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for Food and Agriculture**

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**Report from the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity on
Cooperation with the International Treaty**

Executive Summary

This document contains the update on recent developments under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit-sharing (Nagoya Protocol), of relevance to the International Treaty, prepared by the Executive Secretary of the CBD for the information of the Governing Body.

The Executive Secretary of the CBD brings to the attention of the Governing Body a number of outcomes the UN Biodiversity Conference, which included the Fifteenth meeting of the Conference of Parties to the CBD (COP15) and, in particular, the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. The report also provides, inter alia, a brief update on the status of implementation of the Nagoya Protocol and updates on the ongoing/upcoming processes under the Convention and its Nagoya Protocol, as well as an overview of the cooperative activities undertaken by the Secretariats of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the International Treaty.

The report is given in the form and language in which it was received by the Secretariat.

OVERVIEW OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS UNDER THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL ON ACCESS TO GENETIC RESOURCES AND BENEFIT-SHARING OF RELEVANCE TO THE INTERNATIONAL TREATY ON PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

1. The Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is pleased to provide an update to the tenth session of the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA) on recent developments under the CBD and the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization (Nagoya Protocol) as well as cooperative activities undertaken by the CBD Secretariat and the Secretariat of the ITPGRFA.

2. Section I of the document summarizes relevant outcomes of the UN Biodiversity Conference, which was held in two parts¹ under the Presidency of China and which encompassed the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD (COP 15), the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety and the fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol (COP-MOP 4). Section II provides an overview of the cooperative activities undertaken by the CBD Secretariat and the Secretariat of the ITPGRFA since the previous session of the Governing Body. Section III provides a brief update on the status of implementation of the Nagoya Protocol.

I. OUTCOMES OF THE UN BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE

A. Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

3. The key outcome from COP 15 was the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (decision 15/4). The Framework supports the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, builds on the Convention's previous Strategic Plans, and sets out an ambitious pathway to reach the global vision of a world living in harmony with nature by 2050. Among the Framework's key elements are 4 goals for 2050 and 23 targets for 2030.

4. Numerous parts of the Framework are relevant to the Treaty, including the goals and many of the targets. In addition, section C addresses "considerations for the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework". It includes an element on 'cooperation and synergies' which provides that "Enhanced collaboration, cooperation and synergies between the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols, other biodiversity-related conventions, other relevant multilateral agreements and international organizations and processes, in line with their respective mandates, including at the global, regional, subregional and national levels, would contribute to and promote the implementation of the Framework in a more efficient and effective manner".

5. It may also be noted that COP-MOP 4 of the Nagoya Protocol welcomed decision 15/4 and endorsed the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

6. The implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework will be guided and supported through a comprehensive package of decisions also adopted at COP 15. In addition to decision 15/4, this package includes decisions on:

- (a) the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (decision 15/5);
- (b) mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting and review (decision 15/6);
- (c) resource mobilization (decision 15/7);
- (d) capacity-building and development and technical and scientific cooperation (decision 15/8);

¹ Part one was held from 12 to 13 October 2021 in Kunming, China. Part two was held from 7 to 19 December 2022 in Montreal, Canada and from 19 to 20 October 2023 at the headquarters of the United Nations Environment Programme in Nairobi, Kenya. Outcomes from part one of the UN Biodiversity Conference, including the Kunming Declaration, were shared with the Governing Body of the Treaty at its ninth session in September 2022.

- (e) digital sequence information on genetic resources (decision 15/9); and
- (f) cooperation with other Conventions and international organizations (decision 15/13).

These decisions are outlined below.

7. In addition, in its recommendation 25/3, the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice requested the Executive Secretary to undertake a comprehensive review and analysis of existing tools and guidance that can support the implementation of the targets and other elements of the Framework, including those developed under the Convention, in particular guidance on cross-cutting issues, assessments of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, and tools and guidance developed under other relevant multilateral environmental agreements, intergovernmental organizations, United Nations agencies, such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and other relevant intergovernmental organizations in a manner consistent with their respective mandates.

