

# THE MEASURE OF SUCCESS: GETTING SERIOUS ON TRANSPARENCY AND COMPLIANCE

Avaaz's Listening Document  
for the Geneva meetings of the  
Convention on Biological Diversity  
(SBSTTA-24, SBI-3, and OEWG-3)  
13-29 March 2022

L A S T C A L L S G E N E V A

T R A N S P A R E N C Y

& C O M P L I A N C E

# INDEX

A LETTER FROM AVAAZ TIME FOR TRUE TRANSPARENCY, COMPLIANCE AND PARTICIPATION	03
OUR CASE WHY WE NEED TO REVAMP TRANSPARENCY AND COMPLIANCE MEASURES TO GUARANTEE THE SUCCESS OF THE GBF	06
CONCLUSION THE MEASURE OF SUCCESS: MAKING THE CBD CREDIBLE AGAIN	12
GET INVOLVED - WRITE TO US	13
LANGUAGE SUGGESTIONS FOR THE DOCUMENTS OF DEWG-3	15
LANGUAGE SUGGESTIONS FOR THE DOCUMENTS OF SBI-3	21
LANGUAGE SUGGESTIONS FOR THE DOCUMENTS OF SBSTTA-24	39
ABOUT US	44

# A LETTER FROM AVAAZ TIME FOR TRUE TRANSPARENCY, COMPLIANCE AND PARTICIPATION

 8' READ

Excellencies,

After two successive failures in meeting global biodiversity goals (2010 and 2020), we must face a hard truth together: what we all painfully realise everyday is that most actors in society do not see the CBD as a credible instrument. And why would they? While deep changes are being asked from economic sectors and associated public policies, the very forum that is setting biodiversity goals for everyone still lacks the most basic forms of accountability. The CBD is seen as toothless and, let's be honest, quite a mess, especially when it comes to its capacity to monitor its own implementation.

For the past 20 years, the CBD has been dancing around accountability. In 2002, the COP6 decision VI/26<sup>1</sup> already listed 29 barriers to the implementation of the convention at the national level. The Strategic Plan 2002-2010, and the Strategic Plan 2011-2020 (with its Aichi Targets), were supposed to be a response to this implementation deficit.

Nonetheless, as the CBD Executive Secretary acknowledged herself, "the fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlook shows that none of the 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets will be fully met"<sup>2</sup>, and all of the barriers identified in 2002 are still very much present today, leaving civil society wondering why Parties were not able to fulfil their commitments after such a long time.

The good news is that the need to have better "responsibility and transparency" mechanisms is now recognized and is one of the key discussions of the post-2020 process<sup>3</sup>. The bad news is that this part of the conversation has stalled. Because of the pandemic, yes. But also because several Parties have appeared very -very- conservative on these mechanisms, while the Parties wrapping themselves in "ambition"

have only put rather lukewarm proposals on the table. More generally, this issue can be highly technical, even "geeky" sometimes, and most actors involved in and covering CBD discussions fail to communicate on this with the gravity it deserves.

This crucial topic thus tends to fall off the radar to the profit of shiny slogans and other very contentious and divisive issues such as the mobilisation of resources that attract much of the attention and negotiation time. It is a mistake to treat transparency and compliance as issues detached from other urgent agendas. It is precisely because the stakes are higher than ever when it comes to means of implementation that transparency and compliance are needed with greater reason, ensuring that resources are allocated and distributed properly, leaving no one behind on their responsibilities and rights.

The Geneva meetings are when this can be changed: several key texts are on the table and important progress can still be made. To contribute to this important discussion, Avaaz is sending you proposals for the texts. Parties must first stop watering the language down, and then design the different pieces that are needed for these mechanisms to work well and fulfil their function.

The processes that will be put in place must be useful to Parties, and the different steps in the mechanism must be done well and thus given sufficient space and time. There is urgency, but answering it with serious work is more important than communication-oriented slogans. The mechanism must result in the identification of areas of better collaboration between Parties, and different areas of progress at the national level for each individual Party. There must be a continuous thread of actual work, and not of rushed discus-

1 See: [www.cbd.int/decision/cop/?id=7200](http://www.cbd.int/decision/cop/?id=7200)

2 See: [www.cbd.int/doc/speech/2020/sp-2020-09-30-marine-en.pdf](http://www.cbd.int/doc/speech/2020/sp-2020-09-30-marine-en.pdf); See also [www.cbd.int/gbo/gbo5/publication/gbo-5-spm-en.pdf](http://www.cbd.int/gbo/gbo5/publication/gbo-5-spm-en.pdf)

3 The Leaders' Pledge for Nature, signed by 93 Heads of States says: "To put the world on the right track towards this long-term goal will require strong political will combined with real accountability and the appropriate legal, economic and financial tools and incentives." In the [Beijing Call for Biodiversity Conservation and Climate Change](#) (06 November 2019), Presidents Xi Jinping and Emmanuel Macron called "on all countries and, when relevant, sub-national authorities, companies, NGOs and citizens" to "define and adopt an ambitious and realistic post-2020 global biodiversity framework building on the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and the lessons learned from the implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020".

**A LETTER FROM AVAAZ**  
**TIME FOR TRUE**  
**TRANSPARENCY,**  
**COMPLIANCE AND**  
**PARTICIPATION**

sions for the sake of display, on implementation throughout the decade.

To come to the point, this is what we believe would be the main elements of such a mechanism:

**i) Strengthening National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) as the main national tool for implementing the post-2020 GBF** - NBSAPs must reflect the post-2020 GBF and be presented at least partly in a more standardised way. The national targets should be SMART: specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound.

**ii) Enhancing the reporting system** - put in place standardised (at least partly) templates and shorter intervals for data submission and evaluation, in order to help Parties identify and solve problems faster, and facilitate knowledge sharing in a timely manner.

**iii) Putting in place a reinforced individual review-verification** - having independent expert reviews and comments on the data transmitted by Parties would increase transparency, trust, and robustness.

**iv) A Global Periodic Review** - this element would enable more, and better, occasions to collectively assess the state of the GBF implementation. It could take the form of a stock-taking process, aimed at revealing areas where there has been collective progress, but also shortcomings in implementation measures and gaps in the international cooperation framework.

**v) Compliance committee and procedure** - such accountability measures should aim to provide benefits to Parties to facilitate and support progress on implementation. While providing a space for enhanced collaboration, they would also bring some much needed positive peer-pressure.

Each and every step of this process could benefit immensely from the participation of civil society. Its contributions on NBSAPs would ensure that the policies proposed on national level work would function as social justice instruments, representing the best interest of people on the ground, especially women and IPLCs. National reports can provide a much more accurate picture of the progress made on the local level by taking into consideration data provided by civil society organisations, IPLCs and other non-Party stakeholders. Finally, civil society is the best watchdog for a transparent reviewing and monitoring process, subjecting Parties to constructive public scrutiny that will help keep implementation and accountability high on the agenda.

It is time to take transparency and compliance as priorities of the post-2020 process, and we count on you to finally make the CBD credible to the world. People and biodiversity cannot afford another decade of failures, and the CBD deserves a better fate other than being a mere item that is perpetually left aside on the "to do" list of leaders. Addressing this issue with the urgency needed will require courage from you not only as delegates, but as mothers and fathers, sons and daughters, and citizens of your countries, to dare to stand for solidarity and responsibility. And there aren't many places where the stakes of transparency are better known than in Geneva, a city whose public image is torn between the shady symbol of tax evasion and the main locus of world peace building. Choose your side.

With hope and determination,

The Avaaz Team.

ROME, Italy.– Naked Avaaz campaigners calling on the Italian senate to end secrecy in voting posing a banner that says “ we have nothing to hide... and you, senator?”



# OUR CASE

## WHY WE NEED TO REVAMP TRANSPARENCY AND COMPLIANCE MEASURES TO GUARANTEE THE SUCCESS OF THE GBF

 14' READ

### THE EXISTING IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISMS HAVE NOT WORKED WELL SO FAR

The CBD is a wide-ranging and ambitious convention, considered as the first treaty to actually try and make sustainable development happen<sup>4</sup>. The topics it addresses, and its three objectives, concern virtually every facet of humans' coexistence with the rest of the living world, but also directly concern issues of human well-being, justice, and solidarity, within and between countries<sup>5</sup>. With such a transformative ambition, and so many obstacles to overcome, no wonder that its implementation has been challenging.

In 2002, the CBD COP6 decision VI/26<sup>6</sup> already listed 29 barriers to the implementation of the convention at the national level. Despite two different Strategic Plans over two decades, all of the 29 barriers identified in 2002 are still very much present today. Governments have not managed to significantly modify their economic policies so that necessary changes can be implemented within all sectors.

But not all the implementation barriers are “external” to the CBD. In 2010, the results of COP10 were welcomed as a big success, especially in a context where, just a year before at COP15 of the UNFCCC in Copenhagen, the world was afraid that environmental multilateralism had come to the end of its rope. Ten years later, the failure to achieve any of the twenty Aichi targets should have resulted in a real electric shock. What we saw, instead, were a few timid speeches acknowledging that it was an issue (and of course it is), while discussions kept unfolding with an incredible level of apathy even while contemplating failure.

This is what must fundamentally change for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Implementation is a complex issue and we address, in other papers, the question of

financial resources to support necessary changes in economic sectors, the rights of women and of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, and the implementation of spatial targets. But here, we want to address an issue that is cross-cutting and that concerns the “mechanics” of how implementation is being monitored, assessed, discussed, and improved within the CBD. We need much better transparency and compliance, and we now have both the opportunity and the necessary elements to get there.

The current planning, reporting, and review mechanisms of the CBD are not working well enough, and they can be fixed while mostly building upon what is already there. Article 6 of the CBD creates an obligation for Parties to reflect in national strategies, plans, and programmes the measures of the Convention (this is the role of the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans - NBSAPs). Article 26, which creates a system of national reporting to inform which measures were taken to implement the Convention and how effective they were: the main tool here are the National Reports.

The NBSAPs have so far come in too many different formats, with too diverse a content, and often with too much delay, to enable the timely aggregation of national targets to assess whether we were on the right path to achieve global goals. Similar issues have happened for the National Reports. This, together, resulted in the lack of a solid basis to organise a meaningful collective conversation of where implementation was globally, how better results could be achieved, and how more collaboration could enable it. Furthermore, the lack of a specific procedure to organise this conversation has made things even more difficult<sup>7</sup>.

<sup>4</sup> See UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in 1997: E/CN.17/1997/11 - Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity

<sup>5</sup> Le Prestre, P. G. (2002). Studying the effectiveness of the CBD. In Le Prestre, P. G. (Ed). *Governing Global Biodiversity*, Routledge, 430 p.

