat and, following a call for expressions of interest among Standing Committee Members, the following representatives from Parties:

Africa:	Dr. Abdoul-Aziz Seyni – Niger
Asia:	Ms. Inge Yangesa – Indonesia
Central and South America and the Caribbean:	Mr. Maurice Isaacs – Bahamas
Europe:	Ms. Anne Teller – European Union
North America:	Ms. Carolina Caceres – Canada (SC Chair)
Oceania:	Ms. Kumaras Kay Kalim – Papua New Guinea (unable to attend the meeting)

At the meeting, the Secretary-General gave a [presentation](#). The [report of the workshop](#) was submitted to the CBD Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

7. A further workshop was held online and via a discussion forum between 18 January 2020 and 2 February 2021. On this occasion, CITES was represented by the Secretariat and the following Party representatives identified by the Standing Committee:

Africa:	Ms. Hayat Mesbah – Morocco
Asia:	Ms. Sri Ratnaningsih – Indonesia
Central and South America and the Caribbean:	Ms Doris Rodriguez Guzman – Peru
Europe:	Ms. Teona Karchava – Georgia
North America:	Ms. Carolina Caceres – Canada (SC Chair)
Oceania:	Ms. Rose Babaua – Solomon Islands

The report of this workshop is in preparation.

8. CBD has established an extensive consultation process to support the development of a post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and a number of other initiatives have been developing inputs to this process. The Secretariat has been following these discussions and a brief summary of its engagement with links to key outputs is provided in the Annex to the present document.

Current state of negotiations on a post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

9. The negotiations over a post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework have been disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic. An [update of the zero draft of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework](#) was published on 17 August 2020 with accompanying [proposed indicators and a monitoring approach](#) and [scientific and technical information to support the review of the updated goals and targets, and related indicators and baselines](#) published on 25 and 18 November 2020 respectively. A first full draft of the new framework will be released prior to 3rd meeting of the CBD Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework which is scheduled to take place in the coming months. A second draft is then expected to be produced prior to CBD COP15, which is due to be held in China later in 2021.

10. Some of the goals, milestones, targets and enabling conditions in the current draft of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework are particularly relevant for CITES and it would be helpful for the Convention if these were maintained and/or enhanced in the final adopted framework. Amongst the 2030 Action Targets, Target 4 is of direct relevance to CITES. Targets 3, 8, 9 and 14 are also of some relevance in terms of sustainable wildlife management and species conservation. Further, the proposed monitoring framework also includes proposals for tools to measure species' status for monitoring purposes, including the: Red List Index, the Living Planet Index and the Species Protection Index. Target 4: *By 2030, ensure that the harvesting, trade and use of wild species of fauna and flora is legal, at sustainable levels and safe* is particularly pertinent for CITES since its headline, component and complementary indicators contain specific references to the Convention:

Headline indicators	Components of the Goals and Targets	Component indicators	Complementary indicator
4.0.1 Proportion of traded wildlife that is legal and safe (not poached, illicitly trafficked or unsustainable)	4.1. Harvest is legal, sustainable and safe for human health and biodiversity	4.1.1. Proportion of traded wildlife that was poached or illicitly trafficked (T4.0.1) by species group	4.1.1.1. Degree of implementation of international instruments aiming to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (SDG indicator 14.6.1).
4.0.2 Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable level.	4.2. Trade is legal, sustainable and safe for human health and biodiversity	4.1.2. Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels (T4.0.2) by fish type	4.1.1.2. Sustainable watershed and inland fisheries index
	4.3. Use is legal, sustainable and safe for human health and biodiversity	4.1.3. Proportion of traded wildlife that was poached or illicitly trafficked (SDG indicators 15.7.1 and 15.c.1)	4.1.1.3. Proportion of legal and illegal wildlife trade consisting of species threatened with extinction
		4.1.4. The conservation status of species listed in the CITES Appendices has stabilized or improved.	4.1.1.4. Marine Stewardship Council Fish catch
			4.1.1.5. Total catch of cetaceans under International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling
			4.1.1.6. By catch of vulnerable and non-target species
			4.1.1.7. Illegal trade by CITES species classification
			4.1.1.8. Number of countries incorporating trade in their national biodiversity policy
			4.1.1.9. The conservation status of species listed in the CITES Appendices has stabilized or improved
			4.1.1.10. Implementation of measures designed to minimize the impacts of fisheries and hunting on migratory species and their habitats.

