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# COMMISSION ON GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

## GROUP OF NATIONAL FOCAL POINTS FOR BIODIVERSITY FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

### Second Meeting

2 – 4 March 2021<sup>1</sup>

### SUBMISSIONS BY COUNTRIES ON THE DOCUMENT *BIODIVERSITY FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE – REVISED DRAFT NEEDS AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS*

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<sup>1</sup> Rescheduled from 21–23 April 2020.

## I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its Seventeenth Regular Session, the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture requested its Secretary to invite written concrete text proposals and comments from Commission Members and observers on the document *Biodiversity for food and agriculture – revised draft needs and possible actions* presented in Appendix C of document CGRFA-17/19/Report.<sup>2</sup>
2. Via Circular State Letter C/CBD-10 of 18 June 2019,<sup>3</sup> the Secretariat invited Members and observers to submit concrete text proposals and comments on the document. Eight countries provided comments: Belgium; Brazil; Canada; Chile; Mexico; Norway; Switzerland and the United States of America. Their submissions are presented below in the languages in which they were received. Submissions provided in the form of comments integrated into the text PDF and Word files are presented under the relevant paragraph and [possible] action numbers, for ease of readability.

## II. SUBMISSIONS BY COUNTRIES

### A. BELGIUM

#### [Possible] Action 1.1.2

- reword so as understand and monitor the drivers, not just their effects, not to put the emphasis on climate change only, and to include all aspects of biodiversity, not just population size and distribution, but eg also species diversity: "Improve understanding and monitoring of the drivers and their effects on associated biodiversity including population sizes and distributions and on the ecological relationships that underpin the supply of ecosystem services"
- It misses a bullet on improving assessment and monitoring of BFA 1.1.2 bis: "Improve knowledge, via assesment and monitoring, of associated biodiverity for food and agriculture"

#### [Possible] Action 1.1.7

- Not clear what we mean here, do we ask for a global monitoring system on BFA? then rephrase: "Integrate existing national monitoring systems on BFA (e.g. those developed for the SDGs, CBD or the Commission) into an overarching Global framework for BFA, with a view to improving the assessment and monitoring of BFA by making full use of all existing data and indicators at national level.

#### [Possible] Action 1.1.9

- Which management practices are we talking about? the ones that contribute to the maintenance and sustainable use of BFA? it should be specified: 'Improve the availability of the data needed to monitor the extent to which management practices and approaches contributing to the maintenance and sustainable use of associated BFA are being used, taking into account traditional knowledge.

#### [Possible] Action 2.1.2

- [that make] sustainable use of

#### [Possible] Action 2.1.4

- Rephrase: Promote research, including participatory research, on management practices and approaches that sustainably use and protect the various components of BFA.

#### [Possible] Action 2.1.5

- [conservation] and restoration of

#### [Possible] Action 2.2.2

- [conservation] and restoration

<sup>2</sup> [CGRFA-17/19/Report, paragraph 47.](#)

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.fao.org/cgrfa/resources/news/detail-events/en/c/1199425/>

## [Possible] Action 2.2.4

- [conservation] and restoration
- [through] notably
- the primary goal of these measures should not be collection , documentation or data management; I would delete the last part.
- or rephrase 2.2.4 : "promote conservation and restoration of associated biodiversity via biodiversity friendly management practices in agriculture, forestry, fisheries, and aquaculture including, where relevant, through innovative technologies and traditional management practices" (from rationale above)

## [Possible] Action 2.2.5

- I would either rephrase as "Establish or strengthen effective infrastructure, including at local level, for the conservation and restoration of associated biodiversity species" or replace 2.2.5 by : "improve landscape structure to provide habitats for associated biodiversity species" (comes from rationale above and is clearer than the current 2.2.5.

## [Possible] Action 2.2.6

- [maintain] and restore

## [Possible] Action 2.2.7

- [conservation] and restoration
- [referring to the phrase "multiple-use forests"] either put more examples (agro ecology, sylvo pastoralism, conservation agriculture...) or delete this specific one

## [Possible] Action 3.1.2

- [Raise awareness] at all levels
- [conservation] and restoration

## [Possible] Action 3.1.3

- [conservation] and restoration

## [Possible] Action 3.2.2

- [conservation] and restoration

## [Possible] Action 3.2.4

- add "... programs and strategies on agriculture, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture, ..."