<sup>6</sup> See: [www.cbd.int/decision/cop/?id=7200](http://www.cbd.int/decision/cop/?id=7200)

<sup>7</sup> Xu, H., Cao, Y., Yu, D., Cao, M., He, Y., Gill, M., & Pereira, H. M. (2021). Ensuring effective implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity targets. *Nature Ecology & Evolution*, 5(4), 411-418.

## OUR CASE WHY WE NEED TO REVAMP TRANSPARENCY AND COMPLIANCE MEASURES TO GUARANTEE THE SUCCESS OF THE GBF

### THERE IS A REAL OPPORTUNITY TO DO MUCH BETTER ON TRANSPARENCY AND COMPLIANCE

Luckily, there are several improvements that are being considered on all of these points, as part of the “responsibility and transparency mechanisms” of the GBF. We would like to insist, specifically, on how transparency could be reflected in the GBF, and how it could support the collective work of Parties to achieve the post-2020 targets and goals. One key thing here is that discussions so far have not gone deep enough on the “so what?” part of the discussion: after the necessary collective appraisal of the situation, what happens next? We believe that establishing compliance procedures, in a collaborative and facilitative spirit, could open up the much needed space that is needed for collective learning and for Parties to find ways to do better.

### THERE ARE FIVE KEY POINTS THAT WE BELIEVE COULD MAKE THIS WORK:

**i) Strengthening NBSAPs as the main national tool for implementing the post-2020 GBF.** This would mean having at least some level of standardisation so that NBSAPs reflect the post-2020 GBF and how countries intend to contribute to achieving the global targets and goals. For countries that cannot fully update their NBSAP quickly after COP15, a short document completing their current NBSAP, and listing how they intend to contribute to the global targets and goals, could be imagined. All of the national targets should be SMART. We thus welcome the proposal of guidance for updating and revising NBSAPs (document CBD/SBI/3/11/Add.4<sup>8</sup>).

**ii) Enhancing the reporting system.** When it comes to the periodicity of reporting, shorter intervals of data submission and evaluation would certainly help Parties to spot

problems quicker, providing urgent course correction when needed, as well as facilitating faster exchange of expertise. Avaaz suggests the adoption of a bi-annual submission of “short” national reports starting in 2024, using the agreed set of headline indicators established by the monitoring framework. These more detailed National Reports would also need to have at least some sections following commonly agreed standards, to improve the capacity to aggregate data. We thus welcome the proposed template to improve the comparability of National Reports (document CBD/SBI/3/11/Add.1<sup>9</sup>).

The current monitoring framework and its headline indicators, developed by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA), should be adopted at COP15 as a way to provide, as soon as possible, the common set of indicators needed to align planning and reporting across Parties.

**iii) Putting in place a reinforced individual review-verification.** There is much to gain in organising independent expert reviews and comments on the data transmitted by Parties. This can increase transparency, trust, and robustness- crucial elements for the other steps. In the document SBI/3/11<sup>10</sup>, it was proposed that this could take the shape of online review forums, that could have one or more sessions a year, to allow for the review of all Parties. We believe that each Party should benefit from such a review at least once in the next ten years, twice if possible, thus once every four years after COP15 and until 2030.

**iv) A Global Periodic Review.** For the GBF, we need more, and better, occasions to collectively assess the state of implementation. This is what a Global Periodic Review could enable. It could take the form of a stocktaking exercise, aimed at revealing areas where there has been collective progress, but

<sup>8</sup> See: [www.cbd.int/doc/c/19aa/a5a0/bd8e096f76c832ca6bctee7f/sbi-03-11-add4-en.pdf](http://www.cbd.int/doc/c/19aa/a5a0/bd8e096f76c832ca6bctee7f/sbi-03-11-add4-en.pdf)  
<sup>9</sup> See: [www.cbd.int/doc/c/c73b/d485/2e44bid6a0502098ad0235a6/sbi-03-11-add1-en.pdf](http://www.cbd.int/doc/c/c73b/d485/2e44bid6a0502098ad0235a6/sbi-03-11-add1-en.pdf)  
<sup>10</sup> See: [www.cbd.int/doc/c/3572/0ba5/0c4f73a13cf0e7b040f7e6e2/sbi-03-11-en.pdf](http://www.cbd.int/doc/c/3572/0ba5/0c4f73a13cf0e7b040f7e6e2/sbi-03-11-en.pdf)

**OUR CASE  
WHY WE NEED TO REVAMP  
TRANSPARENCY AND  
COMPLIANCE MEASURES TO  
GUARANTEE THE SUCCESS  
OF THE GBF**

also shortcomings in implementation measures and gaps in the international cooperation framework –e.g., topics on which more collaboration would be helpful, or where dedicated financial resources and capacity-building would be required. This process could be informed by the National Reports, country reviews, the future editions of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*, IPBES assessments, and other available knowledge (such as of IPLCs). Given how the pandemic has disturbed the timeline, the first review could happen rather soon, at COP16, to take stock of the communicated national targets reflecting the GBF, and to assess the level of collective ambition and whether it is aligned with achieving the 2030 targets and milestones. A more in-depth review could start at COP18 and be the beginning of the process to develop the follow-up to the GBF for the 2030s. The principle of progression (“ratcheting up”) should guide the revision of both national and global targets and goals, both on the outcome ambition and the means of implementation.

**v) Compliance committee and procedure.** Such accountability measures should not be an end unto themselves, where participants end up trapped in the procedures and lose sight of the outcomes they were supposed to achieve<sup>11</sup>. They have to provide benefits to Parties to facilitate implementation. This is where a compliance procedure, aimed at supporting Parties to progress on implementation, is necessary. Such procedures are common place even within multilateral environmental agreements where they contribute to the facilitative and collaborative spirit of these treaties, while exercising positive emulation and peer-pressure at the same time<sup>12</sup>. In other words, while providing a space for enhanced collaboration, they would also bring some much needed positive electricity to the air of the CBD. Parties could decide to mandate an existing body (such as the SBI) or create an ad hoc body, such as a compliance committee,

that could be composed of Party and non-Party technical experts, representatives of civil society and IPLCs, taking into consideration gender and geographical balance. The spirit could be similar to compliance procedures of the two Protocols to the CBD, but we can imagine several new functions. Following individual and global reviews, the body could work closely with Parties for which assistance needs have been identified, in order to help overcome issues. Many examples exist from which we can learn and devise a meaningful space to indeed work seriously and in solidarity on implementation<sup>13</sup>.

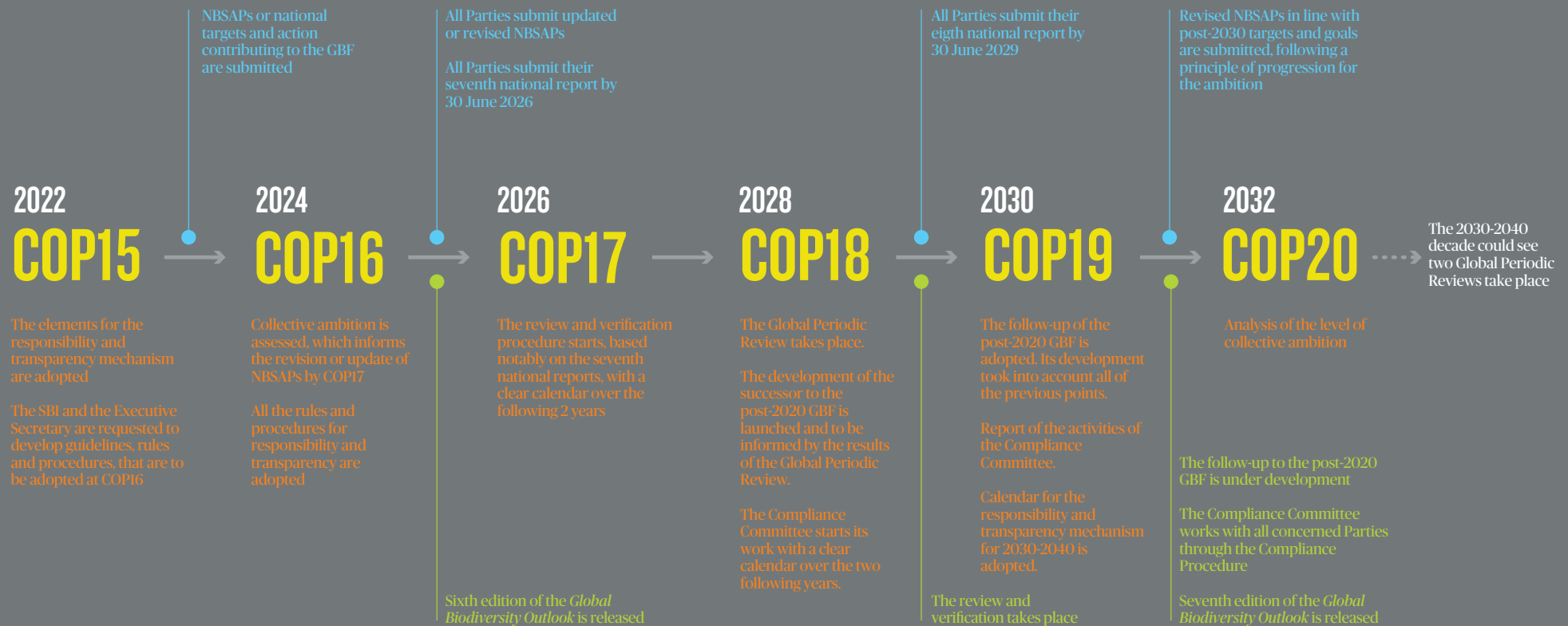
<sup>11</sup> Park, S., & Kramarz, T. (Eds.). (2019). *Global environmental governance and the accountability trap*. MIT Press.

<sup>12</sup> For several examples, see Maljean-Dubois et al. (2022). Towards an enhanced transparency mechanism for the Convention on Biological Diversity: Legal options and possible institutional arrangements to better follow up on commitments. IDDRI, *Study N°03/22*

<sup>13</sup> See for concrete examples: Maljean-Dubois et al. (2022), *ibid.*; Koh, N. S., Ituarte-Lima, C., & Hahn, T. (2021). Mind the Compliance Gap: How Insights from International Human Rights Mechanisms Can Help to Implement the Convention on Biological Diversity. *Transnational Environmental Law*, 1-29. doi.org/10.1017/S2047102521000169

## AVAAZ'S VISION FOR A RESPONSIBILITY AND TRANSPARENCY MECHANISM FOR THE CBD, WITH STRONGER TRANSPARENCY AND COMPLIANCE TO ENHANCE IMPLEMENTATION.

The processes that will be put in place must be useful to Parties, and the different steps in the mechanism must be done well and thus given sufficient space and time. There is urgency, but answering it with serious work is more important than communication-oriented slogans. The mechanism must result in the identification of areas of better collaboration between Parties, and different areas of progress at the national level for each individual Party. There must be a continuous thread of actual work, and not of rushed discussions for the sake of display, on implementation throughout the decade.