8. The Secretariat has recently issued a notification² inviting submissions on, among other things, information on existing tools and guidance that can support the implementation of the targets and other elements of the Framework, which will enhance the current list of such resources, identified for each target and made available by the Secretariat on its website.³ The tools and guidance, in particular on cross-cutting issues, may include both those developed under the Convention and those developed under other relevant intergovernmental processes. Submissions are due by 4 December 2023.

1. Monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

9. In decision 15/5, the COP adopted the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. The monitoring framework is composed of several groups of indicators for monitoring the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including a minimum set of high-level headline indicators, global level indicators collected from national reporting, and sets of optional indicators such as component indicators and complementary indicators. The COP encouraged Parties and invited other Governments and other relevant organizations to support national, regional and global biodiversity monitoring systems, recognizing the need for enhanced international cooperation and capacity-building especially for developing countries (para. 5); and invited relevant organizations to support the operationalization of the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (para. 7). The monitoring framework also invited organizations identified in the indicator metadata sheets⁴ as data providers, to provide guidelines and information for the design or improvement and implementation of national monitoring systems to support the collection of data and the calculation of headline indicators.

10. Decision 15/5 also established the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators to advise on the further operationalization of the monitoring framework. A representative from FAO is part of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group. Outputs from the work of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group to that time were considered by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at its twenty-fifth meeting in October 2023. Among other things, SBSTTA requested “the Executive Secretary to facilitate the engagement of the members of the Expert Group with biodiversity-related conventions and relevant international organizations including, where appropriate, through the Bern Process, in line with the respective mandates, including in decision 15/5” (recommendation 25/1, para. 3).

11. Work by the Expert Group will continue over the coming months with further consideration of the matter by SBSTTA at its twenty-sixth meeting and the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its fourth meeting (both meetings are scheduled for May 2024) as well as the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention.

² [Notification 2023-120](#) issued on 6 November 2023.

³ www.cbd.int/gbf/targets/

⁴ For further information on the indicator metadata sheets, see www.post-2020indicators.org/.

2. Mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting and review

12. In decision 15/6, the COP adopted an enhanced multidimensional approach to planning, monitoring, reporting and review with a view to enhancing implementation of the Convention and the Framework. The enhanced multidimensional approach to planning, monitoring, reporting and review comprises:

- (a) National biodiversity strategies and action plans (NBSAPs), revised or updated in alignment with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;
- (b) National reports submitted in 2026 and 2029;
- (c) Global analysis of information NBSAPs to assess the contribution to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework considered at COP-16 and subsequent COPs;
- (d) Global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework to be considered by COP-17 and 19;
- (e) Voluntary peer reviews;
- (f) Further development and testing of an open-ended forum for voluntary country reviews;
- (g) Information on non-State actor commitments towards the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

13. The decision includes a section on ‘cooperation, synergies and stakeholder engagement’. Among other things, a range of different actors, including intergovernmental organizations, research organizations, the business and finance community and representatives of sectors related to or dependent on biodiversity are invited to develop, on a voluntary basis, commitments contributing to NBSAPs and to the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and to share them through the online platform for the Sharm El-Sheikh to Kunming and Montreal Action Agenda for Nature and People (para. 26).

14. The same decision also invited relevant international, regional, subregional or national organizations to support Parties in updating and revising NBSAPs and in 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 (para. 28).

3. Resource mobilization

15. Decision 15/7 addressed resource mobilization. In it, the COP adopted the strategy for resource mobilization for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. The COP invited relevant international organizations and initiatives as well as multi-stakeholder partnerships to support the implementation of the strategy for resource mobilization (para. 14). The Executive Secretary was requested to continue and intensify collaboration with relevant organizations and initiatives with a view to further promoting supportive action on scaling and aligning incentive measures in accordance with Article 11 of the Convention (para. 47 (f)).

