ITEM 9B. MONITORING FRAMEWORK FOR THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

Key Recommendations

Adopt and finalise the monitoring framework

- The monitoring framework should be adopted alongside the post-2020 global biodiversity framework (GBF) at COP15.2, including Annex 1 of the draft COP decision which outlines and identifies Headline indicators. This will make clear from the start that progress must be monitored and provide guidance to Parties on updating NBSAPs and national reporting.

- The monitoring framework should:
  - Include a set of headline indicators that is as comprehensive as possible:
    - Headline indicators that are ready or near ready for implementation (ranked 1 and 2 by the Bonn Expert Workshop) should be adopted as they are by COP15.2, so that these can be used for national reporting.
    - Headline indicators which do not currently exist, or require significant development (ranked 3 by the Bonn Expert Workshop), should be the priority for work by the AHTEG, in order for them to be ready for implementation and adopted at COP16.
    - Important cross-cutting elements such as human rights must be included in the headline indicators.
    - Include a list of component and complementary indicators for further refinement.
    - Allow all components of every goal and target to be measured.

- Clear terms of reference for the AHTEG must be agreed at COP15, which should include a mandate to:
  - Resolve remaining issues relating to the monitoring framework and provide technical advice to SBSTTA25, prioritising the development of headline indicators which do not currently exist, or require significant development (ranked 3 by the Bonn Workshop), or identifying appropriate new ones, to meet gaps in the current list of headline indicators. These should be ready for implementation and adoption at COP16.
  - Where appropriate, advise on the implementation at the national level of headline indicators ranked 2 by the Bonn Expert Workshop.
  - Further develop the full framework and set of indicators.
  - Ensure that human rights relevant indicators are incorporated into the set of headline indicators.
  - Start its work immediately and have a clear process and timeline for work. Appropriate human rights expertise, and representation from indigenous peoples, local communities, women and youth, and diverse knowledge systems must be included into the AHTEG.
Key additional headline indicators are required

Balancing the need to capture the overall scope of the goals and targets of the post-2020 GBF with keeping the number of headline indicators small, WWF proposes the following to fill critical gaps in the set of headline indicators (noting that this is dependent on the inclusion of relevant elements in goals and targets):

- **Goal A, Targets 1, 2, 3 and 12:** Ecological connectivity is essential to these and needs to be covered by a headline indicator, which could be developed within the next two years, expressed as: “Status and trends in ecological connectivity: structural, functional, and migratory connectivity across terrestrial, coastal/marine, and inland aquatic ecosystems”. The indicator could be developed drawing on available data from component and complementary indicators of relevant goals and targets.

- **Target 4:** Should include a headline indicator on human wildlife conflict. The current indicator on human wildlife conflict: “trends in effective and sustainable management of human-wildlife conflict and coexistence” should be moved from a component indicator to a headline indicator.

- **Target 10:** The Agrobiodiversity Index should be included as a headline indicator (currently recommended as a complementary indicator). It is an established indicator that measures biodiversity across nutrition, agriculture and genetic resources.

- **Target 15:** WWF believes that Target 15 should ensure that all supply chains are deforestation and conversion free. The AHTEG should be tasked with developing the most appropriate headline indicator to monitor this. WWF suggests: “Extent of natural vegetation in terrestrial ecosystems (forest, savannahs and grasslands, wetlands, woodlands, mangroves, peatlands, saltmarshes), converted due to soft commodity production - ha per year”.

- **Target 16:** Progress on sustainable diets should be included in this target and measured by a headline indicator, such as the global volume of animal feed per capita (already collected by FAO), or the FAO could be tasked with proposing the most robust possible headline indicator to measure progress on sustainable diets, building on existing data.

Funding and capacity building mechanisms are critical

- Developing country Parties must be able to access resources and technical support/capacity building needed to implement the monitoring framework, including to monitor and collect data or disaggregate data to the national level.

Background

Key additional headline indicators required

- **Goal A, Targets 1, 2, 3 and 12:** Ecological connectivity is important to these and needs to be covered in the set of headline indicators.