Red: Key decisions or processes taking place at COPs  
 Blue: Communication of NBSAPs and national reports by Parties  
 Green: Key collective processes taking place between COPs

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TRANSPARENCY AND  
COMPLIANCE MEASURES TO  
GUARANTEE THE SUCCESS  
OF THE GBF**

**HAVING EFFICIENT TRANSPARENCY AND COMPLIANCE WILL  
DETERMINE THE SUCCESS OF THE GBF, AND IT STARTS IN GENEVA**

The history of environmental policies proves that when compliance is missing, they are doomed to fail. In 2019, a UN report warned that "weak enforcement is a global trend that is exacerbating environmental threats, despite prolific growth in environmental laws and agencies worldwide over the last four decades."<sup>14</sup>

In the Geneva meetings, we must set the tone ahead of Kunming, and having serious transparency and compliance mechanisms is what will strongly determine whether we can consider the COP15 package as ambitious or not. If the history of the CBD has left so far a legacy of insufficient implementation, 2022 can be when we make important improvements while increasing the spirit of mutual cooperation among Parties. In order to achieve that goal, planning, reporting and reviewing should be rooted in transparency, while the introduction of a well-designed compliance mechanism fills a previously overlooked gap in creating a successful mechanism for implementation.

None of the proposed innovations here would require a new treaty to gain legal force. It is within the authority of the COP to make such changes. Even the creation of a compliance committee and of compliance procedures falls within the competence of the COP, as you can see in articles 23(4)(g) and 23(4)(i) of the CBD<sup>15</sup>. This is further confirmed by the jurisprudence of international law<sup>16</sup>. Geneva is when we need to get the big picture right, so that there is time to work out most of the finer details until COP15 and identify what will remain to be done by COP16.

Lastly, with enhanced transparency and compliance, there are important connections that could be made within countries. Every step of the process could be the occasion for increased participation, developing community-based monitoring and regular feedback, and making the NBSAPs and National Reports more visible and useful tools at the national level. On this last point, the COP should recommend Parties to adopt legislation at the domestic level to make the NBSAP targets enforceable, to hold all stakeholders, including the State, accountable for their implementation.

<sup>14</sup> See: [www.unep.org/resources/assessment/environmental-rule-law-first-global-report](http://www.unep.org/resources/assessment/environmental-rule-law-first-global-report)

<sup>15</sup> Convention on Biological Diversity, see [www.cbd.int/doc/legal/cbd-en.pdf](http://www.cbd.int/doc/legal/cbd-en.pdf)

<sup>16</sup> See Maljean-Dubois, et al. (2022), *ibid.*

LIMA, Peru.- Avaaz members participate in a march calling for renewable energy transition during the climate COP 20.



# CONCLUSION

## THE MEASURE OF SUCCESS: MAKING THE CBD CREDIBLE AGAIN

 2' READ

Since the 1992 Earth Summit, the triple crisis of biodiversity loss, climate change and desertification have only increased, and behind them there is a trail of commitments that never managed to leave the paper. For 20 years the CBD has been trying to overcome its challenges through two successive Strategic Plans, but doing better on implementation will remain a distant reality without more effective transparency and compliance mechanisms in place.

The Geneva meetings are when this can be changed: several texts are on the table and shaping them with ambitious language while helping to design innovative mechanisms that lead Parties to better cooperate with each other and show the world that they are able to hold themselves accountable is a *sine qua non* ingredient for success at COP15, finally making the CBD a credible instrument vis-à-vis the rest of society. The changes we're calling for in the GBF are deep and will require a great deal of support from many different actors. But nobody wants to side with losers.

Below you will find Avaaz language proposals for the texts to be negotiated in Geneva. There, we offer suggestions to strengthen and enhance existing procedures, such as NBSAPs and National Reports, in order to increase responsibility and transparency mechanisms. We hope that it helps you in your mission to bring the ambition that our world needs.

# TELL US WHAT YOU THINK, GET INVOLVED!

WRITE TO US: [BIODIVERSITY@AVAAZ.ORG](mailto:BIODIVERSITY@AVAAZ.ORG)

- We'd really like to hear your thoughts. What environmental information should be transparent?
- How can planning, reporting and reviewing processes be more inclusive to civil society?
- How can data provided by civil society organisations, local governments, and IPLCs help to inform Parties on gaps that need to be addressed and progress that was made?
- What considerations should the informant take into account to make information transparent?
- How does your country hold stakeholders accountable for implementing environmental policies?
- Are there particular existing compliance mechanisms that you think should inspire an innovative model for the CBD?
- How can countries increase solidarity by sharing lessons learned and technical knowledge?



ROME, Italy. – Avaaz members deliver tens of thousands of signatures to the presidents of the 6 Regions calling for a referendum on offshore drilling, in particular the abolition of parts of a decree that reopened the race to drill in Italian seas, re-authorizing projects within 12 nautical miles, and depriving communities and local governments of the possibility of having a say.

# LANGUAGE SUGGESTIONS FOR THE DOCUMENTS OF OEWG-3

The purpose of this document is to inform negotiators, stakeholders, CBD National Focal Points, of the recommendations of Avaaz for the development of the Post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

New language proposed by Avaaz is in **green and bold** and deletions are in ~~red and strike-through~~

# CBD/WG2020/3/3 LANGUAGE PROPOSALS FOR THE FIRST DRAFT OF THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK (OEWG-3)

## J. RESPONSIBILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

LANGUAGE <a href="#">CBD/WG2020/3/3</a>	SUGGESTED EDITS	RATIONALE
<p>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. These mechanisms allow for transparent communication of progress to all, timely course correction and input in the preparation of the next global biodiversity framework, while minimizing the burden at the national and international levels, by:</p> <p>(a) Establishing national targets as part of national strategies and action plans and as contributions towards the achievement of the global targets;</p> <p>(b) Reporting national targets to enable the collation of national targets in relation to the global action targets, as needed, and their adjustment to match the global action targets;</p> <p>(c) Enabling the evaluation of national and collective actions against targets.</p>	<p>18. The successful implementation of the framework requires responsibility and transparency, which will be supported by effective mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting, <b>and review, and compliance</b>. Countries, Parties to the Convention, have a responsibility to implement mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting and review. These mechanisms allow for transparent communication of progress to all, timely course correction and input in the preparation of the next global biodiversity framework, while minimizing the burden at the national and international levels, by:</p> <p>(a) Establishing national targets as part of national strategies and action plans and as contributions towards the achievement of the global targets;</p> <p>(b) Reporting national targets to enable the collation of national targets in relation to the global action targets, as needed, and their adjustment to match the global action targets;</p> <p>(c) Enabling the evaluation of national and collective actions against targets;</p> <p><b>(d) Establishing a compliance procedure to facilitate the collaboration between Parties towards achieving global targets.</b></p>	<p>As mentioned above, the preambular text of the First Draft states that the framework's theory of change assumes that progress is monitored in a transparent and accountable manner with adequate assessment exercises to ensure that, by 2030, the world is on a path to reach the 2050 Vision for biodiversity.</p> <p>Nevertheless, as mentioned before, accountability and compliance are still missing from this draft.</p> <p>From Avaaz's perspective, it is essential to have consequences when Parties don't fulfil their commitments. The draft should address this more explicitly and <i>earlier on</i>.</p> <p>Avaaz is concerned by the lack of compromise from Parties reflected in the many brackets left in the base document discussed during the SBI 3 formal meeting (<a href="#">CBD/SBI/3/CRP.5</a>).</p>

## APPENDIX: DRAFT ELEMENTS OF A POSSIBLE DECISION OPERATIONALIZING THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

LANGUAGE <a href="#">CBD/WG2020/3/3</a>	SUGGESTED EDITS	RATIONALE
<p><i>Welcoming</i> the submissions by Parties and observers providing views on the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework,</p>	<p>No suggestions</p>	<p>Avaaz has pointed out the relevance of the participation of different actors in negotiations. For an inclusive transformative change, different voices should be heard, and innovative points of view and proposals should be analyzed. See <a href="#">Avaaz’s response to the draft monitoring framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework</a></p>
<p><i>Recognizing</i> that the post-2020 global biodiversity represents a useful and flexible framework that is relevant to all biodiversity-related conventions, agreements and processes,</p>	<p><i>Recognizing</i> that the post-2020 global biodiversity <b>framework</b> represents a useful and comprehensive framework that is relevant to all biodiversity-related conventions, <b>agreements and processes, Rio Conventions, other multilateral environmental</b> agreements, other international processes and instruments,</p>	<p>Avaaz has suggested that goals and targets, as well as indicators across other biodiversity-related multilateral agreements, especially with the other two Rio conventions, should be mutually supportive.</p> <p>Additionally, the First Draft mentions the Rio Conventions in different parts; and there are targets related with UNFCCC and UNCCD.</p> <p>Also, for the purpose of clarity, we suggest including the word “framework” as it is missing.</p>
<p>Para 6. <i>Urges</i> Parties, in particular developed country Parties, and invites other Governments and international financial institutions, regional development banks, and other multilateral financial institutions to provide adequate, predictable and timely financial support to developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, to enable the full implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and reiterates the view that the extent to which developing country Parties will effectively implement their commitments under this Convention will depend on the effective implementation by developed country Parties of their commitments under this Convention in connection with financial resources and transfer of technology;</p>		<p>Avaaz welcomes the inclusion of the financial sector in the First Draft, as it is key for the implementation of the GBF, as has been presented in different Avaaz documents and initiatives. See our policy recommendations to the finance ministers of the <a href="#">G7 (click here)</a> and the <a href="#">G20 (click here)</a> throughout 2021.</p>

7. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to provide adequate, timely and predictable financial support to eligible countries with a view to enabling the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

7. *Requests* the Global Environment Facility to provide adequate, timely and predictable financial support to eligible countries **presenting projects where IPLCs and women, particularly indigenous women, are the main actors**, with a view to enabling the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

Avaaz suggests being more specific when addressing eligible countries, at least mentioning that GEF projects presented by such countries should be projects where the participation of IPLCs and women are featured as main actors for the implementation of the post-2020 GBF, thus recognizing their role in its implementation, as well as grounding their full and effective participation.

8. *Emphasizes* the need for capacity-building activities and the effective sharing of knowledge, in order to support all countries, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States and countries with economies in transition, as well as indigenous and local communities, in the implementation of post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

8. *Emphasizes* the need for capacity-building activities and the effective sharing of knowledge, **including the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities with their free, prior, and informed consent**, in order to support all countries, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States and countries with economies in transition, as well as indigenous and local communities, ~~particularly indigenous women, and all women and youth in the planning and~~ **implementation of post-2020 global biodiversity framework;**

Avaaz respectfully insists on language that considers all aspects related to and aligned with the recognition of the role of IPLCs as active actors, not only in the implementation, but also in the planning of the post-2020 GBF and the activities derived from it.