## [Possible] Action 3.2.5

- add "...and those on agriculture, forestry, fisheries and aquaculture, ...;"

## [Possible] Action 3.2.6

- [conservation] and restoration

## [Possible] Action 3.2.10

- [maintenance] conservation and restoration of

## [Possible] Action 3.2.12

- [at the end of the sentence] "... and eliminate incentives harmful to biodiversity"

## [Possible] Action 3.2.13

- new 3.2.13 bis: "enhance policies and investment decisions in agriculture and the food sectors that better reflect the negative impacts of ecosystem degradation and the co-benefits of investments in nature. "

## [Possible] Action 3.2.15

- new 3.2.15 ter: "Enhance responsible and sustainable sourcing of raw materials and commodities in the food system reconciled with the protection of ecosystems and biodiversity in source countries "

- 3.2.15 bis: § on food systems and circular economy eg : "Apply circular economy and develop resource-efficiency targets in the food system to support sustainable use, conservation and restoration of BFA and for promoting a change in consumption and production patterns " adapted from council conclusions on circular economy"

## B. BRAZIL

Paragraph /Figure /Table	Type of comment <sup>4</sup>	Comments	Proposed change	Observations
Appendix C, page 4, Rationale	te	The explanation does not justify the absence of ABS issues	1) Paragraph 11: delete “Also, in view of the cross-sectoral work of the Commission on access and benefit-sharing for GRFA, the document does not refer to access and benefit-sharing issues”	
Appendix C, page 5, Objectives	Te	The new text emphasizes the importance of research-action oriented programs, connecting scientists and TK holders	1) Add the following text to paragraph 13: “increase national, regional and international cross-sectoral cooperation and information-sharing and enhance institutional capacity, including in research, education, training, <b><u>university outreach programs, as well as other research-action oriented programs fostering biodiversity knowledge cross-cultural co-production between scientists and indigenous &amp; local TK holders</u></b> on the sustainable use and conservation of BFA	
Appendix C, page 6, Priority Areas	te	The new text emphasizes the importance of research-action oriented programs, connecting scientists and TK holders	1) Priority 3.1, new text: Build capacity through awareness raising, research, education, training, <b><u>university outreach and science-TK cross-cultural knowledge co-production</u></b>	
Appendix C, page 7, Priority area 1, Introduction	te	The introduction should be concise and not raise any bias to the readers	2) Delete paragraph 3;  3) Paragraph 5: delete “...as are effects of particular drivers (including climate change)”;  4) Paragraph 6: delete “...(including geographic information systems)...”;	
Appendix C, page 8, Priority 1.1, Actions	te	The actions are repetitive and sometimes very specific. It is	5) Delete all sub-items titles “Genetic resources for food and agriculture”; Associated biodiversity and ecosystem services”; Integrated management”	

<sup>4</sup> Type of comment: ge = general te = technical

ed = editorial

Paragraph /Figure /Table	Type of comment <sup>4</sup>	Comments	Proposed change	Observations
		important to have action that cope with most realities of country members.	<p>6) Action 1.1.1, new text: “Promote the implementation of the sectoral <b><u>national, regional and</u></b> global plans of action to improve the characterization, assessment and monitoring of the genetic resources, <b><u>associated biodiversity and ecosystem services</u></b> as appropriate.</p> <p>7) Action 1.1.2, new text: “Improve understanding of the effects of <del>particular</del> drivers (<del>including climate change</del>) <b><u>of change</u></b> on population sizes and distributions of associated biodiversity and on the ecological relationships that underpin the supply of ecosystem services;</p> <p>8) Delete Actions 1.1.4; 1.1.6; 1.1.7 and 1.1.8;</p> <p>9) Action 1.1.9, new text: “ Improve the <b><u>monitoring of</u></b> the extent to which management practices and approaches are being used, taking into account local production systems</p> <p>10) Include new actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support, including via funding, existing national and/or international biodiversity information systems to further expand and integrate specific modules on agrobiodiversity/BFA, biodiversity use and associated TK.</li> <li>- Establish at national level a participatory joint monitoring system on food, agriculture &amp; biodiversity, as a permanent citizen-science knowledge contributor.</li> </ul>	
Appendix C, page 9, Priority Area 2, Introduction	ed	The text seems to be biased for BFA use just for ecosystem services sometimes.	<p>11) Paragraph 1, line 1, text suggestion: “...BFA to supply <del>various</del> <b><u>food, agriculture and</u></b> ecosystem services involves...”;</p> <p>12) Paragraph 3, line 4, text suggestion: “...to improve the delivery of ecosystem services <b><u>and food production.</u></b>”</p> <p>13) Paragraph 5, item “iv”. Text suggestion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- promoting and expanding the development, adoption and implementation of ecosystem,</li> </ul>	

