



**Convention on  
Biological Diversity**

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BUREAU OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE  
PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON  
BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY  
26 April 2022

**MINUTES OF THE SECOND TELECONFERENCE OF THE BUREAU OF THE  
CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES IN THE INTER-SESSIONAL PERIOD**

1. A teleconference session of the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties was held via MS Teams on 26 April 2022 to review the organization of work of the fourth meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (WG2020-4) scheduled for 21 – 26 June 2022 in Nairobi, Kenya as well as to take stock of relevant inter-sessional work agreed upon at the resumed sessions of the Twenty-fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, (SBSTTA-24), the Third meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI-3) and the Third meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (WG2020-3) in Geneva, Switzerland.

2. The meeting was attended by the following members of the COP Bureau and substitutes:

*Representative of the COP President:* Ms. Guomei Zhou (China);

*Africa:* Mr. Eric Okoree (Ghana); Mr. Melesse Maryo (Ethiopia);

*Asia and the Pacific:* Mr. Naresh Gangwar (India); Ms. Leina Al-Awadhi (Kuwait);

*Latin America and the Caribbean:* Ms. Helena Jeffery Brown (Antigua and Barbuda); Ms. Eugenia Arguedas Montezuma (Costa Rica); Mr. Joaquín Salzberg (Argentina, substitute for Costa Rica for matters related to the Nagoya Protocol);

*Central and Eastern Europe:* Ms. Teona Karchava (Georgia); Ms. Elvana Ramaj (Albania); Mr. Mr. Dilovarsho Dustzoda (Tajikistan, substitute for Georgia for matters related to the Nagoya Protocol);

*Western Europe and Others:* Ms. Gabriele Obermayr (Austria); Ms. Rosemary Paterson (New Zealand); and Ms. Marie Haraldstad (Norway, substitute for New Zealand for matters related to the Nagoya Protocol);

*Ex-officio:* Ms. Charlotta Sörqvist (Sweden), Chair of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation; Mr. Hesiquio Benítez (Mexico), Chair of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice; Mr. Basile van Havre (Canada) and Mr. Francis Ogwal (Uganda), Co-chairs of the Open-Ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework; Mr. Hamdallah Zedan, representative of COP 14 Presidency;

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*Observers:* Mr. Ning Liu (China), Mr. Yingxian Xia (China), Ms. Xin Jing(China), Mr. Hongtao Li (China); Ms. Yunfang Hu (China), Ms. Jing Guan(China), Ms. Lei Wang(China), Ms. Yulin Fu (China) COP 15 host representatives; Mr. Neville Ashe (UNEP).

3. The Secretariat was represented by Mrs. Elizabeth Mrema, Executive Secretary; Mr. David Cooper, Deputy Executive Secretary; Ms. Jyoti Mathur-Filipp, Director of Implementation Support Division; Ms. Jihyun Lee, Director of Science, Society and Sustainable Futures Division; Mr. Wataru Suzuki, Global Coordinator for the Japan Biodiversity Fund; Mr. Worku Yifru, Senior Legal Officer; Ms. Wadzanayi Mandivenyi, Head, Biosafety Protocol Unit; Mr. Taukondjo Shikongo, Head, Nagoya Protocol Unit; Ms. Gu Li, Programme Officer; Ms. Gudrun Fosse, Head of Administration; Mr. Erie Tamale, Senior Programme Officer; Mr. Markus Lehmann, Senior Programme Officer; Ms. Jillian Campbell, Senior Programme Officer; and Mr. David Ainsworth, Information Officer.

#### **ITEM 1. OPENING OF THE MEETING**

4. The teleconference was opened on 26 April at 7:20 a.m. Geneva time by Ms. Guomei Zhou, representative of the President of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties. The Chair welcomed the Bureau and expressed the appreciation of the Presidency for their dedication and contribution during the successful discussions held in Geneva. For the work ahead, she made several observations, emphasizing the importance of a shared understanding of the expected outcomes and enabling conditions for the fourth meeting of the Working Group (WG2020-4) in Nairobi, and highlighting the importance of the co-leads playing a more prominent role for WG2020-4 for effective time management. She noted that Parties would continue to count on the Bureau for guidance during the meeting. She concluded by noting that the Presidency would play its full role in supporting the preparations and looked forward to working together towards the same direction.