Also, aligned with the spirit of inclusivity and striving for a gender-responsive framework, Avaaz considers it relevant to include women and youth, with particular attention to Indigenous women for their importance as vital actors in all schemes regarding biodiversity protection, conservation and sustainable use.

9. *Urges* Parties and other Governments, with the support of intergovernmental and other organizations, as appropriate, to implement the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, and, in particular, to enable participation at all levels, with a view to fostering the full and effective contributions of women, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, civil society organizations, the private sector and stakeholders from all other sectors, in the full implementation of the goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and the achievement of the objectives of the Convention;

9. *Urges* Parties and other Governments, with the support of intergovernmental and other organizations, as appropriate, to implement the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, and, in particular, to enable **the full and effective** participation of **Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, particularly indigenous women, and all women, and youth**, at all levels **regarding the planning and implementation of the framework**, with a view **of fostering their contributions, as well as those of** civil society organizations, the private sector and stakeholders from all other sectors, in the full implementation of the goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and of the achievement of the objectives of the Convention;

Avaaz insists on clarity regarding participation, which includes not only implementation, but the planning processes related to it. Furthermore, the reference to “full and effective contributions” should not be considered the same as “full and effective participation”.

Furthermore, the relevance of the particular consideration of Indigenous women has been explained previously in this document.

10. *Urges* relevant agreements, processes and organizations to consider the development or updating of relevant strategies and frameworks, as appropriate, as a means of complementing and supporting national actions and of contributing to the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

10. *Urges* relevant agreements, **including the other Rio Conventions**, processes and organizations to consider the development or updating of relevant strategies and frameworks, as appropriate, as a means of complementing and supporting national actions and of contributing to the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

*Same as above.*

11. *Invites* Parties and other Governments at the forthcoming meetings of the decision-making bodies of the other biodiversity-related conventions and other relevant agreements to consider appropriate contributions to the collaborative implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

11. *Invites* Parties and other Governments at the forthcoming meetings of the decision-making bodies of the other **Rio Conventions and** biodiversity-related conventions and other relevant agreements to consider appropriate contributions to the collaborative implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

*Idem.*

12. *Invites* the United Nations Environment Programme, in particular its regional offices, as well as the United Nations Development Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, working at the country level, to facilitate activities designed to support the implementation of the Convention and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, in cooperation with other relevant implementation agencies;

12. *Invites* the United Nations Environment Programme, in particular its regional offices, as well as the United Nations Development Programme and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, working at the country level, to facilitate activities designed to support the implementation of the ~~Convention and~~ the post-2020 global biodiversity framework **and the Convention**, in cooperation with other relevant implementation agencies;

Avaaz suggests these edits to focus efforts on the post-2020 GBF.

13. *Invites* the Environment Management Group and the Biodiversity Liaison Group to identify measures for effective and efficient implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework across the United Nations system and to submit a report on their work to the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting;

13. **Welcomes the report published by the Environment Management Group titled Supporting the Global Biodiversity Agenda. A United Nations System Commitment for Action to assist Member States delivering on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and invites** the Environment Management Group and the Biodiversity Liaison Group to identify measures for effective and efficient implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework across the United Nations system and to submit a report on their work to the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting;

The Environment Management Group has produced an important report on the role the UN System as a whole could play in the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. It contains important information, aligned between numerous UN agencies, on, *e.g.*, the mainstreaming of biodiversity across the UN System, or operational synergies that could be designed between the CBD and the UNFCCC, or on how the “chemical cluster” of conventions (Basel, Rotterdam, Stockholm, Minamata) could work more closely with the CBD on pollution issues. See the report and its presentation [here](#).

LANGUAGE <b>CBD/WG2020/3/3</b>	SUGGESTED EDITS	RATIONALE
13. <i>Invites</i> the Environment Management Group and...	13. <b>Welcomes the report published by the Environ...</b>	Before asking the EMG for additional perspectives, the COP should acknowledge what the EMG has already produced for the post-2020 process.
14. <i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary:  (a) To promote and facilitate, in partnership with relevant international organizations, including indigenous peoples' and local community organizations, activities to strengthen capacity for the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;	14. <i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary:  (a) To promote and facilitate, in partnership with relevant <b>national, regional and</b> international organizations, including regional and national indigenous peoples' and local community organizations, <b>in particular those working with indigenous women</b> , activities to strengthen capacity for the <b>planning and</b> implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;	As there are at least five pan-regional IPLCs umbrella organizations representing multiple national or local federations, besides the many that operate at local, subnational and national level, Avaaz considers this should be addressed as such.
14. <i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary:  (b) To develop, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at a meeting held prior to the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, options for the further enhancement of implementation of the Convention, including through the further development of capacity-building programmes, partnerships and the strengthening of synergies among conventions and other international processes;	14. <i>Requests</i> the Executive Secretary:  (b) To develop, for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at a meeting held prior to the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, options for the further enhancement of implementation of the Convention <b>post-2020 global biodiversity framework</b> , including through the further development of capacity-building programmes, partnerships and the strengthening of synergies among conventions and other international processes;	As mentioned above, Avaaz suggests to focus this document on the post-2020 GBF.
(c) To develop guidance materials, including the identification of possible actions, for the goals, targets and other elements of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.	(c) To develop <b>and distribute/make available for all actors called upon to participate in the planning, implementation and follow up of this post-2020 global biodiversity framework, in particular IPLCs and indigenous women</b> , guidance materials, including the identification of possible actions, for the goals, targets and other elements of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.	Considering the urgency of putting words into actions, Avaaz suggests this mandate from COP15.

# LANGUAGE SUGGESTIONS FOR THE DOCUMENTS OF SBI-3

The purpose of this document is to inform negotiators, stakeholders, CBD National Focal Points, of the recommendations of Avaaz for the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

New language proposed by Avaaz is in **green and bold** and deletions are in ~~red and strikethrough~~

# CBD/SBI/3/CRP.5: OPTIONS TO ENHANCE PLANNING, REPORTING, AND REVIEW MECHANISMS WITH A VIEW TO STRENGTHENING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION

LANGUAGE <b>CBD/SBI/3/CRP.5</b>	SUGGESTED EDITS	RATIONALE
OPTIONS TO ENHANCE PLANNING, REPORTING, AND REVIEW MECHANISMS WITH A VIEW TO STRENGTHENING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION	OPTIONS TO ENHANCE PLANNING, REPORTING, <del>AND</del> REVIEW, <b>AND COMPLIANCE</b> MECHANISMS WITH A VIEW TO STRENGTHENING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION	Avaaz considers that these mechanisms cannot be complete as long as they do not specify the endpoint of the whole cycle, and that they should include compliance procedures that enable Parties to have the dedicated space to identify how to progress on implementation, in a spirit of mutual support and facilitation.

**DRAFT RECOMMENDATION SUBMITTED BY THE CHAIR**

The Subsidiary Body on Implementation, recommends that the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting adopt a decision that includes the following elements, taking into account also the conclusions of the twenty-fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific and Technical Advice and the third meeting of the Open-ended *Working Group on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework*:

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Recalling Articles 6, 23, and 26 of the Convention,*

*Also recalling decisions IX/8, X/2, X/10, XI/10, XIII/27, 14/27 and 14/34,*

*Further recalling decision 14/29, in which it recognized that implementation by Parties and underlying commitments needed to be strengthened to bring the global community on a path towards achieving the 2050 Vision laid out in the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020,[1] emphasizes that national reports, provided for in Article 26 of the Convention, continue to be a core element for reviewing progress in implementation as part of the multidimensional review approach, and recognizes that elements of the multidimensional review approach under the Convention should be technically sound, objective, transparent, collaborative and constructive and aim to facilitate enhanced efforts by Parties;*

*Also recalling that national biodiversity strategies and action plans are the main instrument for implementing the Convention at the national level and that national reports are the main instrument for monitoring and reviewing the implementation of the Convention and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework,*

The Subsidiary Body on Implementation, recommends that the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting adopt a decision that includes the following elements, taking into account also the conclusions of the twenty-fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific and Technical Advice and the third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework:

*The Conference of the Parties,*

*Recalling Articles 6, 23, and 26 of the Convention,*

*Also recalling decisions IX/8, X/2, X/10, XI/10, XIII/27, 14/27 and 14/34,*

*Further recalling decision 14/29, in which it recognized that implementation by Parties and underlying commitments needed to be strengthened to bring the global community on a path towards achieving the 2050 Vision laid out in the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020,[1] emphasizes that national reports, provided for in Article 26 of the Convention, continue to be a core element for reviewing progress in implementation as part of the multidimensional review approach, and recognizes that elements of the multidimensional review approach under the Convention should be technically sound, objective, transparent, collaborative and constructive and aim to facilitate enhanced efforts by Parties;*

*Also recalling that national biodiversity strategies and action plans are the main instrument for implementing the Convention at the national level and that national reports are the main instrument for monitoring and reviewing the implementation of the Convention and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework,*

Instead of including mentions to Article 20 within paragraphs, the article and what it entails should be recalled at the beginning of the decision.

LANGUAGE  **CBD/SBI/3/CRP.5**

## SUGGESTED EDITS

## RATIONALE

*Noting with concern* the limited progress in implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and *emphasizing* the need to enhance implementation at all levels and by all sectors of society to achieve the goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework,

*Noting with concern* the limited progress in implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020, and *emphasizing* the need to enhance implementation at all levels and by all sectors of society to achieve the goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework,

**Also recalling Article 20 of the Convention, whereby developed country Parties shall provide new and additional financial resources to enable developing country Parties to fulfill their obligations to the Convention,**

1. [Adopts an enhanced multidimensional approach to planning, monitoring, reporting and review with a view to enhancing implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, comprising:]

(a) Revised and updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) [following][according to] the guidance in annex A, and [aligned][in line with] with the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, as the primary mechanism for national planning in accordance with Article 6 of the Convention; [to be communicated to the Executive Secretary [by COP 16];

(b) [Communication of national targets and actions [reflecting all the goals and targets of][related to] the post-2020 global biodiversity framework [in a standardized format] [and in line with the guidance in annex A], this should be a component of the NBSAP or a stand-alone submission in the event that the NBSAP is not to be updated before [COP16];]

1. **{Adopts an enhanced multidimensional approach to planning, monitoring, reporting, and- review, and compliance** with a view to enhancing implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, comprising:}

(a) Revised and updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs) ~~{following}~~**{according to}** the guidance in annex A, and ~~{aligned}~~**{in line with}** with the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, as the primary mechanism for national planning in accordance with Article 6 of the Convention, ~~{to be communicated to the Executive Secretary [by COP 16-COP 17];~~

(b) ~~{Communication of national targets and actions [reflecting all the goals and targets of][related to] the post-2020 global biodiversity framework [in a standardized format] [and in line with the guidance in annex A], to be communicated to the Executive Secretary by COP 16, either as a stand-alone submission or as part of an updated NBSAP where appropriate; this should be a component of the NBSAP or a stand-alone submission in the event that the NBSAP is not to be updated before [COP16];}~~

1.(a)(b): Enough time should be provided to allow for the revision of NBSAPs, so that they are robust: Avaaz suggests that they should be submitted by COP17. For Parties that are unable to revise their NBSAPs by COP16, they should communicate their national actions or targets to reflect the post-2020 GBF by COP16. Avaaz believes that following a standardized format, at least for the sections of the NBSAPs that pertain to the post-2020 GBF, is now essential to enable better collective work on implementation.