16. COP also requested the Global Environment Facility to establish a special trust fund to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, to complement existing support and scale up financing to ensure its timely implementation, taking into account the need for adequacy, predictability, and timely flow of funds (para. 30). To this end, the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund was ratified and launched at the Seventh Assembly of the Global Environment Facility in August 2023.

17. The decision also established the Advisory Committee on Resource Mobilization which is to support the strengthening of the strategy for resource mobilization. A representative of the Secretariat of the International Treaty is a member of the Committee. To date, the Committee has held an online preparatory meeting as well as an in-person meeting, both taking place in September 2023. The Committee is to report to the Subsidiary Body on Implementation.

4. Capacity-building and development and technical and scientific cooperation

18. In decision 15/8 (section A on capacity-building and development), the COP adopted the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building and development and urged Parties and invited other Governments, relevant organizations, and other actors to use the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building and

development as a flexible framework in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of their capacity-building and development initiatives and programmes supporting the achievement of the vision, mission, goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (para. 4).

19. The COP invited biodiversity-related conventions and other multilateral environmental agreements to prepare thematic capacity-building and development action plans for specific targets or groups of related targets, and to develop dedicated global, regional and subregional programmes to implement those thematic plans, in line with the long-term strategic framework and the Gender Plan of Action, as appropriate (para. 8).

20. The decision also invited relevant organizations and regional and subregional bodies, including regional economic integration organizations, to promote the sharing of expertise and information; to strengthen existing regional and subregional support networks or establish new ones, as appropriate, and to provide, upon request, assistance to enable national and subnational government institutions, local authorities and non-government actors within the respective regions or subregions to strengthen their capacities, while also mobilizing and fostering effective use and retention of the capacities developed (para. 13). The Executive Secretary was requested to enable Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth organizations, and other relevant organizations to prepare thematic capacity-building and development action plans for specific 2030 targets or groups of related targets, as appropriate, taking into account needs and gaps identified and decided by Parties (para. 16 (d)).

21. Section B of decision 15/8 addresses technical and scientific cooperation. In it, the COP urged Parties and invited other Governments and relevant organizations to recognize the important role of, and to promote, science, technology, innovation and other knowledge systems in supporting the implementation of the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework towards achieving the 2050 Vision of living in harmony with nature (para. 17). The same decision reminded Parties, pursuant to paragraph 6 of decision XIII/23, to identify and communicate their biodiversity-related technical and scientific needs and requests for assistance, and invited Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations to register as providers of technical assistance and offer support to address the needs identified by Parties through the central portal of the clearing-house mechanism and the clearing-houses of the Protocols, to facilitate capacity-building and development and technical and scientific cooperation (para. 18).

22. Parties, other Governments and relevant organizations were encouraged to take practical steps to promote and strengthen relevant networks of institutions and communities of practice to facilitate the exchange of biodiversity-related information, experiences, skills and technical know-how, among others, through networks of national and regional clearing-house mechanisms (para. 21). Parties, other Governments, relevant organizations and other stakeholders were urged to scale up financial, technical and human resources to further promote technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer in support of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (para. 28).

23. In the decision, the COP established the Informal Advisory Group on Technical and Scientific Cooperation to provide strategic advice on practical measures, tools and opportunities to promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation (para. 24). A representative of FAO is part of the Informal Advisory Group. A first meeting of the Informal Advisory Group was held in June 2023 with a second meeting held online on 1 and 2 November 2023.

24. Furthermore, the COP also decided to establish a mechanism comprising a network of regional, and/or additional subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres to be coordinated at the global level by a global coordination entity. The decision sets out a process for the further development and operationalization of the mechanism. A call for expressions of interest to host such support centres was issued in July 2023.⁵

25. The Executive Secretary was requested to further promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation in support of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, in collaboration with Parties, relevant partners, the regional and/or subregional support centres and the global coordination entity, other organizations and indigenous peoples and local communities; and to maintain synergy and collaboration with biodiversity-related conventions, and relevant organizations, initiatives and networks that have technical

⁵ See [notification 2023-80](#).

and scientific expertise, technologies and information, and/or are involved in biodiversity-related technical and scientific cooperation activities (para. 32).