Paragraph /Figure /Table	Type of comment <sup>4</sup>	Comments	Proposed change	Observations
			landscape/seascape, <b><i>social perspectives and other approaches countries may consider adequate</i></b> in the management of production systems to ensure the supply of ecosystem services and improve livelihoods.	
Appendix C, page 10 Priority 2.1, Actions	te	As stated above, the subitems are not necessary. The text should be concise and state actions and not suggestions.	<p>14) Delete all sub-items titles “Genetic resources for food and agriculture” and “Integrated management”;</p> <p>15) Action 2.1.1, new text: “Promote the implementation of the sectoral <b><i>national, regional and</i></b> global plans of action to improve the sustainable use of the <del>respective</del> genetic resources, <b><i>associated biodiversity and ecosystem services</i></b>;</p> <p>16) Delete Action 2.1.4;</p> <p>17) Action 2.1.5. text suggestion: “Identify best management practices (<del>including those based on traditional knowledge</del>) that contribute to the increased sustainable use and conservation of BFA and develop guidelines and tools to facilitate their implementation, as appropriate.</p> <p>18) Include new actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promote the implementation of access and benefit-sharing for different subsectors of genetic resources for food and agriculture as a means to improve the sustainable use of the respective genetic resources, whilst recognizing the special nature of agricultural biodiversity and its distinctive features</li> <li>- Promote inter&amp;trans-disciplinary, cross-cultural and participatory research-action approaches to improve actions and increase understanding of food systems and biodiversity connections.</li> <li>- Promote use of participatory techniques (such as participatory &amp; community-made videos, photo-stories, infographics, etc.) to improve communication.</li> <li>- Conduct and promote BFA participatory research on a time-regular basis.</li> </ul>	
Appendix C, page 10-	te	As stated above, the	19) Delete all sub-items titles “Genetic resources for food and agriculture”,	

Paragraph /Figure /Table	Type of comment <sup>4</sup>	Comments	Proposed change	Observations
11 Priority 2.2, Actions		subitems are not necessary. It is important to have action that cope with most realities of country members and their sovereignty.	<p>“Associated biodiversity and ecosystem services”, “Integrated management”;</p> <p>20) Action 2.2.1, new text: “Promote the implementation of the sectoral <b><i>national, regional and</i></b> global plans of action to improve the <i>in situ</i>, on-farm and <i>ex situ</i> conservation of the <del>respective</del> genetic resources, <b><i>associated biodiversity and ecosystem services.</i></b>”;</p> <p>21) Action 2.2.8, text suggestion; “<b>MAINTAIN</b>, develop or expand designated areas.....</p> <p>22) Include new action: ”Develop, promote and support community and cross-cultural partnerships, involving scientists and indigenous &amp; local communities of TK holders, for in situ &amp; on farm biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.</p>	
Appendix C, page 13-14, Priority Area 3, Introduction		The text needs to be shortened and be more concise. There is a lot of speculation sentences that are not appropriate for this type of document as do not represent all situation in all countries.	<p>23) Paragraph 1. Delete first sentence: <del>In developing countries in particular, increasing demand for food production is driving rapid structural change in agriculture sectors, often related to land use change and habitat degradation and fragmentation.</del></p> <p>24) Paragraph 2, line4. Delete: “<del>General biodiversity related policy frameworks usually give limited attention to associated biodiversity. Where relevant policies and laws exist, their implementation is often inadequate. Lack of consultation between policy makers at national or regional levels and stakeholders at local level is leading to a disconnection between political and operational levels.</del>”;</p> <p>25) Paragraph 3 and 4. “<del>Producers in all agriculture sectors rely on BFA. Despite their significance to BFA management, small scale and indigenous producers—including women—are often marginalized and excluded from decision-making processes that affect their production systems. Many producers’ and community-based organizations play significant roles both in providing practical support to the sustainable management of BFA and in advocating policies or marketing</del></p>	