(b alt) [Reporting on national ambition through national commitments as contributions as a standardization of how national targets and actions in NBSAPs relate to the achievement of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework goals and targets; this could be a stand-alone submission in the event that the NBSAP is not updated in time and/or a component of an NBSAP communicated in accordance with a headline indicator-based guidance, and would feed into a global gap analysis of the level of ambition of Parties and other governments to the new framework;]

(c) [A mechanism for recording, in a standardized way, additional [voluntary] nonstate actor commitments that contribute to the global biodiversity framework to be included in the Sharm El-Sheikh to Kunming Action Agenda for Nature and People;]

(d) [Standardized] national reporting as per Article 26 of the Convention [on all national targets identified in NBSAPs] using, [subject to the provision of adequate financial resources provided by developed Parties in line with Article 20], the adopted set of headline indicators and complemented, as appropriate, by optional component and complementary indicators in the monitoring framework of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and other national indicators and aligned, where appropriate, with other reporting processes, including the Sustainable Development Goals and [biodiversity related] multilateral environment agreement reporting by using a modular data reporting tool [such as DART];

~~(b alt) [Reporting on national ambition through national commitments as contributions as a standardization of how national targets and actions in NBSAPs relate to the achievement of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework goals and targets; this could be a stand-alone submission in the event that the NBSAP is not updated in time and/or a component of an NBSAP communicated in accordance with a headline indicator-based guidance, and would feed into a global gap analysis of the level of ambition of Parties and other governments to the new framework;]~~

(c) [A mechanism for recording, in a standardized way, **additional** [voluntary] non-state actor commitments that **aim at contributing to the achieving the targets and goals of the post-2020** global biodiversity framework, to be included in the Sharm El-Sheikh to Kunming Action Agenda for Nature and People;]

(d) [Standardized] national reporting as per Article 26 of the Convention ~~[on all national targets identified in NBSAPs]~~ using, ~~[subject to the provision of adequate financial resources provided by developed Parties in line with Article 20]~~, the adopted set of headline indicators and complemented, as appropriate, by optional component and complementary indicators in the monitoring framework of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and other national indicators and aligned, where appropriate, with other reporting processes, including the Sustainable Development Goals and ~~[biodiversity related]~~ **other** multilateral environment agreement reporting; ~~by using a modular data reporting tool [such as DART];~~

1.(c): Avaaz would like to stress that non-State commitments should not be “contributions” to the GBF in general, but to the achievement of its targets and goals.

1.(d): For similar reasons as for NBSAPs, Avaaz believes that following a standardized format, at least for the sections of the national reports that pertain to the post-2020 GBF, is now essential to enable better collective work on implementation.

(e) [Analysis of [level of [collective] ambition as expressed in NBSAPs] [or national commitments as contributions] in relation to [each country's participation in historic loss of global biodiversity] the global goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework in order to identify [option to further enhance ambition.] [gaps in ambition and to support Parties in addressing and closing the identified gaps, including gaps in funding and other resources provided to developing countries.]

(f) [Periodic review] [periodic global [biodiversity] stocktake] of [collective] progress in implementation of [the three objectives of the Convention], towards the goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, line with Article 23.4, [including [...the 30 by 30 target] the means of implementation/transformational funding and other resources provided to [developing countries] in accordance with Article 20] [in a comprehensive and facilitative manner, considering all goals and targets of the GBF], [in the light of the best available science including assessments undertaken by IPBES] [through future editions of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*], [and local biodiversity outlooks] using the information from national reports, [and information from relevant MEAs] [and information on support provided, received and used] [the global analysis of level of [collective] ambition] and other relevant sources of information [, which would be followed by [and a high level political segment] [and a ratcheting up of ambition and/or implementation] [ratcheting up of efforts in updated and revised NBSAPs] [, as appropriate];

(e) ~~{Analysis of the level of {collective} ambition as measured by aggregating the national targets communicated to the Executive Secretary through NBSAPs or, if applicable, through stand-alone communications before COP 16, expressed in NBSAPs} {or national commitments as contributions} in relation to {each country's participation in historic loss of global biodiversity} the global goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework in order to identify whether the collective sum of national efforts amounts to the level of global ambition reflected in the 2030 Action Targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and whether it puts Parties on a collective pathway to reach the 2030 Milestones considered as intermediary steps to the 2050 Goals; {option to further enhance ambition.} {gaps in ambition and to support Parties in addressing and closing the identified gaps, including gaps in funding and other resources provided to developing countries.}~~

**(g) (f) An individual review and verification of the information submitted by Parties, by peer Parties and by experts, following the guidance adopted at COP 16, and comprising a phase of expert verification and a phase of dialogue between Parties, that could inter alia comprise online review forums, open-ended forums to share experiences and lessons learned, and be complemented by additional Voluntary Peer Review; {Voluntary} Country-by-country-peer {or expert} reviews of implementation {through} {followed by} an open-ended forum {to share experience and lessons learned} which will provide every Party with the opportunity to participate at least {once} {twice} during the period 2021-2030 {in accordance with guidance adopted by COP {15}{16}} {as well as Voluntary Peer Review to promote the sharing of experiences by Parties};**

1.(e): At COP16 there should be a first evaluation of whether the sum of national commitments is putting us on track to achieve the 2030 targets and milestones, and 2050 goals. This initial evaluation could be based on either the revised NBSAPs, or the communicated national actions and goals submitted prior to COP16,

1.(f): The wealth of information contained in national reports is not given sufficient attention at the CBD, and this is a major missed opportunity and of great concern. Avaaz believes that this situation needs to change for the post-2020 GBF; that there must be enough time to analyze the reports, and that each Party should have the opportunity to discuss its national report with peers and experts. This could be very beneficial for creating greater transparency and for building trust. For the same reasons, an independent expert review of reports should also take place to ensure the reliability of the data that will be used for the next steps.

1.(g): A Global Periodic Review process could highlight areas where there has been collective progress while also identifying shortcomings in implementation measures and gaps in the international cooperation framework. It would also help take stock of the wealth of knowledge available to inform implementation, including the knowledge of IPLCs. A Global Periodic Review could inform the next iteration of NBSAPs, of which each successive version should represent a progression in ambition, including on the means of implementation, (as informed by the Global Periodic Review).

(g) [Voluntary] Country-by-country peer [or expert] reviews of implementation [through][followed by] an open-ended forum [to share experience and lessons learned] which will provide every Party with the opportunity to participate at least [once] [twice] during the period 2021-2030 [in accordance with guidance adopted by COP [15][16]] [as well as Voluntary Peer Review to promote the sharing of experiences by Parties];

~~(f)-(g) — A Global Periodic Review [Periodic review] [periodic global [biodiversity] stocktake] of [collective] progress in implementation of [the three objectives of the Convention], towards the goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, line with Article 23.4, [including [...the 30 by 30 target] the means of implementation/transformational funding and other resources provided to [developing countries] in accordance with Article 20] [in a comprehensive and facilitative manner, considering all goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework GBF], including the means of implementation, informed by the analysis of the level of collective ambition, the national reports, country reviews, the future editions of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*, IPBES assessments, and other available knowledge including the knowledge of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, and other sources of relevant information. The Global Periodic Review should inform the revision of NBSAPs, of which each successive version should represent a progression in ambition; [in the light of the best available science including assessments undertaken by IPBES] [through future editions of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*], [and local biodiversity outlooks] using the information from national reports, [and information from relevant MEAs] [and information on support provided, received and used] [the global analysis of level of [collective] ambition] and other relevant sources of information [, which would be followed by [and a high level political segment] [and a ratcheting up of ambition and/or implementation] [ratcheting up of efforts in updated and revised NBSAPs] [, as appropriate];~~

~~(g) — [Voluntary] Country-by-country peer [or expert] reviews of implementation [through][followed by] an open-ended forum [to share experience and lessons learned] which will provide every Party with the opportunity to participate at least [once] [twice] during the period 2021-2030 [in accordance with guidance adopted by COP [15][16]] [as well as Voluntary Peer Review to promote the sharing of experiences by Parties];~~

**(h) A Compliance Committee and a Compliance Procedure. The Compliance Committee, composed of Party and non-Party technical experts, and representatives of civil society and Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, taking into consideration gender and geographical balance, will work closely with Parties for which assistance needs have been identified, in order to help overcome implementation challenges, in a spirit of facilitation and solidarity, and following the guidance adopted at COP 16. Following the Global Periodic Review, the Committee will be able to request from the Executive Secretary the activation of a Compliance Procedure to cooperate with concerned Parties, following the guidance adopted at COP 16;**

1.(h): Avaaz believes transparency procedures should be accompanied by provisions that focus on improving implementation. Otherwise there is a risk of falling into “accountability traps” where attention is focused on the review processes themselves rather than on their outcome. Furthermore, the CBD lacks a dedicated space where, in a spirit of facilitation and solidarity, Parties can benefit from advice on how to improve implementation not only at their level, but also in collaboration with each other. Avaaz believes that this gap could precisely be filled by the establishment of a Compliance Committee that could accompany Parties through a Compliance Procedure.

2. [*Decides* to organize a high-level political segment as an element of the global [review][stocktake];

2. *bis* *Decides* as follows:

(a) At its sixteenth meeting [in 2023], to review the expected [collective] level of ambition of Parties and non-State actors towards achieving the goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

(b) At its seventeenth meeting [in 2025], to undertake a first global [review] [stocktake] of progress and actions towards the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, on the basis of updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans, seventh national reports and other information, including lessons arising from [the voluntary country-by-country peer or expert reviews and] science-based information [including the sixth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*,] [the third edition of the *Local Biodiversity Outlook*] [an analysis of trends in headline and other relevant indicators] and [relevant assessments undertaken by the IPBES;]

(c) At its eighteenth meeting [in 2027/8], to undertake an updated review of progress towards the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, on the basis of updated information provided by Parties, including lessons arising from [the voluntary country-by-country peer or expert reviews] and additional science-based information;

~~2. — [*Decides* to organize a high-level political segment as an element of the global [review][stocktake];~~

2. *bis* *Decides* as follows:

(a) At its sixteenth meeting [~~in 2023~~], to review the expected [~~collective~~] level of ambition of Parties, and non-State actors **separately**, towards achieving the goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

(b) At its seventeenth meeting [~~in 2025~~], to **launch the procedure of individual review and verification based on the seventh national reports and other relevant information, and complete a round of review and verification for all Parties before the eighteenth meeting; undertake a first global [review] [stocktake] of progress and actions towards the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, on the basis of updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans, seventh national reports and other information, including lessons arising from [the voluntary country-by-country peer or expert reviews and] science-based information [including the sixth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*,] [the third edition of the *Local Biodiversity Outlook*] [an analysis of trends in headline and other relevant indicators] and [relevant assessments undertaken by the IPBES;]**

(c) At its eighteenth meeting [~~in 2027/8~~], to **undertake a Global Periodic Review, informed by the analysis of the level of collective ambition, the national reports, country reviews, the future editions of the Global Biodiversity Outlook, IPBES assessments, and other available knowledge including the knowledge of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, and other sources of relevant information, and to launch the development of the follow-up global biodiversity framework that will succeed the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and use the results of the Global Periodic Review to inform this process;**

2. Avaaz believes that specific scheduling of events to take place during the different phases listed above should be elaborated by the SBI between COP15 and COP16 and adopted by the COP at COP16.