5. At the invitation of the Chair, the Executive Secretary delivered brief welcome remarks. She began by noting that good progress was made in Geneva but that much more remained to be done. She informed the participants that the Secretariat had issued two notifications concerning inter-sessional work (on reporting and review mechanisms, and on indicators) and had issued letters to donors calling for support for the convening of WG2020-4 and the participation of delegates and representatives of IPLCs. She noted that logistical preparations were going well and that Parties had been invited to submit nominations for the meeting, as well as requests for financial support, where appropriate. She encouraged the Bureau members to ensure their regions submit nominations and requests for funding, where eligible, as soon as possible. The Executive Secretary highlighted the fact that WG2020-4 had not been budgeted and that, to date, the Secretariat still urgently required funds to cover the cost of the meeting. Regarding funds for the participation of eligible delegates, the Executive Secretary thanked Sweden for their financial pledge and informed that discussions are being held with other countries for additional contributions, but overall more support is urgently required. She then asked the Bureau for a moment of silence in honor of Johan Hedlund, Associate Information Officer in the Communications team, who had recently passed away. She concluded by wishing the Bureau members fruitful discussions.

#### **ITEM 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

6. The Chair introduced the provisional agenda for the Bureau session and indicated that a brief update on COP 15.2 preparations would be included under Other Matters, and after no objections from the members, the agenda was adopted.

#### **ITEM 3. PREPARATIONS FOR THE FOURTH MEETING OF THE OPEN-ENDED WORKING GROUP ON THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK (WG2020-4)**

7. Under this agenda item, the Chair began by inviting the Co-Chairs to provide a brief overview of the annotated agenda and organization of work for the WG2020-4.

8. Mr. Basile van Havre and Mr. Francis Ogwal made a presentation to the participants that provided an overview of key elements regarding WG2020-4, including their thinking on how to bring many of the

different pieces together and to integrate them in the global biodiversity framework. They outlined that they envisioned the inter-sessional on monitoring and indicators would relate to the work of the fourth meeting. They noted their expectations for work on DSI taking into account the work of the advisory group. Regarding the draft post-2020 global biodiversity framework itself, the Co-Chairs presented a summary of the work achieved, partially achieved and the work that was not done in Geneva. They noted Geneva was a turning point as they went from the text the Co-chairs had written to now the text that was owned by Parties, and although the text was long and complex and there was a need to make it shorter and simpler, their role would be to guide and prepare for the meeting, not to change the draft. They indicated they would be working with the Co-leads to ensure discussions take into consideration the whole draft and avoid repetition. Mr. van Havre and Mr. Ogwal informed the participants that they decided to create an additional contact group to look at sections A-D and H-K to allow the Co-leads to focus more on the goals. The proposed Co-leads of this contact group were Mr. Dilovarsho Dustzoda from Tajikistan and Ms. Marie-May Muzunguile from Seychelles.

9. The Co-Chairs then described how they would like to proceed with the organization of work including discussing sections that were not discussed at WG2020-3 and proceeding to sections that were partially discussed and continue negotiations. They also noted that a Friends of the Co-leads could be formed to review the overall text and review for consistency and integration. They indicated that parallel contact groups would start on day 2 and that some time in the evenings would be reserved for potential meetings of Friends of the Chair groups. They noted that there would be very limited number of information sessions at lunchtimes. They then presented an overview of the schedule. They invited the Bureau to approve the agenda and annotated agenda.

10. The Secretariat complemented the briefing of the Co-Chairs by noting that the report of the Geneva meeting, which would be the main basis for the work in Nairobi, would be posted very shortly. A few other documents may also be prepared. It was also noted that the Glossary would be updated based on what happened in Geneva and would also be uploaded soon.