Paragraph /Figure /Table	Type of comment <sup>4</sup>	Comments	Proposed change	Observations
			<p>strategies that support the roles of small-scale producers as custodians of BFA. <del>Many small-scale producers depend on communal resources for their livelihoods.</del> Social and economic policies need to aim at ensuring equity for rural populations, so that they are enabled to build up, in a sustainable way, their productive capacity to supply goods and services in increasing quantity and of increasing quality to expanding national economies. <del>This includes regulating and supporting ecosystem services for clean water, fresh air and healthy soils, for which no market exists in many countries.”;</del></p> <p>26) Paragraph 10. Delete;</p> <p>27) Paragraph 11. <del>“In a time of rapid change and growing privatization, national planning will need to ensure the long-term supply of public goods, including biodiversity maintenance and ecosystem services, such as clean air and secure water supplies, and human health. Such national planning will inevitably lead to trade-offs between different national policy goals. Short- and long-term policies for the sector, integrated within the larger cross-sectoral planning framework for the achievement of the SDGs, are required.”</del></p>	
Appendix C, page 14-15 Priority 3.1, Actions	te, ed	As stated above, the subitems are not necessary. Avoid duplication among Action items.	<p>28) Delete all sub-items titles “Genetic resources for food and agriculture”, Associated biodiversity and ecosystem services”, “Integrated approaches”;</p> <p>29) Action 3.1.1. New text suggestion: “Promote the implementation of the sectoral <b><i>national, regional and</i></b> global plans of action to raise awareness of the roles and values of GRFA <b><i>genetic resources, associated biodiversity and ecosystem services</i></b>, and build capacity to strengthen research, education, training, university outreach, research-action and knowledge cross-cultural co-production between scientists and indigenous &amp; local communities of TK holders for their sustainable use and conservation, as appropriate.;</p>	

Paragraph /Figure /Table	Type of comment <sup>4</sup>	Comments	Proposed change	Observations
			<p>30) Action 3.1.4. Text suggestion: Improve capacity for research on associated biodiversity and ecosystem services and encourage the formation of multi, <b><i>inter &amp; trans</i></b>disciplinary research teams, <b>fostering diversity participation as a means towards better qualified scientific production.</b> Promote innovative ways of building capacities, such as through the use of information and communication technologies, <b>and including research-action and knowledge cross-cultural co-production between scientists and indigenous &amp; local communities of TK holders.</b></p> <p>31) Action 3.1.5. Delete;</p> <p>32) Action 3.1.6. Line 1. Text suggestion: “Strengthen the teaching of <b><i>genetic resources</i></b>, taxonomy, soil science,...”;</p> <p>33) Include new action: Promote the implementation of access and benefit-sharing for different subsectors of genetic resources for food and agriculture as a means to raise awareness of the roles and values of GRFA and its special nature and distinctive features, and build capacity to strengthen research, education and training for their sustainable use and conservation, as appropriate,</p> <p>34)</p>	
Appendix C, page 16 Priority 3.2, Actions		As stated above, the subitems are not necessary. Avoid duplication among Action items and keep the action items concise as possible without further explanations.	<p>35) Delete all sub-items titles “Genetic resources for food and agriculture”, and “Integrated approaches”;</p> <p>36) Action 3.2.1. Text suggestion: “Promote the implementation of the sectoral <b><i>national, regional and</i></b> global plans of action to strengthen institutions and policy frameworks for GRFA <b><i>genetic resources, associated biodiversity and ecosystem services</i></b>, as appropriate;</p> <p>37) Action 3.2.3. Delete;</p>	

Paragraph /Figure /Table	Type of comment <sup>4</sup>	Comments	Proposed change	Observations
			<p>38) Action item 3.2.4. Text suggestion: “Mainstream BFA into existing national policies, programmes and strategies on biodiversity (e.g. National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans [NBSAPs]) and into those with a possible impact on BFA, for example through the establishment of cross-sectoral (interministerial) and multi-stakeholder working groups (taking into account existing efforts, as relevant).”;</p> <p>39) Action 3.2.6. Text suggestion: Inventory and review existing legislative, administrative and policy measures on the management, use and conservation of - and access to and <b><i>sharing of benefits arising from the use</i></b> of - BFA, their implementation and the extent of their (negative or positive) impacts on the sustainable use of BFA. Where gaps are identified, strengthen or develop such measures, as appropriate, recognizing the special nature of BFA and its distinctive features.</p> <p>40) Action 3.2.10. text suggestion ”Strengthen and establish national policies, strategies and frameworks that provide support, including through incentives, to producers and other value-chain actors in applying practices that favour the maintenance and sustainable use of BFA and ecosystem services., <del>in particular indigenous and local production system stakeholders. Relevant incentives and support in this context may include the provision of extension services, delivery of microcredit for women in rural areas, appropriate access to natural resources and to the market, resolving land tenure issues, recognition of cultural practices and values, and adding value to their specialist products.”;</del></p> <p>41) Action 3.2.15. Text suggestion: “Further develop markets and value chains for products from production systems that favour the maintenance and sustainable use of BFA (e.g. through labelling, certification, traceability, <del>denomination of origin, geographic identification, branding, gastronomy and tourism</del>) and promote the use of</p>	