2. **bis. Big picture of Avaaz's proposals:** The processes that will be put in place must be useful to Parties, and the different steps of the mechanism must be executed well and thus given sufficient space and time. Yes, there is urgency, but instead of looking for catchy communication slogans, we must respond to it with serious work. The mechanism must result in the identification of areas of better collaboration between Parties, and different areas of progress at the national level for each individual Party. On implementation, there must be a continuous thread of actual work, and not of rushed discussions for the sake of display.

**\* COP15:**

- Adoption of the elements for an enhanced planning, reporting, review and compliance mechanism.

- Request to the SBI to develop recommendations for the rules and procedures of the individual review and verification, the Global Periodic Review, and the establishment and functioning of a Compliance Committee and a Compliance Procedure, to be adopted by Parties at COP16.

- Request to the Executive Secretary to develop, together with the COP Presidency and the Bureau, the guidelines for the first analysis of collective ambition to take place at COP16.

(d) At its nineteenth meeting [in 2030], to undertake a second global [review][stocktake] of progress and actions towards the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, on the basis of updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans, seventh national reports and other information, including lessons arising from [the voluntary country-by-country peer or expert reviews and] science-based information [including the sixth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*, the third edition of the *Local Biodiversity Outlook* [an analysis of trends in headline and other relevant indicators] and [relevant assessments undertaken by the IPBES;]

**(d) That following the Global Periodic Review, the Compliance Committee will be able to request from the Executive Secretary the activation of a Compliance Procedure to cooperate with concerned Parties, between the eighteenth and nineteenth meeting Conference of the Parties, to identify how to strengthen implementation, including the identification needs of financial resources and other means of implementation; an updated review of progress towards the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, on the basis of updated information provided by Parties, including lessons arising from [the voluntary country-by-country peer or expert reviews] and additional science-based information;**

**(d) (e) At its nineteenth meeting [in 2030], to adopt the follow-up global framework succeeding the post-2020 global biodiversity framework; undertake a second global [review][stocktake] of progress and actions towards the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, on the basis of updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans, seventh national reports and other information, including lessons arising from [the voluntary country-by-country peer or expert reviews and] science-based information [including the sixth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*, the third edition of the *Local Biodiversity Outlook* [an analysis of trends in headline and other relevant indicators] and [relevant assessments undertaken by the IPBES;]**

**\* COP16:**

- A first analysis of the level of collective ambition used to inform the revision or update of NBSAPs by COP17 (based on submitted revised NBSAPs or the communicated national actions and targets contributing to the GBF). This analysis would follow guidelines developed by the Executive Secretary with the Presidency and the Bureau of the COP.

- Adoption of recommendations - developed by the SBI for the COP - on the rules and procedures of the individual review and verification, the Global Periodic Review, and the establishment and functioning of a Compliance Committee and a Compliance Procedure.

**\* COP17:**

- A collective assessment of the national reports is compiled by the Secretariat, and the sixth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* is released before COP17 and serves as input to the individual review and verification procedure.

- Based on the seventh national reports and other relevant sources of information, the review and verification is launched and completed by COP18.

**\* COP18:**

The Global Periodic Review takes place, informed by the analysis of the level of collective ambition, the national reports, country reviews, the future editions of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*, IPBES assessments, and other available sources of relevant information and knowledge including the knowledge of IPLCs.

- The development of the successor to the post-2020 GBF is launched and informed by the results of the Global Periodic Review.

(d) At its nineteenth meeting [in 2030], to under...	(d) <b>That following the Global Periodic Re...</b>	<p>- Based on the results of the Global Collective Review, the Compliance Committee can request to activate the Compliance Procedure to work with Parties for which the Committee has identified that special assistance would be useful in order to make progress on implementation. The Committee would work with concerned Parties between COP18 and COP19, when a report of its activities would be adopted by the COP.</p> <p><b>* COP19:</b></p> <p>The post-2020 GBF follow-up is adopted after its development has taken into account all of the previous points.</p> <p>2bis(a): Even if it's very useful to assess the ambition expressed by non-State actors, Avaaz believes the contributions from States and non-State actors should be assessed separately because these actors are not subjected to the same accountability in a multilateral setting, such as the CBD. Having both assessments "in the picture" would surely be useful at some point, but they should first be reviewed separately.</p> <p>2bis(b): Individual review and verification is essential in order for each Party to have time to discuss the content of its seventh national report in depth with both peers and independent experts. This needs to be done well in order to be meaningful, hence Avaaz's proposal that this process takes place over two years so that it can properly inform the Global Periodic Review.</p> <p>2bis(c): COP18 should see the Global Periodic Review take place and see the launch of the follow-up to the post-2020 GBF.</p>
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LANGUAGE **CBD/SBI/3/CRP.5**

## SUGGESTED EDITS

## RATIONALE

LANGUAGE <b>CBD/SBI/3/CRP.5</b>	SUGGESTED EDITS	RATIONALE
(d) That following the Global Periodic Re...	(d) That following the Global Periodic Re...	2bis(d): As stated above, it is crucial to avoid that review processes be an end in themselves: the Global Periodic Review should be followed by a 2-year work by the Compliance Committee with Parties, to identify how to strengthen implementation, including on financial needs and other means of implementation.  2bis(e): All of the collective learning that occurs over the decade must inform the development of the follow-up to the post-2020 GBF.
4. Welcomes the guidance for revised and updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans in annex A[2] [, including the elements related to the communication of national targets and actions related to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework in a standardized format][, including elements related to reporting on national ambition through national commitments as contributions as a standardization of how national targets and actions in national biodiversity strategies and action plans relate to the achievement of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework goals and targets];	4. Welcomes the guidance for revised and updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans in annex A[2] [ <del>including the elements related to the communication of national targets and actions related to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework in a standardized format][, including elements related to reporting on national ambition through national commitments as contributions as a standardization of how national targets and actions in national biodiversity strategies and action plans relate to the achievement of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework goals and targets];</del>	This looks like unnecessary overloading of the text, since it is the content of annex A that should contain these elements.
5. Welcomes the template for additional [voluntary] non-State actor commitments that contribute to the global biodiversity framework to be included in the Sharm El-Sheikh to Kunming Action Agenda for Nature and People;] in annex B;[3]	5. Welcomes <b>the template for additional</b> [voluntary] non-State actor commitments that contribute to the global biodiversity framework to be included in the Sharm El-Sheikh to Kunming Action Agenda for Nature and People;] in annex B;[3]	Within a multilateral setting like the CBD, the commitments of non-State actors must be treated on a different level than those of Parties. They are complementary for sure, but they should not be considered as “additional” as this would only create confusion.

6. *Requests* Parties to review and update their national biodiversity strategies and action plans, including the development or updating of national targets vis-à-vis each of the goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, following the guidance provided in annex A,[2] with a view to contributing to the full achievement of the goals and targets of the framework, and taking into account national priorities and circumstances, and to submit them, through the clearing-house mechanism, no later than [within two years] of the adoption of the framework, [and to update these national targets and corresponding implementation efforts by COP-17];

6. *Requests* Parties to review and update their national biodiversity strategies and action plans, including the development or updating of national targets vis-à-vis each of the goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, following the guidance provided in annex A,[2] with a view to contributing to the full achievement of the goals and targets of the framework, and taking into account national priorities and circumstances, and to submit them, through the clearing-house mechanism, no later than **its seventeenth meeting** ~~[within two years] of the adoption of the framework, [and to update these national targets and corresponding implementation efforts by COP-17];~~

As mentioned above, Avaaz does not believe that it is desirable to rush the development of important instruments such as the NBSAPs. They must be done properly, and Avaaz believes in a participatory way. Revised NBSAPs should be submitted by COP17, but the national actions and targets contributing to achieving the post-2020 GBF should be submitted by COP16.

**7. *Requests Parties that do not plan to submit updated national biodiversity strategies and action plans before its sixteenth meeting, to submit before its sixteenth meeting national targets and actions reflecting all the goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, in a standardized format aligned with the guidance in annex A;***

Linked to the previous point: while more time is allowed to develop robust NBSAPs for the Parties that need it, all Parties should have *at least* submitted their national target and actions reflecting their contribution to the post-2020 GBF, following the guidance produced in annex A.

7. *Encourages* all Parties to use the headline indicators, and to [adapt and] use the list of component and complementary indicators for use in national planning processes, including national biodiversity strategies and action plans [or programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity] and other national planning processes [as appropriate and according to their national priorities and circumstances;]

~~7.~~ **8. *Encourages Requests*** all Parties to use the headline indicators, and to ~~[adapt and]~~ use the list of component and complementary indicators **for use in** national planning processes, including national biodiversity strategies and action plans ~~[or programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity]~~ and other national planning processes ~~[as appropriate and according to their national priorities and circumstances;]~~

“Encourages” is too weak. For the mechanism to work we need a certain level of standardization of the data we gather.