The expert workshop on connectivity, held in April 2022 recommended the inclusion of a headline indicator on ecological connectivity, given the importance of connectivity to Goal A, Targets 1, 2, 3 and 12, however there is currently no headline indicator on connectivity in the current list. The expert workshop recommended the development of a headline indicator, which would be ready by CoP16 and would be expressed as follows: “Status and trends in ecological connectivity: structural, functional, and migratory connectivity across terrestrial, marine, and inland aquatic/freshwater ecosystems”. An information document on this indicator will be available soon, following the CBD, CMS, UNEP-WCMC convened webinar on this topic (31 October 2022).
- **Target 4**: Should include a HL indicator on human wildlife conflict (HWC)

Target 4 includes a crucial clause on human wildlife conflict - the first time CBD has included this topic. During negotiations a large number of parties have reiterated the importance of this HWC clause, and document CBD/SBSTTA/REC/24/2 included an headline Indicator on HWC. Unfortunately - without explanation - this headline indicator was dropped from the list of headline indicators resulting from the expert meeting (document CBD/ID/OM/2022/1/2). WWF urges parties to include this headline indicator on HWC: “Trends in effective and sustainable management of human-wildlife conflict and coexistence”. More context on this indicator can be found in [this document](#) from the IUCN HWC Task Force.

- **Target 10**: The Index of Agrobiodiversity should be included as a headline indicator (currently recommended as a complementary indicator). It measures biodiversity across nutrition, agriculture and genetic resources.

WWF is proposing that **Target 10** includes references to agroecology and also food systems transformation, to make the target much more communicable to the food and agriculture sector. This will also be a useful measure for monitoring genetic diversity under Goal A.

A headline indicator for land conversion is missing for this target - would also be relevant for Goal B and Target 15.

- **Target 15**: Needs a headline indicator to monitor whether supply chains are deforestation and conversion free.

WWF believes that Target 15 should ensure that all supply chains are deforestation and conversion free. The AHTEG should be tasked with developing the most appropriate indicator measuring the global conversion of ecosystems. WWF suggests: “Extent of natural vegetation in terrestrial ecosystems (forest, savannahs and grasslands, wetlands, woodlands, mangroves, peatlands, saltmarshes), converted due to soft commodity production - ha per year”.

- **Target 16**: Progress on sustainable diets should be measured by a headline indicator, such as the global volume of animal feed per capita (already collected by FAO), or the FAO could be tasked with proposing the most robust possible headline indicator to measure progress on sustainable diets, building on existing data.

WWF proposes that Target 16 should include wording on culturally appropriate, sustainable and healthy diets, which would address an important aspect of consumption driving biodiversity loss.
Text Proposals

WWF welcomes the draft COP decisions outlined in document CBD/COP/15/2 and calls on COP15.2 to consider the inclusion of the following proposed text changes in the final decision on the monitoring framework for the post-2020 GBF.

New text proposed by WWF is in **bold and underlined**. Text that WWF proposes to delete is in *strike through*.

The Conference of the Parties

1. Adopts the monitoring framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework in annex I of the present decision;

2. Decides to use **the year 2022 or the year closest to 2022 period from [2011–2020]**, where data is available, as the reference year 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];

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;

4. Further decides that the headline indicators will be used [in global assessments] to monitor progress towards the goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, complemented, as appropriate, by the component and complementary indicators;

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 provide support to and build capacity in developing countries to support filling monitoring and reporting gaps];

6. Encourages all Parties to use the headline indicators 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. Invites 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];

8. [Recognizes the value of aligning][Further invites Parties to align] national monitoring with the United Nations System of Environmental-Economic Accounting statistical standard in order to mainstream biodiversity in national statistical systems and to strengthen national monitoring systems and reporting [as appropriate and according to their national priorities and circumstances];

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;
10. **Invites** the United Nations Statistical Commission, the Group on Earth Observations Biodiversity Observation Network, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership and other relevant organizations to support the operationalization of the monitoring framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;**

11. **Decides** to establish an ad hoc technical expert group, with a time-bound mandate until the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, to advise on the further operationalization of the monitoring framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework in accordance with the terms of reference contained in annex II to the present decision;

12. **Requests** the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to review outcomes of the ad hoc technical expert group and complete the scientific and technical review of the monitoring framework and report their findings for subsequent consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation and by the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting;

13. **Decides** to consider the requirements for further work to fully implement and review the effectiveness of the monitoring framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework at its sixteenth meeting;

14. **Requests** the Executive Secretary, in collaboration with the ad hoc technical expert group, and subject to the availability resources, to convene moderated online discussions on the monitoring framework;

15. **Requests** the Ad Hoc Open-ended 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];

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-building and development to support Parties in implementing 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;

   (b) To facilitate the use of relevant tools, including the Data Reporting Tool (DaRT), to facilitate national reporting and the sharing of information between multilateral environment agreements.