5. Digital sequence information on genetic resources

26. COP-15 adopted decision 15/9 on digital sequence information (DSI) on genetic resources. Key elements of the decision include:

- that benefits arising from the use of DSI should be shared fairly and equitably;
- calls for capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer;
- the establishment, as part of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, of a multilateral mechanism for benefit-sharing from the use of DSI, including a global fund.

27. The decision also established a process to further develop and operationalize the mechanism, to be finalized at COP-16. The process includes work by an Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Benefit-sharing from the Use of Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources to undertake further development of the multilateral mechanism, including a list of issues for further consideration set out in the annex to the decision, and to make recommendations to the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting. The process also includes the submission of views, the compilation of lessons learned from other international funding mechanisms (including the Benefit-sharing Fund of the Treaty) and the commissioning of studies. In decision NP4/6, the COP-MOP to the Nagoya Protocol welcomed decision 15/9, endorsed the multilateral mechanism for benefit-sharing from the use of DSI established therein and also endorsed the process established in the decision and requested the Working Group to also report to the fifth meeting of the COP-MOP to the Nagoya Protocol.

28. The first meeting of the Working Group will be held from 14 to 18 November 2023 in Geneva, Switzerland. The second meeting of the Working Group will be held from 12 to 16 August 2024 in Montreal, Canada.

29. The establishment of a multilateral mechanism for benefit-sharing from the use of DSI, including a global fund, is also linked to decision 15/7 on resource mobilization and the request to the Global Environment Facility to establish a Special Trust Fund, with its own equitable governing body, to support implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (see above). The Advisory Committee on Resource Mobilization established in decision 15/7 is also to consider funding mechanisms, including in relation to DSI.

30. Decision 15/9 also addressed capacity-building, technology transfer and technical and scientific cooperation related to DSI. It welcomed section I of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (the section on 'Implementation and support mechanism and enabling conditions'), the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building and development, and the strengthening of technical and scientific cooperation. It also called for specific and targeted capacity-building and development, technology transfer, technical and scientific cooperation and as appropriate, support for developing countries to generate, access and use DSI for research and innovation. Capacity development and technology transfer are among the issues to be further considered by the DSI Working Group.

31. DSI is also included Goal C and target 13 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework both of which address benefit-sharing from genetic resources and digital sequence information on genetic resources (see box below).

6. Cooperation with other conventions and international organizations

32. In addition to the elements on cooperation in the text of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, decision 15/13 addressed 'cooperation with other conventions and international organizations' in more detail. Many parts of the decision are relevant to cooperation between the Convention and the Treaty.

33. In the decision, the Conference of the Parties welcomed the contributions of other biodiversity-related conventions, multilateral agreements and international organizations and processes to enhancing synergies in the implementation of the Framework (para. 1). It encouraged the strengthening of cooperation and synergies among relevant conventions and multilateral agreements by establishing or renewing cooperation frameworks, as needed (para. 2).

34. The COP invited the governing bodies of other biodiversity-related conventions and relevant multilateral environmental agreements, as well as international organizations and other relevant programmes, to formally endorse the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework through their own governance processes, as appropriate, in order to support its operationalization and contribute to the transparency and monitoring of progress in its implementation (para. 3).

35. The COP also invited the governing bodies of biodiversity-related conventions and relevant multilateral environmental agreements as well as international organizations and other relevant programmes to contribute to the implementation and monitoring of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, in particular by further strengthening cooperation at the global level within their respective mandates and enhancing synergies among themselves, to encourage mutually supportive decisions, to coordinate their own strategies with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and to propose key issues for thematic discussions facilitated by the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions (para. 4).