11. The Chair thanked the Co-Chairs for the overview and before inviting the Bureau for comments and questions, invited the Deputy Executive Secretary to provide an overview of the financial situation and the logistical preparations for the meeting.

12. The Deputy Executive Secretary, Mr. David Cooper, noted that logistical preparations for the meeting were in hand. To minimize the risk from COVID-19, similar measures to those employed in Geneva would be put in place with regards to regular testing, use of face masks and social distancing, although it was not envisaged that it would be necessary to restrict numbers in the venue as a whole, given the largely outdoor setting.

13. The Deputy Executive Secretary also informed the Bureau that on 1 April, further to the decision of the Working Group at its third meeting and its call for Parties in a position to do so to contribute the necessary resources, the Secretariat had dispatched a letter to governments requesting financial contributions for the Special Voluntary Trust Fund (BZ) to enable participation of two representatives from each of the eligible Parties, and the Voluntary Trust Fund (VB) for the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities to the meeting. He noted that a letter had also been dispatched requesting financial contributions for the BE Fund to cover the organizational costs of the fourth meeting of the Working Group as well as other intersessional work. He informed the participants that the total estimated costs of organizing the fourth meeting of the Working Group is about US\$ 750,000 and the total estimated costs of supporting two delegates from each eligible Party to the fourth meeting of the Working Group were US\$ 1,000,000, and additional funds were required to support the other inter-sessional meetings.

14. With regards to the BZ fund, he informed with thanks of the pledge from Sweden for about US\$ 500,000 and expressions of interest from few other countries. One country, Canada, indicated that about \$65,000 of an earlier grant could be used to support the meeting cost. However, the Deputy Executive Secretary noted that, to date, the Secretariat had not received other firm pledges and/or contributions for the convening of the meeting (BE). Given this situation, he informed the Bureau that, in order to make the necessary logistical arrangements in a timely manner, the Secretariat would draw upon the interest and other savings from the BE fund and also make use, as necessary, of the provision in the core budget for staff travel within the limits allowed by the interim budget in decision CBD/COP/DEC/15/1. He noted

that as these were temporary measures, they would continue to seek voluntary contributions from donor countries to cover these needs. He highlighted that they would keep the Bureau informed and encouraged them to support the call for contributions from Parties in a position to do so in order to support the costs of WG2020-4 which is due to take place in just two months.

15. The Chair thanked the Secretariat for the update and opened the floor for comments and questions from the Bureau members. The Bureau thanked the Co-Chairs and the Secretariat for the detailed presentation on the organization of work for WG2020-4 and update on the financial situation for the meeting. The Bureau held a brief exchange and highlighted a few key points, including the need for the Co-leads and Co-Chairs to prepare well in advance in order to ensure the text is simplified and shortened, avoiding duplication. They agreed that the text to be negotiated in Nairobi is the one coming from Geneva. Some members of the Bureau enquired on how the issue of indicators would be taken up at the meeting, as well as the milestones and timeframe of the framework; they enquired on the status of the inter-sessional work on resource mobilization and sought clarification on how DSI would be addressed at the meeting, noting a desire from Parties to have some time to continue negotiations during WG2020-4. The Bureau also enquired on how to make sure the decisions of SBI that resulted from Geneva are linked to WG2020-4.

16. Regarding the methodological approach and schedule, some members of the Bureau suggested to not split the goals and targets but to bring together the discussion of goals and their respective targets into one contact group. Otherwise, they suggested avoiding contact groups dealing with goals to run in parallel with contact groups dealing with the related targets. The Bureau also suggested that the Friends group to review the framework and avoid duplication, be formed early in the week. They also suggested the Co-leads and Co-Chairs meet virtually earlier, prior to the meeting, to prepare. Furthermore, the Bureau requested the scenario note be made available as soon as possible for their review, as well as the details of the workshop on monitoring, reporting and review that would take place right before the meeting in Nairobi.

17. Responding to the issues raised by Bureau members, the Co-Chairs indicated that they would take into account all the points raised and prepare a scenario note.