LANGUAGE <b>CBD/SBI/3/CRP.5</b>	SUGGESTED EDITS	RATIONALE
8. <i>Adopts</i> the guidelines for the seventh [and eighth] national report[s] contained in annex C,[4] including the reporting template;	<del>8. 9.</del> <i>Adopts</i> <del>the guidelines for the seventh [and eighth] national report[s] contained in annex C,[4] including the reporting template;</del>	Again, Avaaz believes that room for collective learning is necessary. An updated template for the eighth national report could be adopted at COP18 after all of the seventh national reports have been collected and analyzed, and after analyzing the experience learned during their execution.
9. Decides that the headline indicators [should] [will] be used by [all] Parties in their national reports for reporting on their implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, where technically feasible and as [appropriate][applicable][and in accordance with Article 20][and encourages the establishment of mechanisms to build capacity in developing countries to support filling monitoring and reporting gaps];	<del>9-10.</del> <i>Decides</i> that the headline indicators <b>shall</b> <del>[should][will]</del> be used by <del>{all}</del> Parties in their national reports for reporting on their implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, <del>where technically feasible and as [appropriate][applicable][and in accordance with Article 20][and encourages the establishment of mechanisms to build capacity in developing countries to support filling monitoring and reporting gaps];</del>	Same as above about headline indicators and NBSAPs.
10. <i>Invites</i> Parties to [adapt and] use the list of component and complementary indicators in their national planning processes [as appropriate and according to their national priorities and circumstances] and in their national reports for reporting on their progress in implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework in line with Article 26 of the Convention, [as appropriate and according to their national priorities and circumstances;]	<del>10. 11.</del> <i>Invites</i> Parties to <del>[adapt and]</del> use the list of component and complementary indicators in their national planning processes <del>[as appropriate and according to their national priorities and circumstances]</del> and in their national reports for reporting on their progress in implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework in line with Article 26 of the Convention; <del>[as appropriate and according to their national priorities and circumstances;]</del>	Idem
11. <i>Requests</i> Parties to submit their seventh national report by [30 June 2024] and their eighth report by [June 2029], including information on national progress towards national targets and using the agreed set of headline indicators set out in the monitoring framework[5] for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework adopted in decision 15/–, and using the template provided in annex C;[4]	<del>11. 12.</del> <i>Requests</i> Parties to submit their seventh national report by <del>{30 June 2024}</del> <del>6</del> and their eighth report by <del>{30 June 2029}</del> , including information on national progress towards national targets and using the agreed set of headline indicators set out in the monitoring framework[5] for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework adopted in decision 15/–, and using the template provided in annex C;[4]	Avaaz believes that it is not desirable to ask for national reports so early after the adoption of the post-2020 GBF. The priority must be given to the submission of national targets and actions, to the revision of NBSAPs, and to finalizing the rules and procedures for the different elements of the mechanisms. Avaaz recommends that the national reports be submitted prior to COP17 (see logic above).

12. *Adopts* the modus operandi of the open-ended forum of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation contained in annex D,[6] recognizing that it complements the voluntary peer review included in the multidimensional review approach under the Convention referred to in decision 14/29;

~~12.~~**13.** *Adopts* the modus operandi of the open-ended forum of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation contained in annex D,[6] recognizing that it complements the voluntary peer review included in the multidimensional review approach under the Convention referred to in decision 14/29;

N/A

**14. Requests the Subsidiary Body on Implementation to develop guidance for the rules and procedures of the individual review and verification, the Global Periodic Review, and the establishment and functioning of a Compliance Committee and a Compliance Procedure, to be adopted at the sixteenth meeting;**

Avaaz believes it is very important that the SBI works to develop recommendations on the rules and procedures for the different elements of the mechanism, so that they are adopted by Parties at COP16 (see above).

**15. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare, in collaboration with the Presidency and the Bureau, to develop guidelines for the analysis of the level of collective ambition that is to be undertaken at the sixteenth meeting;**

In order to organize the first review of collective ambition, which would inform the revision or update of NBSAPs by COP17, the Executive Secretary should develop guidelines to maximize the effectiveness of this collective work.

**16. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare the sixth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook*, based on the seventh national reports and other relevant knowledge, including the assessments of IPBES and the knowledge of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, as well as the future editions of the *Local Biodiversity Outlook*, for a publication before its seventeenth meeting, and the seventh edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* before its nineteenth meeting, based on the eighth national reports and other relevant information;**

With all the information already available (e.g. seventh national reports), the sixth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* should be released before COP17 and inform the next steps of the mechanism.

The seventh edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* should be released before COP19 in order to inform the development of the follow-up to the post-2020 GBF.

13. *Encourages Parties:*

(a) To facilitate, as appropriate, engagement with and coordination among focal points for other biodiversity-related conventions and the Rio conventions, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities and all relevant stakeholders, including subnational and local governments, national statistical institutes and other data holders, non-governmental organizations, women's groups, youth groups, the business and finance community and representatives of sectors related to or dependent on biodiversity, in the preparation, revision and updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, the preparation of seventh and eighth national reports and in voluntary country-by-country peer or expert review processes, and to promote synergies with the biodiversity-related and Rio conventions as well as the national voluntary reviews of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals;

(b) To consider the post-2020 gender plan of action in all aspects, and at all scales, of planning, implementation, reporting and review related to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

14. *Invites* Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, subnational governments, cities and other local authorities, intergovernmental organizations, other multilateral environmental agreements, non-governmental organizations, women's groups, youth groups, research organizations, the business and finance community and representatives of sectors related to or dependent on biodiversity, to develop commitments in support of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, using the template provided in annex B,[4] and to register them on the online platform for the Sharm El-Sheikh to Kunming Action Agenda for Nature and People, and to report on their implementation;

~~13-17.~~ *Encourages Parties:*

(a) To facilitate, as appropriate, engagement with and coordination among focal points for other biodiversity-related conventions and the Rio conventions, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities and all relevant stakeholders, including subnational and local governments, national statistical institutes and other data holders, non-governmental organizations, women's groups, youth groups, the business and finance community **(including financial institutions, both public and private, and large, medium and small)** and representatives of sectors related to or dependent on biodiversity, in the preparation, revision and updating of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, the preparation of seventh and eighth national reports and in voluntary country-by-country peer or expert review processes, and to promote synergies with the biodiversity-related and Rio conventions as well as the national voluntary reviews of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals;

(b) To consider the post-2020 gender plan of action in all aspects, and at all scales, of planning, implementation, reporting and review related to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

~~14-18.~~ *Invites* Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, subnational governments, cities and other local authorities, intergovernmental organizations, other multilateral environmental agreements, non-governmental organizations, women's groups, youth groups, research organizations, the business and finance community and representatives of sectors related to or dependent on biodiversity, to develop commitments in support of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, using the template provided in annex B,~~[4~~ **3]** and to register them on the online platform for the Sharm El-Sheikh to Kunming Action Agenda for Nature and People, and to report on their implementation;

Avaaz believes that “finance community” is too loose: financial institutions have major responsibilities here, and must profoundly change their behavior if we are to achieve transformative change.

There seems to be a mistake in the number of the footnote, since annex B is in footnote 3, not 4.

15. *Invites* relevant international, regional, subregional or national organizations to support countries in the updating and revision of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the preparation of national reports, including through the provision of relevant data, support for implementation of the monitoring framework and information and capacity development activities;

~~15.~~ **19.** *Invites* relevant international, regional, subregional or national organizations to support countries in the updating and revision of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and the preparation of national reports, including through the provision of relevant data, support for implementation of the monitoring framework and information and capacity development activities;

16. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to support the operationalization of the enhanced multidimensional approach to planning, monitoring, reporting and review set out in paragraph 1, including, as appropriate, by:

~~16.~~ **20.** *Requests* the Executive Secretary to support the operationalization of the enhanced multidimensional approach to planning, monitoring, reporting, ~~and~~ review and **compliance** set out in paragraph 1, including, as appropriate, by:

Consistency with proposals above.

(a) Further developing and supporting the use of the guidelines in Annex A, B, C and D;[2,3,4,6]

(a) Further developing and supporting the use of the guidelines in Annex A, B, C and D;[2,3,4,6]

(b) Further developing the online reporting tool for national reports on the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention, the online decision-tracking tool, and the Sharm El-Sheikh to Kunming Action Agenda for Nature and People;

(b) Further developing the online reporting tool for national reports on the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention, the online decision-tracking tool, and the Sharm El-Sheikh to Kunming Action Agenda for Nature and People;

(c) Facilitating of the use of tools for data reporting, such as the Data Reporting Tool (DaRT);

(c) Facilitating of the use of tools for data reporting, such as the Data Reporting Tool (DaRT);

(d) Coordinating the preparation of [analyses of collective ambition and] global [reviews][stocktakes];

(d) *Coordinating* the preparation of **the analyses of collective ambition and individual review and monitoring, the Global Periodic Review, and the establishment and functioning of a Compliance Committee and a Compliance Procedure** ~~global [reviews][stocktakes];~~

(e) Coordinating and collaborating with relevant partners to provide necessary capacity [building][development] and other support to improve planning, monitoring, review and reporting;

(e) *Coordinating* and collaborating with relevant partners to provide necessary capacity ~~[building][development]~~ and other support to improve planning, monitoring, review, ~~and~~ reporting, **and compliance**;

**21. *Recommends to Parties to adopt texts of a legislative or regulatory nature at the national level, with the effect of making the targets and goals contained in the national biodiversity strategies and action plans legally enforceable in their national jurisdictions;***

In addition to all the mechanisms described above, Parties could strongly support the implementation of the Convention by taking measures at the national level that are of legal nature.

Footnotes:

[1] Decision [X/2](#), annex.

[2] Annex A: Guidance on NBSAPs. The annex will be developed in the light of further discussions, including negotiations in the third meeting of the Working Group on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and finalized by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting.

[3] Annex B: Non-State actor commitment guidance. The annex will be developed in the light of further discussions, including negotiations in the third meeting of the Working Group on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and finalized by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting.

[4] Annex C: National reporting guidance and template. The annex will be developed in the light of further discussions, including negotiations in the third meeting of the Working Group on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and finalized by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting.

[5] The monitoring framework is being developed as part of the post-2020 process and will be finalized by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting.

[6] Annex D: Country-by-country review modalities. The annex will be developed in the light of further discussions, including negotiations in the third meeting of the Working Group on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and finalized by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting.

Footnotes:

[1] Decision [X/2](#), annex.

[2] Annex A: Guidance on NBSAPs. The annex will be developed in the light of further discussions, including negotiations in the third meeting of the Working Group on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and finalized by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting.

[3] Annex B: Non-State actor commitment guidance. The annex will be developed in the light of further discussions, including negotiations in the third meeting of the Working Group on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and finalized by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting.

[4] Annex C: National reporting guidance and template. The annex will be developed in the light of further discussions, including negotiations in the third meeting of the Working Group on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and finalized by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting.

[5] The monitoring framework is being developed as part of the post-2020 process and will be finalized by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting.

[6] Annex D: Country-by-country review modalities. The annex will be developed in the light of further discussions, including negotiations in the third meeting of the Working Group on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and finalized by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting.