36. The COP encouraged FAO (among others) to support Parties and secretariats of biodiversity-related conventions to support the Parties and the secretariats of these conventions to continue to enhance synergies in areas of priority established by their Parties (para. 7). It also invited the United Nations Environment Management Group to facilitate United Nations system-wide coordination towards the objectives of the Convention, its Protocols and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, in a manner fully respectful of the mandates of different multilateral environmental agreements and international organizations (para. 9).

37. The COP also encouraged Parties to implement the Convention and other biodiversity-related conventions and multilateral agreements to which they are party, in a complementary manner, including in reviewing and updating their national biodiversity strategies and action plans, in order to enable the effective implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (para. 11). The COP encouraged Parties to actively engage in the Bern process on cooperation among Parties to the various biodiversity-related conventions facilitated by the United Nations Environment Programme, contributing to effective and efficient implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (para. 14).

38. The Executive Secretary was requested to identify, develop and provide information and technical support that will help to encourage and assist other biodiversity-related conventions in contributing to the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and, in consultation with their secretariats, identify opportunities to cooperate with biodiversity-related conventions to help achieve the goals and targets of the Framework (para. 15(a)). A list of relevant initiatives and action plans will be submitted for review by the fourth meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation.

39. Decision 15/13 as well as decision 15/5 addressed cooperation with the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation. In the decisions, the Conference of the Parties invited the Global Partnership for Plant Conservation to prepare, with the support of the Secretariat of the Convention, a set of complementary actions related to plant conservation to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.

40. An update to the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation, in the form of the set of complementary actions, was considered by SBSTTA at its twenty-fifth meeting in October 2023. SBSTTA adopted recommendation 25/4 on 'plant conservation' which included a draft decision for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting. Among other things, the recommended draft decision foresees the COP adopting the voluntary complementary actions related to plant conservation as an update to the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation to support implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

Access and benefit-sharing in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

Goal C⁶ and Target 13⁷ of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework address access and benefit-sharing from the utilization of genetic resources, associated traditional knowledge and digital sequence information in accordance with internationally agreed access and benefit-sharing instruments, which includes the Treaty.

In the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, the headline indicators for Goal C and Target 13 are: C.1 Indicator on monetary benefits received; and C.2 Indicator on non-monetary benefits. In addition, the proposed global indicator derived from binary reporting for Goal C and Target 13 monitors the number of countries that have taken effective legal, policy, administrative and capacity-building measures at all levels, as appropriate, to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits. The monitoring framework also includes a complementary indicator specifically addressing the Treaty: Total number of transfers of crop material from the Multilateral System of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture received in a country.

Furthermore, work by the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on Indicators will include developing methodologies to monitor and quantify monetary or non-monetary benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and/or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources (headline indicators for Goal C and Target 13) and a proposed list of global indicators based on binary responses⁸.

B. Other relevant decisions from the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention

Decision 15/10: Development of a new programme of work and institutional arrangements on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention related to indigenous peoples and local communities

41. In decision 15/10, the COP decided to develop a new programme of work on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention related to indigenous peoples and local communities aligned with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. The work was to be undertaken with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities as well as annexes I and II to the decision. Annex I contains draft objectives, general principles and elements of work for the new programme of work while Annex II contains draft possible elements of the new programme of work.

42. The decision also established the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group on the New Programme of Work and Institutional Arrangements on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention Related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities. The Expert Group was “to provide advice on the further elaboration of the new programme of work on, and the possible institutional arrangements for, Article 8(j) and other provisions of the Convention related to indigenous peoples and local communities, including the future *modus operandi* for the implementation of Article 8(j), considering the possible establishment of a subsidiary body, continuing the working group, or other arrangements” (para. 7).

43. The Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group met in July 2023. The outcomes of its deliberations will be considered by the Twelfth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Intersessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions of the Convention to be held from 12 to 16 November 2023 in Geneva, Switzerland.