Paragraph /Figure /Table	Type of comment <sup>4</sup>	Comments	Proposed change	Observations
			local/traditional foods to improve nutrition and health.”	
Appendix C, page 17 Priority 3.3	ed	As stated above, the subitems are not necessary. Keep the action items concise as possible.	<p>42) Rationale, Paragraph 1, line 5, text suggestion: “..national boundaries. <del>Global challenges such as climate change and emerging disease threats require global responses.</del> Multi- stakeholder,...”;</p> <p>43) Rationale, Paragraph 2, line 3, text suggestion: “...capacity building. <del>In some countries where networks are well developed, they draw upon the support of active non-governmental organizations, including from the environment sector, and consumers.</del> National Focal Points...”;</p> <p>44) Actions. Delete all sub-items titles: “Cooperation” and “Funding”;</p> <p>45) Action 3.3.1. Text suggestion: “Inventory and describe relevant institutions and their mandates to enable the development of coordination mechanisms <del>for the establishment of, for example, a national BFA steering committee to strengthen collaboration between relevant institutions, seek synergies and coordinate the implementation of their respective activities.</del>”</p> <p>46) Add new action”: Further develop and strengthen international cooperation, including triangular and south-south cooperation, to foster capacity building, technical assistance and transfer of technology, specially to developing countries.”</p> <p>47) 36)Add new action”: Promote the sharing of benefits arising from the use of GRFA through international instruments, such as the Multilateral System of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and the Nagoya Protocol to the CBD, considering the importance of such financial resources to the implementation of conservation and sustainable use of GRFA, especially in developing countries, and the special nature of GRFA and its distinctive features.</p>	

## C. CANADA

### 1. Introduction

In February 2019, FAO presented “The State of the World’s Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture” (<http://www.fao.org/state-of-biodiversity-for-food-agriculture/en/>). This was the first report ever to take stock of biodiversity for food and agriculture on a global scale. The FAO Commission on Genetic Resources has a group of National Focal Points for Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture which met in June 2018 for the first time, and presented a revised version of the document BIODIVERSITY FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE – REVISED DRAFT NEEDS AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS to the Seventeenth Regular Session of the Commission, 18-22 February 2019. The Commission tasked its Secretariat to invite written text proposals and comments on this document that was Appendix C of the Commission’s Report (<http://www.fao.org/3/mz618en/mz618en.pdf>). The Report also states that a revision of this document may result in a follow-up product/document “for consideration by the Commission at its Eighteenth Session, with the motivation to have it adopted as a Global Plan of Action by the FAO Conference at its Forty-second Session”.

### 2. General Comments

The document BIODIVERSITY FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE – REVISED DRAFT NEEDS AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS (hereafter called the Document) provides a structured approach to possible activities at national, regional and international levels that support a positive development of biodiversity for food and agriculture. The importance of sectoral activities and the already existing sectoral Global Plans of Actions by the Commission are clearly respected. Three priority areas are distinguished.

In Canada’s view, an inherent problem is that Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture includes the sectoral genetic resources for food and agriculture for which Global Plans of Actions already exist (plant, animals, forestry) or will be developed (aquatic). In addition, a work plan for the Commission for the sustainable use and conservation of micro-organism and invertebrate genetic resources for food and agriculture was established in 2019 (see CGRFA-17/19/Report, Appendix E). The latter covers a lot of diversity that is also under the category of associated biodiversity for food and agriculture in the Document. As the Commission progressively addresses all of its component sectors, fewer and fewer organisms fall solely under “associated biodiversity”. The overarching and interlinked nature of biodiversity for food and agriculture in general creates possible confusion and interference with the sectoral activities and actions. The potential for duplicated efforts is evident. Enhanced coordination among the sectoral activities is very much needed and such coordination may avoid the need to establish new and separate action items for biodiversity for food and agriculture as such. If metrics and indicators are to be developed for biodiversity for food and agriculture, as suggested in the Document (see CGRFA-17/19/Report, Appendix C, page 5), duplication as well as increased reporting burden on countries should be avoided. More emphasis should be put in the Document on the interactions between the sectors.