Recommendations

11. The Conference of the Parties has directed the Standing Committee, with support of the Secretariat, to explore options consistent with the *CITES Strategic Vision* to strengthen cooperation, collaboration and synergies at all relevant levels between CITES and the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. The Secretariat therefore suggests that the Standing Committee should stand ready to provide inputs on behalf of the Parties in the final stages of the negotiations on a post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.
12. Given the fast-moving nature of the negotiations and the uncertainties created by the COVID-19 pandemic, it may be difficult for the Committee to agree inputs using the procedure for intersessional decision-making in Rule 20 of the Rules of Procedure. The Secretariat therefore suggests putting in place an intersessional working group comprised of the Party representatives listed under paragraph 7 of the present document and led by the SC Chair, be mandated to make such inputs.
13. The Secretariat suggests that the mandate of such an intersessional working group could be:
 - a) within the policies adopted by the Conference of the Parties and with the support of the Secretariat, provide inputs to the negotiations on a post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework on behalf of the Parties, with the aim of:
 - i) strengthening the linkages between CITES and the Framework;
 - ii) demonstrating the value of CITES to the development of the Framework; and
 - iii) identifying a role for the Convention in the achievement of its objectives.
 - b) report on its activities to the 74th meeting of the Standing Committee.

INPUT OF THE SECRETARIAT TO CBD CONSULTATION PROCESS
TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF A
POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK AND RELATED INITIATIVES.

1. CBD Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (OEWG)

1st meeting. 27-30 August 2019. Nairobi, Kenya	The Secretariat was represented by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Two interventions and a presentation were made to a side event on “Global strategic plans in other national instruments and processes”.
2nd meeting. 24-29 February 2020. Rome, Italy.	The Secretariat was represented and made a statement .

2. CBD Thematic consultations and other related processes

Expert Workshop on the Communications Strategy for the post-2020 GBF (21-22 November 2019. Montreal, Canada).	The Secretariat participated. The workshop agreed on a “flotilla” model of engagement (each partner communicated with its own audience, while sharing the general goal and platforms where possible) using shared visual branding.
23rd meeting of the CBD Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) (25-29 November 2019. Montreal, Canada).	The Secretariat participated. Decision 23/1 (Informing the scientific and technical evidence base for the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework) was adopted.
Thematic Consultation on Capacity-Building and Technical and Scientific Cooperation (1-2 March 2020, Rome).	The Secretariat participated.
CBD CoP process on Identification of possible targets, indicators and baselines related to the drivers of biodiversity loss as well as species conservation and the mainstreaming of biodiversity across sectors in relation to the development of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework	The Secretariat participated.
Thematic workshop on sustainable use of biological diversity (Webinar: 27 July 2020 (presentations)); Online Survey: 27 July – 17 August 2020; Online Forum: 7 – 11 Sept 2020 ; Webinar (in two time zones): 6 and 8 October 2020.	The Secretariat participated.
Online survey conducted in relation to the Virtual Consultation on the Sustainable Use of Biological Diversity for the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. August 2020.	The Secretariat submitted comments .
Peer review of documents relating to the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework for SBSTTA-24 (CBD Notification 2020/024)	On 15 August 2020, the Secretariat submitted comments .
Informal sessions for CBD SBSTTA-24 (Webinar: 17-19, 24-26 February 2021).	The Secretariat participated.

3. Input through other processes

<p>Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (BLG)</p>	<p>The Secretariat participated in bilateral teleconferences with the co-chairs of the OEWG on 16 October 2019 and 28 January 2020.</p> <p>Joint BLG statements made:</p> <p>Joint statement to the Workshop among biodiversity-related conventions on the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, Bern, 10-12 June 2019</p> <p>Joint statement for SBSTTA-23 November 2019</p> <p>Joint statement to ITPGR-8, November 2019</p> <p>Joint statement to CMS COP13, February 2020</p> <p>Joint statement to OEWG-2 February 2020</p> <p>Joint statement for the Biodiversity Summit, September 2020</p>
<p>United Nations Environment Management Group (EMG)</p>	<p>The Secretariat participated in the 1st (29 November 2019, Montreal, Canada) and 2nd (27 February 2020, Rome, Italy) meetings of the EMG Consultative Process on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, which led to the Overview of the UN System inputs to the development of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework</p> <p>EMG contribution to OEWG-2 and final EMG report Supporting the Global Biodiversity Agenda: a United Nations System Commitment for Action to assist Member States delivering on the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework</p>
<p>United Nations Conference on Trade and Development BioTrade Initiative</p>	<p>The Secretariat contributed to a submission to CBD on possible targets, indicators and baselines for the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and peer review of a document on indicators:</p> <p>Contribution of BioTrade Partners to the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.</p>
<p>Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management (CPW)</p>	<p>As a member of the CPW, the Secretariat participated in two workshops resulting in workshop proceedings which were already made available to Parties in information document CoP18 Inf. 64 and a Powerpoint presentation on sustainable wildlife management in the context of Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework which was given at the CBD Virtual Consultations on Sustainable Use on 27 July 2020.</p>