⁶ Goal C provides that “The monetary and non-monetary benefits from the utilization of genetic resources and digital sequence information on genetic resources, and of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, as applicable, are shared fairly and equitably, including, as appropriate with indigenous peoples and local communities, and substantially increased by 2050, while ensuring traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources is appropriately protected, thereby contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in accordance with internationally agreed access and benefit-sharing instruments”.

⁷ Target 13: “Take effective legal, policy, administrative and capacity-building measures at all levels, as appropriate, to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources and from digital sequence information on genetic resources, as well as traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, and facilitating appropriate access to genetic resources, and by 2030, facilitating a significant increase of the benefits shared, in accordance with applicable international access and benefit-sharing instruments”. See the quick guide for more information on Target 13: www.cbd.int/gbf/targets/13/

⁸ More information on ABS related indicators and progress in their development at: www.cbd.int/abs/gbf.shtml#tab=5

Decision 15/14. Communication

44. In decision 15/14 on communication, the COP adopted the communications strategy to support implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework as contained in the annex to the decision. Paragraph 38 of the communications strategy provides that “Multilateral environmental agreements ... will be important multipliers and places for coordination. To this end, the Joint Liaison Group of the Rio Conventions and the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions should be invited to ensure that communication is a permanent item on their annual agendas and focal points should be named.” The International Treaty is part of the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related conventions.

Decision 15/15. Financial mechanism

45. In decision 15/15 on the financial mechanism, the COP requested the Subsidiary Body on Implementation to prepare proposals for a draft four-year outcome-oriented framework of programme priorities for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols aligned with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, in anticipation of the ninth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund (2026–2030), for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting (para. 12).

46. In the decision, the COP also invited the governing bodies of the various biodiversity-related conventions, further to paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of decision XII/30, and paragraph 10 of decision XIII/21, to repeat the exercise described therein for the development of strategic guidance for the ninth replenishment of the Global Environment Facility in time for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its sixteenth meeting (para. 16).

15/17. Long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming biodiversity within and across sectors

47. In decision 15/17, the COP invited the submission of views (including from intergovernmental organizations) on the draft long-term approach to mainstreaming biodiversity and associated action plan contained in the recommendation from the Subsidiary Body on Implementation.⁹ The Executive Secretary was requested to organize an open-ended online forum through the clearing-house mechanism to facilitate further exchanges of views. These views are to be compiled into a report for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its fourth meeting.

48. The Open-ended Online Forum will be held from 12 to 22 December 2023.¹⁰

C. Fourth meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Nagoya Protocol

49. The fourth meeting of the COP-MOP to the Nagoya Protocol adopted a total of 12 decisions. Decision NP-4/5 on the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and decision NP-4/6 on digital sequence information on genetic resources were already described above. Other decisions of particular relevance to the International Treaty are:

- Decision NP-4/3: monitoring and reporting (Article 29)
- Decision NP-4/7: measures to assist in capacity-building and development (Article 22) and awareness-raising (Article 21)
- Decision NP-4/10: global multilateral benefit-sharing mechanism (Article 10); and
- Decision NP-4/11: specialized international access and benefit-sharing instruments in the context of Article 4, paragraph 4, of the Nagoya Protocol.

Decision NP-4/3: monitoring and reporting (Article 29)

50. The meeting of the Parties to the Protocol adopted the guidelines and format for submission of the first national report on the implementation of the Nagoya Protocol as contained in the annex to the decision and requested Parties to submit a first national report on the implementation of their obligations under the Nagoya Protocol at the same time as the seventh national reports under the Convention are due (by 28 February 2026).

⁹ See the annex in [recommendation SBI-3/15](#).

¹⁰ For further information, see [notification 2023-122](#) issued on 6 November 2023. The Open-ended Online Forum will be accessible at www.cbd.int/mainstreaming/LTAM/.