# LANGUAGE SUGGESTIONS FOR THE DOCUMENTS OF SBSTTA-24

The purpose of this document is to inform negotiators, stakeholders, CBD National Focal Points, of the recommendations of Avaaz for the development of the Post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

New language proposed by Avaaz is in **green and bold** and deletions are in ~~red and strikethrough~~

# CBD/SBSTTA/24/L.3: POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK: SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION TO SUPPORT THE REVIEW OF THE UPDATED GOALS AND TARGETS, AND RELATED INDICATORS AND BASELINES

## LANGUAGE CBD/SBSTTA/24/L.3

## SUGGESTED EDITS

## COMMENTS AND RATIONALE

2. *Decides* to use the period from [2011-2020], where data is available, as the reference period, unless otherwise indicated, for reporting and monitoring progress in the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, [while *noting*][and *recognizes*] that baselines, conditions and periods used to express [different responsibilities,] desirable states or levels of ambition in goals and targets should, where relevant, take into account [historical trends,][ historic loss,] current status, and future scenarios of biodiversity [, including available information on the pre-industrial period];

2. *Decides* to use the period from {2011-2020}, where data is available, as the reference period, unless otherwise indicated, for reporting and monitoring progress in the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, {~~while noting~~}and *recognizes* that baselines, conditions and periods used to ~~express~~ {different responsibilities,} **recall** desirable states or levels of ambition in goals and targets **should**, **could**, where relevant, take into account [historical trends,][ ~~historic loss,~~] current status, and future scenarios of biodiversity [~~, including available information on the pre-industrial period~~];

Baselines are indispensable for reporting, monitoring, defining new pathways to speed up recovery and even to define the necessary outcomes to achieve, in a timely manner, the set goals and targets.

Avaaz considers that diluting current scenarios within too vast of a timeframe would not provide the needed information for necessary action, transparency and accountability.

3. *Also decides* to consider a review of the monitoring framework in order to finish its development at its sixteenth meeting, and thereafter keep the monitoring framework under review, as appropriate;

No suggestions.

Avaaz considers that the monitoring should be adopted at COP15. A review at COP16 would be useful to take into account learned experiences while using the framework, but it should be ready for use after COP15, especially since time has already passed during this decade.

## LANGUAGE CBD/SBSTTA/24/L.3

## SUGGESTED EDITS

## COMMENTS AND RATIONALE

<p>5. [Also decides that the headline indicators [should] [will] be used by [all] Parties in their national reports for reporting on their implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, where technically feasible and as [appropriate][applicable][and in accordance with Article 20][and encourages the establishment of mechanisms to build capacity in developing countries to support filling monitoring and reporting gaps];]</p>	<p>5. [Also decides that the headline indicators <del>should</del> <del>will</del>] be used by <del>all</del>] Parties in their national reports for reporting on their implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, where technically feasible and as <del>appropriate</del><del>applicable</del><del>and in accordance with Article 20</del>]and encourages the establishment of mechanisms to build capacity in developing countries to support filling monitoring and reporting gaps];]</p>	<p>Article 20 of the CBD enshrines fundamental principles of cooperation and solidarity in the implementation of the Convention. If Parties wish to recall this, they can add a paragraph at the beginning of the document, as we suggest to do for CBD/SBI/3/CRP.5.</p>
<p>9. [Encourages] [urges] Parties [, pursuant to article 20,] and invites other Governments, the Global Environment Facility, the Biodiversity Indicator Partnership, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and other relevant organizations [and those invited to be part of the technical expert group on indicators] to support national, regional and global biodiversity monitoring systems;</p>	<p>9. <del>Encourages</del> <del>Urges</del>] Parties <del>[, pursuant to article 20,]</del> and invites other Governments, the Global Environment Facility, the Biodiversity Indicator Partnership, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and other relevant organizations <del>[and those invited to be part of the technical expert group on indicators]</del> to support national, regional and global biodiversity monitoring systems;</p>	<p>National, regional and global biodiversity monitoring systems are indispensable for reporting and defining new paths to speed up recovery and even to define the necessary modifications to achieve, in a timely manner, the set goals and targets.</p>
<p>15. [Requests the Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions to continue the development of and operationalization of indicators related to traditional knowledge and Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities and report on this work to the Parties and for the Secretariat to make information available on progress and outcomes to the ad hoc technical expert group [and other relevant working groups];]</p>	<p>15. <del>Requests</del> the Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions to continue the development of and operationalization of indicators related to <del>traditional knowledge and</del> Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities <b>full and effective participation in the planning, implementation and review of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, including traditional knowledge</b>, and report on this work <del>to the Parties and for the Secretariat to make information available on progress and outcomes</del> to the ad hoc technical expert <b>group established to advise on the further operationalization of the monitoring framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, with a time-bound mandate until the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;</b> <del>[and other relevant working groups];]</del></p>	<p>The full and effective participation of IPLCs should be their active participation in the planning, implementation and review of the post-2020 GBF. The time it takes for reporting to the Parties and for the Secretariat to make this information available to the ad hoc technical expert group could delay the consideration of the progress and outcomes regarding the role of IPLCs in biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, including matters related to traditional knowledge. Furthermore, if the ad hoc expert group is under a time-bound mandate (as determined in paragraph 11 of this Decision), the passing of from the WG8j to the Parties to the Secretariat to the ad hoc expert group would leave IPLCs out of time to provide input towards the process.</p>

## LANGUAGE CBD/SBSTTA/24/L.3

## SUGGESTED EDITS

## COMMENTS AND RATIONALE

16. Requests the Executive Secretary [subject to the availability of resources], in collaboration with relevant partners:

(a) To [make available] [facilitate the development of] guidance on capacity [development][building] to support Parties to implement the monitoring framework, taking into account the special needs, circumstances and priorities of developing countries, [in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States, and countries with economies in transition], in compiling and using the headline indicators, and component and complementary indicators when relevant, including in their national reports, national biodiversity strategies and action plans and other national planning processes;

16. Requests the Executive Secretary ~~subject to the availability of resources~~, in collaboration with relevant partners:

(a) To ~~make available~~ **or** ~~facilitate the development of~~ **guidance on** capacity ~~development~~~~building~~ to support Parties **and other relevant stakeholders, in particular Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities**, to implement the monitoring framework, taking into account the special needs, circumstances and priorities of developing countries, ~~in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States, and countries with economies in transition~~, in compiling and using the headline indicators, and component and complementary indicators when relevant, including in their national reports, national biodiversity strategies and action plans and other national planning processes;

The added text is a logical continuation of what has been commented for para 15.

Paragraph 1 of the Annex

1. The Group will work:

(d) To provide guidance to Parties on ways to fill temporal and spatial data gaps, including through the use of big data, including citizen science, community-based monitoring and information systems, remote sensing, modelling and statistical analysis, and other forms of data and other knowledge systems, recognizing the specific challenges faced by developing country Parties to develop and access information tools;

Paragraph 1 of the Annex

1. The Group will work:

(d) To provide guidance to Parties **and other relevant stakeholders, in particular Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities**, on ways to fill temporal and spatial data gaps, including through the use of big data, including citizen science, community-based monitoring and information systems, remote sensing, modelling and statistical analysis, and other forms of data and other knowledge systems, recognizing the specific challenges faced by developing country Parties **and other relevant stakeholders**, to develop and access information tools;

In line with previous comments.

*Paragraph 6 of the Annex*

The Group may also invite other experts, as appropriate, from national Governments, [subnational and local governments,] the United Nations and other international organizations, civil society, youth, women’s groups, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, including representatives from the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions, academia and the private sector to contribute their expertise and experiences on specific issues related to the terms of reference of the Group.

*Paragraph 6 of the Annex*

The Group ~~may also~~ **will** invite other experts, as appropriate, from national Governments, ~~f~~subnational and local governments,~~‡~~ the United Nations and other international organizations, civil society, youth, women’s groups, Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, including representatives from the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions, academia and the private sector to contribute their expertise and experiences on specific issues related to the terms of reference of the Group.

In line with previous comments.

Furthermore, there is no need to leave it open to possibility (using the phrase “may also”) if several paragraphs of the proposed Decision already refer to the involvement of these actors.



# ABOUT US

## ABOUT US

Avaaz – meaning "voice" in several European, Middle Eastern and Asian languages– launched in 2007 with a simple democratic mission: organize citizens of all nations to close the gap between the world we have and the world most people everywhere want. Currently, Avaaz has a membership of almost 70 million people from all countries and territories.

Avaaz empowers millions of people from all walks of life to take action on pressing global, regional and national issues, from corruption and poverty to conflict and the environment. Our model of internet organising allows thousands of individual efforts, however small, to be rapidly combined into a collective force.

Each year, Avaaz sets overall priorities through all-member polls. For the 2021-2022 period, our membership have chosen the following top five priorities: climate change (54.94%), defending human rights (33.43%), protecting biodiversity and ending the extinction crisis (31.14%), fighting polarisation, extremism and defending democracy (27.82%), and tackling poverty (25.56%).

In other words, the Avaaz staff doesn't set an agenda in advance to try and convince members to go along with. It's quite the opposite: Avaaz staff create actions that are in line with priorities chosen by members. Because Avaaz is wholly member-funded, democratic accountability is in our DNA: we don't accept funds from governments, corporations, political parties, or foundations, and have policies in place to limit disproportionate influence of high net worth individuals: we thus only receive small individual donations, and the highest amount we can accept is US\$ 5,000.

Our community runs campaigns in 17 languages, served by a core team on 6 continents and thousands of volunteers. We take action – delivering petitions, researching, emailing, lobbying governments, organizing "offline" protests and events, and funding grassroots campaigns, litigation, or direct actions on the ground– to ensure that the views and values of the world's people inform the decisions that affect us all.

Avaaz is mobilized on all three Rio conventions through engaging with civil society at the national and global level, and with officials from Parties and international organizations to connect each sector of society in the common goal towards a sustainable future.

At the Convention of Biological Diversity, among many other contributions, Avaaz has provided suggestions and comments for the following documents:

- [Zero Draft of the global biodiversity framework](#)
- [SBSTTA-24 documents on the updated plan of action 2020-2030 for the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity](#)
- [SBSTTA-24 Draft monitoring framework](#)
- [SBSTTA-24 Review on linkages between the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework and 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#)
- [SBI-3 contribution on transparency and participation](#)
- [SBI-3 contribution with a proposal to revamp resource mobilization and financial mechanism response to implement a strong and inclusive global biodiversity framework](#)

- [OEWG-3 comments and suggestions on the First Draft of the global biodiversity framework](#)
- [COP 15 \(Part 1\) and comments on the First Draft of the Post-2020 global biodiversity framework \(Avaaz's Listening Document\)](#)

Avaaz has also been active in the civil society space of the CBD, and has shared positions with other progressive movements. Some examples:

- [Joint statement on the 23rd Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, in which Avaaz is a co-signatory.](#)
- [Joint statement on ABCMs workshop, in which Avaaz is a co-signatory.](#)
- [Joint statement over the High-Level Summit on Biodiversity, in which Avaaz is co-signatory.](#)
- [Joint position statement over the Global Biodiversity Framework, in which Avaaz is a co-signatory.](#)
- [Joint statement on the outcomes of the IUCN World Conservation Congress 2020, in reference to the CBD COP15, in which Avaaz is co-signatory.](#)
- [Open letter from civil society to world leaders ahead of the COP-15 \(part 1\): Put human rights at the centre of environmental policy, in which Avaaz is co-signatory](#)

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