18. The Executive Secretary of the Working Group confirmed that the Secretariat would arrange for travel support for up to two delegates from each eligible country. She also further noted the mandate from the third meeting of the Working Group with regard to DSI, i.e. “to continue negotiations ... on digital sequence information on genetic resources, building on the work of its third meeting, and the intersessional work of the informal advisory group on digital sequence information on genetic resources.”

19. The Deputy Executive Secretary urged the Bureau members, particularly those who required funding, to submit their nomination letters and request for financing as soon as possible. He also asked the Bureau to urge all delegations to register as early as possible and to send their nomination letters early as there is a very tight timeline to prepare all the necessary documentation.

20. The Chair thanked the Co-Chairs, Chairs, Secretariat and members of the Bureau for their presentations and contributions to the discussion.

#### **ITEM 4. INTERSESSIONAL WORK**

21. The Chair invited the Chair of SBSTTA, Mr. Hesiquio Benitez, and the Chair of SBI, Ms. Charlotta Sörqvist, to provide the meeting with briefings on inter-sessional work under their respective bodies.

22. The SBSTTA Chair made a brief presentation noting that there were two main issues pending for SBSTTA including the monitoring framework and marine and coastal biodiversity. He presented an overview of the linkages between SBSTTA, SBI and the WG2020 of the monitoring framework and outlined the key elements related to this issue. The SBSTTA Chair then presented an overview of the timeline and steps ahead and updated the Bureau with the plans for the technical meeting in Bonn, which will discuss gaps in the monitoring framework, how these can be filled (particularly related to drivers, pressures, responses and enabling environment), the role of the AHTEG and capacity building needs. The SBSTTA Chair invited the Bureau to encourage timely submission of nomination of experts with adequate experience and expertise to the Bonn meeting. He then provided an overview of the immediate next steps including making available an information document on indicators as soon as possible and a webinar to provide a briefing on the matter, among others.

23. For marine and coastal biodiversity, the SBSTTA Chair provided an overview of the work done in Geneva and the agreement in plenary welcoming text submissions from Parties for compilation. He noted that, subject to the availability of funds, there would be an in-person workshop for sharing views on issues in the COP draft decision, and should no funding be secured, consideration would be given to an online workshop facilitated by the Secretariat.

24. The SBI Chair began by noting that she had been working with the Secretariat and the Co-chairs of contact groups to prepare for SBI's intersessional work, which she split into two categories: a.) work to be made available by WG2020-4 (continuing if necessary up to COP 15.2); and b.) other intersessional work. Regarding the first, she noted that for resource mobilization, she has met with the Co-chairs of this contact group to plan a way forward for continued work on resource mobilization during the intersessional period. She informed the participants that they had agreed that the Co-chairs would develop an agenda and format for no more than two global informal virtual consultation meetings prior to the Nairobi meeting on the strategy for resource mobilization. She noted the results of the global meetings were intended to feed into the Working Group and would form part of her report to the meeting as well as her interventions as SBI Chair.

25. Regarding item 9 on planning, reporting and review mechanisms, the SBI Chair noted that it was agreed that the peer review process for the annexes A to D would be extended and encouraged the Bureau to ask their regions to send additional comments by the deadline. She also made reference to the workshop on 17-18 June to provide an opportunity for Parties to discuss the Annexes, considering the results of the peer review, and their relationship with, as well the draft options to enhance planning, monitoring, reporting and review mechanism as set out in SBI recommendation 3/11 (L15). She noted that due to space constraints, the workshop would be limited to one participant per Party and a limited number of observers. She indicated the outcome of the workshop would also feed back to the Working Group to facilitate better understanding of how the annexes fit within a broader enhanced review mechanism.

26. Regarding agenda 7 on capacity building and knowledge management, she indicated she would make available to the Working Group the outcomes of SBI-3 along with outcomes of all other agenda items related to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. For other inter-sessional work, she provided an overview of the list of work to be undertaken by COP15, including a review of technical and scientific cooperation programmes for capacity building, preparation of consolidated guidance to the GEF for financial mechanism, and for mainstreaming, an invitation to Parties and observers to review the LTAM and submit their views and prepare a compilation of submissions received by COP 15.2.