An important requirement is that all measures and possible actions are based on scientific evidence. This aspect may need even more emphasis in the Document, because such evidence is still widely lacking. More importance should be placed on how to obtain more information and evidence, while avoiding duplication with sectoral monitoring activities.

The activities in the FAO regarding a “Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors” (<http://www.fao.org/biodiversity/mainstreaming-platform/en/>) are still under review and relate very much to the possible needs and actions presented in the Document. Again, a coordinated approach is required to be efficient, and a revised Document may need to better explain this context.

Associated biodiversity for food and agriculture is also addressed under the very broad scope of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). Therefore, the outcomes of the still ongoing negotiations to develop the post-2020 global biodiversity framework of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD are very relevant to the Document. It may be challenging to formulate and finalize a Global Plan of Action for Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture in the context of the Commission before the new CBD framework has been established.

Countries may require more time to reflect on the State of the World Report on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture and to assess where other processes in the Commission, the wider FAO, and the CBD

are moving, before establishing an additional new global plan of action for biodiversity for food and agriculture. Countries need to better ascertain which elements identified as needs and possible actions could become part of a global plan of action, and which ones are relevant on the regional, national or local level only.

### 3. Text proposals

Canada wishes to keep the adjective “possible” in front of the word “actions” throughout the Document to ensure consistency with the title of the Document and to emphasize the voluntary nature of these actions.

Page numbers below refer to pages of Appendix C, Report from the Seventeenth Regular Session of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, Rome, 18-22 February 2019.

- Page 1, Introduction, paragraph 3: State that the report was published in February 2019 and insert a corresponding hyperlink.
- Page 3, Assessment and Monitoring, second bullet point, line 5: Replace “grounds” by “reasons”.
- Page 4, Objectives, 2nd bullet: Replace “create an enabling framework for...” by “create a contextual framework for...”.
- Page 5, 4. Objectives, fourth bullet point: Delete “and framework for”. It seems premature to talk about a framework.
- P.7, paragraph 4: Replace “documented” by “known”. Documentation is still lacking in many cases.
- Page 8, possible Action 1.1.7: Delete “into an overarching framework for BFA”. This is too ambitious wording.
- Page 12, possible Action 2.2.8: It is not obvious how geographic indications may improve the conservation of BFA. The sentence should end after “...Systems.”
- Page 13, Priority Area 3 Introduction: Please add more detail on institutional frameworks, as there is presently very little on this topic in this introduction.
- Page 13, Priority Area 3 Introduction: Continue paragraph 3 after “...in this context.”; insert an additional sentence:  
 “To ensure evidence based decision making, planning and policies, efforts in research to better assess biodiversity need to be supported to better understand interactions within and among species diversity, genetic diversity and the environment.”
- Page 14, Priority Area 3 Introduction, last sentence of paragraph 2: Insert after “Combining a range of incentive measures...” the following: “consistent with international obligations and with national law...” This is to prevent the Document from being used to distort trade (the “international obligations” include notably the World Trade Organization agreements).
- Page 15, Item 3.1.6: Add “agro-ecology” to the list.
- Page 15, Item 3.1.7: Add “and stakeholders.” after “practioners”. That would widen the scope of this item; it should not be reserved to only practioners.
- Page 16, paragraph 3.2.6, last line: After “develop” insert “and harmonize”. This seems appropriate to avoid duplicative efforts.
- Page 17, possible Action 3.2.12: Should be heavily conditioned, for example by starting the sentence with “If feasible, improve...”. Cross-compliance has shortcomings that lead many countries to refuse to use it. There is a risk that either or both of environmental and agricultural objectives are not met.
- Page 18, after 3.3.5.: Insert an additional sub-point:  
 “3.3.6 Support developments that also ensure and enhance economically and environmentally sustainable production systems for farms including in industrialized countries.”
- Page 20, box explaining “AqGR”: It’s confusing if the “biodiversity of the associated ecosystems that support them” is already included in the description of AqGR itself. It may not be possible to have clear-cut categories in all cases, but perhaps some clarification is possible. We propose to delete the text “...and the diversity of the associated ecosystems that support them.”