Decision NP-4/7: measures to assist in capacity-building and development (Article 22) and awareness-raising (Article 21)

51. In decision NP-4/7, the COP-MOP to the Nagoya Protocol endorsed the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building and development adopted under the Convention via decision 15/8 (para. 2).

52. The COP-MOP requested the Executive Secretary to prepare, in consultation with Parties, a revised strategic framework for capacity-building and development to support the effective implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in line with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building and development and the findings of the evaluation conducted in the previous biennium. An informal advisory committee provides advice to the Executive Secretary to accomplish this task. A draft capacity-building action plan for the Nagoya Protocol will be considered by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its fourth meeting for its adoption by the COP-MOP at its fifth meeting. The action plan is to be considered as one of the thematic action plans proposed under the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building and development (decision 15/8).

Decision NP-4/10. Global multilateral benefit-sharing mechanism (Article 10)

53. The meeting of the Parties to the Protocol decided to revisit the issue of the need for and modalities of a global multilateral benefit-sharing mechanism as provided in Article 10 of the Nagoya Protocol at its fifth meeting.

Decision NP-3/14. Specialized international access and benefit sharing instruments in the context of Article 4, paragraph 4, of the Nagoya Protocol)

54. The meeting of the Parties took note of recommendation 3/16 of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation, on specialized international access and benefit-sharing instruments in the context of Article 4, paragraph 4, of the Nagoya Protocol. Among other things, the recommendation contained indicative criteria for such specialized international instruments. The meeting decided to further review the item at its fifth meeting on the basis of recommendation 3/16.

II. COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES OF THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CBD AND THE SECRETARIAT OF THE INTERNATIONAL TREATY

55. The secretariats of the International and Treaty and the Convention renewed their Memorandum of Cooperation on 9 July 2018, which identifies four areas for collaboration: (1) Support to the ratification and implementation of the Nagoya Protocol in harmony with the International Treaty and its Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-sharing; (2) Development of synergies between the Global Information System and the ABS Clearing-House; (3) Joint initiative for on-farm conservation, sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA) and protected areas; and (4) Promotion of the importance of biodiversity and PGRFA for food security and nutrition under a changing climate. In light of the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, the two Secretariats are working on updating their Memorandum of Cooperation.

56. Since the ninth session of the Governing Body, the CBD Secretariat participated in a number of ongoing processes under the Treaty, such as the tenth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group to Enhance the Functioning of the Multilateral System of Access and Benefit-Sharing as well as the fifth meeting of the Scientific Advisory Committee on the Global Information System on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

57. The Secretariat of the International Treaty also participated in relevant intersessional activities under the Nagoya Protocol, including the meeting of the Informal Advisory Committee on Capacity Building. Further to the priorities for future implementation and administration of the Access and Benefit-sharing Clearing-House as identified by the Informal Advisory Committee on the ABS Clearing-House, the two secretariats also exchanged information in the context of the development of their respective information systems.

58. The two secretariats have also collaborated on the development of indicators and the provision of data as part of the global indicator framework for the Sustainable Development Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This work focused on indicator 15.6.1 which will assess progress towards Target 15.6 (to “promote fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of

genetic resources and promote appropriate access to such resources, as internationally agreed".) In addition, the secretariats collaborate on issues related to the development of methodologies for measuring monetary and non-monetary benefits.

III. STATUS OF THE NAGOYA PROTOCOL

59. The Nagoya Protocol has received 141 instruments of ratification, accession, approval or acceptance to date (27 October 2023) and additional ratifications are expected in the coming months.

60. By 27 October 2023, nearly 5,000 internationally recognized certificates of compliance have been constituted through the ABS Clearing-House and over 150 checkpoint communiqués have been issued by 11 countries. The Secretariat provides technical assistance to countries and stakeholders to facilitate the use of the ABS Clearing-House and is also continuing to implement an outreach and engagement campaign to encourage countries to publish information in the ABS Clearing-House.