17. **Invites** the Global Partnership on Plant Conservation, with the support of the Secretariat and subject to the availability of resources, to prepare a set of complimentary actions related to plant conservation to support the implementation of the global biodiversity framework aligned with the final post-2020 global biodiversity framework, other relevant decisions adopted at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties as well as previous experiences with the implementation of the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation as described in the fifth edition of the *Global Biodiversity Outlook* and the 2020 Plant Conservation Report, to be considered by a meeting of the Subsidiary Body following the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

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**Annex I**

**MONITORING FRAMEWORK FOR THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK**

1. The monitoring framework is composed of three [four] groups of indicators for monitoring the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework:

   (a) **Headline indicators**, as well as other global scale indicators collated from binary reporting through national reports

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10. **Invites** the United Nations Statistical Commission, the Group on Earth Observations Biodiversity Observation Network, the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership and other relevant organizations to support the operationalization of the monitoring framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;
the overall scope of the goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework to be used for planning and tracking progress as set out in decision 15/-. They are nationally, regionally and globally relevant indicators [validated by Parties]. These indicators can also be used for communication purposes;

(b) Component indicators (contained in Table 2): A list of optional[, multidimensional] indicators that together with the headline indicators would cover all components of the goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework at the global, regional, national and [subnational] levels;

(c) Complementary indicators (contained in Table 2): a list of optional [ , multidimensional] indicators for thematic or in-depth analysis of each goal and target which may be applicable at global, regional, national, and [subnational] levels;

[1 bis] [(d)] The monitoring framework [can][will] be supplemented by [additional] national [and subnational] indicators.

2. The indicators in the monitoring framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework should meet, or be able to meet by 2025, the following criteria:

(a) The data and metadata related to the indicator are publicly available;

(b) The methodology underpinning the indicator is either published in a peer reviewed academic journal or has gone through a scientific peer review process and has been validated for national use;

(c) The data sources and indicators should be compiled and regularly updated with a time lag of less than five years between updates, if possible;

(d) There is an existing mechanism for maintaining the indicator methodology and/or data generation, including, for example, by a member of the Biodiversity Indicators Partnership, an intergovernmental organization or a well-established scientific or research institution, including providing nationally applicable guidance on the use of the indicator;

(d) alt. Indicators should be able to detect trends relevant to the components of the goals and targets of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;

(e) When possible, indicators are aligned with existing intergovernmental processes under the United Nations Statistical Commission, such as the Sustainable Development Goals, the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics or the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting. Additionally, an effort was made to utilize the existing work on essential biodiversity variables under the Group on Earth Observations Biodiversity Observation Network.

3. Headline indicators use methodologies agreed by Parties and are calculated based on national data from national monitoring networks and national sources, calculated at a national level, recognizing that in some cases this may need to draw on global dataset and if national indicators are not available then the use of global indicators at a national level must be validated through appropriate national mechanisms. These indicators would allow for consistent, standardized and scalable tracking of global goals and targets.

4. To facilitate the compilation and use of these headline, component and complementary indicators at the national level[, enabled by effective national biodiversity monitoring systems and other information systems,] capacity and development activities, technology and other support will be required. [The Secretariat together with organizations identified in the indicator metadata sheets as data providers, such as the Group on Earth Observations Biodiversity Observation Network, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting and others, would be invited to provide guidelines and information for the design and implementation of national monitoring systems to support the collection of data and the calculation of headline indicators.] [In this way, developing country Parties would effectively use the headline indicators, as well as component and complementary indicators, supported by the effective provision of adequate means of implementation, in line with the provisions of the Convention, including the establishment of mechanisms to increase the capacity-building and development and technical and scientific cooperation to fill monitoring gaps.]
5. In order to maximize uptake and minimize the reporting burden, the proposed list of headline indicators comprises a small number of indicators which are intended to capture the overall scope of a goal or target in the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. The headline indicators may not capture all components of a goal or a target but for analytical purposes can be complemented, as appropriate, with the component and complementary indicators.