- Page 20, Box explaining “Associated biodiversity”, last sentence: Replace “... weeds or pests.” by “...weeds, pests, or diseases.”
- Page 22, box explaining “Ecosystem services”: Provisioning ecosystem services include “the products obtained from ecosystems”, that is, they include all agricultural products. That may need to be emphasized, because it is often overlooked. Agro-ecosystems supply our food, so we need to take care of them and design them to be sustainable.

## D. CHILE

### ***La biodiversidad para la alimentación y la agricultura: esbozo revisado de necesidades y posibles medidas.***

1. Área prioritaria 1, prioridad 1.1, en Biodiversidad asociada y servicios ecosistémicos, pág.13, proponemos incluir la siguiente medida:

Difundir y capacitar adecuadamente a nivel nacional sobre los distintos sistemas de evaluación y seguimiento existentes.

2. Área prioritaria 2, Introducción, párrafo 4, sugerimos sustituir el concepto de excesivo por *de manera no sustentable*:

Se considera que gran número de prácticas y enfoques aplicados en granjas, plantaciones forestales u otras unidades de producción o a nivel ecosistémico o del espacio terrestre o marítimo tienen una influencia positiva sobre la utilización sostenible y la conservación de la BAA. Al mismo tiempo, los principales factores del cambio en el plano de los sistemas de producción con repercusión negativa en la BAA y en los servicios ecosistémicos asociados guardan relación con las prácticas de gestión, en particular los cambios en el uso de la tierra y el agua, y la gestión, la contaminación y el uso excesivo de insumos externos, y la explotación y recolección excesivas de los recursos. La elaboración, adopción y aplicación de prácticas y enfoques centrados en la BAA, y el hecho de mitigar y evitar prácticas y enfoques negativos se hallan ante varios desafíos. Uno de ellos es que, si bien cada componente de la biodiversidad para la alimentación y la agricultura, desde cada gen y especie de plantas, animales o microorganismos, hasta ecosistemas enteros, es importante, no existe en aislamiento y, por tanto, ha de gestionarse como parte del espacio terrestre o marítimo más amplio. Ello requiere, entre otras cosas, que se reúnan y comprometan las diferentes partes interesadas que operan en el respectivo espacio terrestre o marítimo.

3. Área prioritaria 3, prioridad 3.1, en Biodiversidad asociada y servicios ecosistémicos, pág.21, párrafo 3.1.2., sugerimos incluir el siguiente texto:

3.1.2 Sensibilizar y capacitar en el plano nacional acerca de la importancia de la biodiversidad para la alimentación y la agricultura y de la biodiversidad asociada y los servicios ecosistémicos y sobre la necesidad de su utilización sostenible y conservación entre los agricultores, ganaderos, pescadores, habitantes de los bosques, la ciudadanía en general, los donantes, los encargados de formular políticas, el sector privado, los consumidores, la infancia, la juventud y los medios de comunicación.

4. Prioridad 3.2, en enfoques integrados, en los párrafos 3.2.10, 3.2.11 y 3.2.12 incluir al final de cada párrafo el siguiente texto:

Dichos incentivos deben ser coherentes con los acuerdos internacionales pertinentes.

## E. MEXICO

- Falta considerar en el documento que la seguridad alimentaria implica la salud nutricional de las poblaciones. El uso adecuado de la Biodiversidad para la Alimentación y la Agricultura (BAA) garantiza, como fin último, la salud de las poblaciones desde un enfoque sustentable debido a que la BAA provee alimentos que son fuente de vitaminas, minerales y fibra, entre otros nutrientes.
- Si bien pueden existir alimentos obtenidos de la BAA y éstos estar al alcance de ciertas poblaciones, se debe evaluar su pertenencia nutricional.
- En caso de que alimentos de la BAA sean nutricionalmente apropiados, es necesario revisar los elementos culturales asociados para promocionar su producción y recuperar su consumo por las generaciones actuales y futuras, por lo que debe señalarse explícitamente la inclusión de los conocimientos y condiciones sociales y culturales asociadas a la BAA y agrobiodiversidad como objeto necesario de evaluación y seguimiento.
- La BAA no sólo puede contribuir a reducir el hambre y la pobreza, sino que también puede proveer opciones de alimentación saludable para el combate del sobrepeso y obesidad a nivel mundial.
- Se requieren crear estrategias que permitan que los esfuerzos regionales se integren a nivel nacional y de éste a nivel mundial. Se debe fomentar que las estrategias nazcan desde el nivel regional, pero que sean coordinadas a nivel nacional.