27. The Chair thanked the SBI Chair for her overview and invited the Bureau to take the floor for any comments and questions. As there were no comments or questions from the Bureau, the Chair moved on to the next agenda item, Other Matters. A table providing a summary of intersessional work is provided in the annex.

#### **ITEM 5. OTHER MATTERS**

28. Under this agenda item, the Chair indicated that the Chinese government was still undergoing internal consultations regarding the dates, and would communicate these as soon as they could and convene a meeting of the Bureau to report on the progress of preparations in May.

29. Some members of the Bureau highlighted that the absence of confirmed dates for COP 15.2 was presenting great challenges to Parties and observers, impeding their adequate preparation for COP 15, and creating anxiety. In addition, given the COVID-19 situation, it was suggested that consideration be given to a "plan B" i.e. an alternative that allowed the preparatory process to be confirmed as soon as possible. The Bureau requested that the separate meeting to address COP preparations take place as soon as possible.

#### **ITEM 6. CLOSING OF THE MEETING**

30. The Chair thanked the Bureau and all participants for their understanding and patience and for the discussions held in this meeting. The meeting was closed on 26 April 2022 at 9:40 a.m. CET.

**Annex I**

**Update Table of Post-Geneva Inter-sessional work for the three Subsidiary Bodies of the CBD**

Mandate	Agenda item	Elements of inter-sessional work	Tentative Dates of meeting(s)
<b>GENEVA OUTCOMES OR INTERSESSIONAL WORK TO BE AVAILABLE FOR WG2020-4</b>			
WG2020 3/2 (L3)	(5) DSI	Co-Chairs' Informal Advisory Group on DSI Study commissioned by Co-Chairs (preliminary findings to be provided to IAG)	Meetings underway as determined by Co-Leads Study to be carried out by Secretariat
SBI 3/6 (L.9)	(6) Resource mobilization	Informal virtual consultative process on resource mobilization (SRM and "additional elements") SBI-3/6 and outcomes of informal consultations to be available for consideration by WG2020-4.	Meetings to be determined by Co-chairs, (no more than 2 before WG2020-4)
SBI 3/8 (L.13)	(7) Capacity Building	SBI-3/8 to be available for consideration by WG2020-4.  Commission the review of technical and scientific cooperation programmes and to submit a report, for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting;	No meeting. (Secretariat to commission review)
SBI 3/10 (CRP.4)	(7) Knowledge Management	SBI-3/10 to be available for consideration by WG2020-4.	No meeting.
SBI 3/11 (L.15)	(9) Review mechanisms	Extended peer review of Annexes Workshop prior to WG2020-4. Revision of the Annexes on the basis of the peer review and workshop	Peer review deadline 7 May Workshop 17-18 June, Nairobi See notification 2022-18
SBSTTA 24/2 (L.10)	(3) Monitoring Framework	Scientific & Technical review of new indicators proposed in SBSTTA/24/2 with the outcomes to be available for WG2020-4 Technical workshop Updated monitoring framework and information document for COP15	Nomination of experts for workshop deadline: 3 May. Workshop: 29 June to 1 July 2022, Bonn  See notification 2022-19
<b>OTHER INTERSESSIONAL WORK</b>			
SBSTTA 24/9 (L.12)	(6) Marine	In person and online consultations to advance discussions on the conservation and sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity;	Process to be determined
SBSTTA 24/10 (L.11)	(6) EBSA	In person and online consultations to advance discussions on EBSAs;	Process to be determined
SBI 3/7 (L3/L10)	(6) Financial Mechanism	Prepare the draft consolidated guidance to the Global Environment Facility.;	No meeting. (Secretariat Task)
SBI3/15 (L.17)	(11) Mainstreaming	To complete the work under decision 14/3: to invite Parties and observers, to review the LTAM and to submit their views, to prepare a compilation of submissions received and to make it available for consideration by COP-15	No meeting.