[1] The Headline indicators are included in Table 1a. The Expert workshop on the monitoring framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework in Bonn (see https://www.cbd.int/meetings/JD-OM-2022-01) recommended a set of global indicators collated from responses to a list of yes/no questions be collected via national reports. They would be used in addition to the headline indicators to track global level progress towards the implementation of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. They are included in Table 1b.

(Tables 1a and 1b are omitted)

Annex II

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR AN AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON INDICATORS FOR THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

1. The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators will work:

(a) To resolve remaining issues in the monitoring framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and provide technical advice to SBSTTA25:

i) Prioritising the development of headline indicators which do not currently exist, or require significant development (ranked 3 by the Bonn Workshop), or identifying appropriate new ones, to meet gaps in the current list of headline indicators and have them ready for implementation and adoption at COP16;

ii) Oversee the development of headline indicators ranked 2 by the Expert workshop and advise on their implementation at the national level;

iii) Further developing the full framework - reviewing the list of component and complementary indicators;

iv) Ensuring that human rights relevant indicators are incorporated into the set of headline indicators;

(b) Identify detailed metadata [and information] including [as appropriate, reference periods and] global baselines, prioritizing first headline indicators (according to the criteria identified in the annex to document CBD/...), then component and complementary indicators of the monitoring framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and ensuring that indicators for human rights elements of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework are reviewed for development as headline indicators, taking into account existing methodologies and standards which have been developed, including the Sustainable Development Goal indicators, the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics and the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting developed under the auspices of the Statistical Commission;

(b)(c) To provide technical advice and develop guidance on addressing gaps in the full monitoring framework, prioritizing headline indicators, and in the implementation of indicators for the monitoring framework for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, including advice on the use of harmonized and agreed indicator definitions, best practices for monitoring and national data sharing, and scientific and technical advice on the improvement of indicators or the addition of new indicators in the monitoring framework of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, including indicators relevant to stakeholders;
To provide technical advice on remaining and unresolved issues relating to the post-2020 monitoring framework, as outlined by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting, and to prioritize work on the following elements leading up to the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties:

(i) Conduct a full assessment of headline, component and complementary indicators;
(ii) Explore methods for the implementation of indicators in national planning and reporting;
(iii) (List to be determined based on progress achieved by the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties).

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;

To provide advice on the existing capacity, gaps and needs in terms of capacity development, technology transfer and financing needs related to the monitoring of the global biodiversity framework in consultation with the Informal Advisory Group on Technical and Scientific Cooperation.[1]

2. The group will take into account:

(a) Previous work and experience under the Convention and other relevant programmes of work concerning indicators and monitoring;
(b) Statistical standards and development under the intergovernmental forum of the Statistical Commission;
(c) Previous work and experience with other relevant global, regional and national monitoring frameworks, multilateral environment agreements, and knowledge systems;
(d) Recent developments and information on issues related to the indicators, their metadata and baselines.

3. The Group will be composed of 30 technical experts nominated by Parties, including experts on statistics and experts in human rights and relevant social and natural sciences, and up to 15 representatives nominated by observer organizations and other relevant organizations. The Executive Secretary, in consultation with the Bureau of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice, will select experts from the nominations submitted by Parties and organizations with due regard to representation of different areas of technical expertise, while recognizing the need for expert knowledge of biodiversity, diverse knowledge systems and ensuring expertise on freshwater, marine and coastal ecosystems, also taking into account geographical representation, and the representation of indigenous peoples and local communities, major stakeholders and rights holders’ groups, gender balance and the special conditions of developing countries, archipelagic States, in particular the least developed countries, small island developing States, and countries with economies in transition.

4. The Group will nominate two co-chairs from among the selected experts.

5. The Chair of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice will be invited to participate in the group ex officio.

6. 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.

7. The Group will primarily conduct its work electronically and [subject to the availability of resources,] will also meet physically, if possible, meeting at least twice during the intersessional period.
8. The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group should be established and start its work immediately after approval by the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting and report on its work to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation and the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at meetings held prior to the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.

[1] Pending adoption of the decision under agenda item 13A.