DICE	PROPUESTA DE CAMBIO
Área prioritaria 2: Gestión de la biodiversidad para la alimentación y la agricultura	Área prioritaria 2: Gestión de la biodiversidad para la alimentación y la agricultura <b><u>con el fin de combatir las sindemia global de obesidad, desnutrición y cambio climático.</u></b>
1.1.4 Determinar prioridades para la evaluación y el seguimiento de la biodiversidad asociada y sus servicios ecosistémicos. Ello podría suponer la designación de un organismo nacional (por ejemplo, de los sectores de la agricultura o el medio ambiente o de ambos) con el fin de recolectar datos y emprender actividades de seguimiento.	1.1.4 Determinar prioridades para la evaluación y el seguimiento de la biodiversidad asociada y sus servicios ecosistémicos. Ello podría suponer la designación de un organismo nacional (por ejemplo, de los sectores de la agricultura, medio ambiente <b><u>o algún organismo con vínculo intersectorial</u></b> ) con el fin de recolectar datos y emprender actividades de seguimiento.
1.1.5 Utilizar en la medida de lo posible los sistemas de seguimiento existentes (por ejemplo, los elaborados para los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible, el Convenio sobre la Diversidad Biológica o la Comisión) y los datos e indicadores existentes a nivel nacional, y explorar el potencial de los indicadores que sirvan para múltiples finalidades.	1.1.5 <b><u>Evaluar la pertinencia y aplicabilidad</u></b> de los sistemas existentes de seguimiento (por ejemplo, los elaborados para los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible, el Convenio sobre la Diversidad Biológica o la Comisión) y los datos e indicadores existentes a nivel nacional, <b><u>a fin de que sean aplicables a nivel regional</u></b> y explorar el potencial de los indicadores <b><u>que tengan como medio de verificación dichos sistemas de seguimiento y que sean utilizados para la toma de decisiones a nivel regional y nacional.</u></b>
1.1.8 Elaborar instrumentos para la recopilación de datos y una metodología para su análisis, sistemas de gestión del conocimiento y métodos para el intercambio y la difusión de conocimientos relacionados con la BAA, en particular sobre su gestión integrada, de modo participativo.	1.1.8 Elaborar instrumentos para la recopilación de datos y una metodología para su análisis, sistemas de gestión del conocimiento y métodos para el intercambio y la difusión de conocimientos relacionados con la BAA, en particular sobre su gestión integrada, de modo participativo.

DICE	PROPUESTA DE CAMBIO
	participativo <b><u>con la colaboración activa de las autoridades respectivas.</u></b>
2.1.2 Fomentar prácticas y enfoques de producción alimentaria y agrícola sostenible que utilicen, conserven y restauren la BAA manteniendo al mismo tiempo los medios de vida y respaldando el rendimiento económico y la salud ambiental.	2.1.2 Fomentar prácticas y enfoques de producción alimentaria y agrícola sostenible que utilicen, conserven y restauren la BAA, <b><u>así como el fomento de mercados locales que alienten la producción de BAA</u></b> manteniendo al mismo tiempo los medios de vida y respaldando el rendimiento económico y la salud ambiental.
2.1.5 Determinar las mejores prácticas de gestión (incluidas las que se basan en el conocimiento tradicional) que contribuyen a aumentar la utilización sostenible y la conservación de la BAA y elaborar directrices e instrumentos a fin de facilitar su aplicación, según corresponda.	2.1.5 <b><u>Desarrollar metodologías basadas en</u></b> las mejores prácticas de gestión (incluidas las que se basan en el conocimiento tradicional) que <b><u>contribuyan</u></b> a aumentar la utilización sostenible y la conservación de la BAA y elaborar directrices e instrumentos a fin de facilitar su aplicación, según corresponda
Prioridad 2.2 Mejorar la conservación de la biodiversidad para la alimentación y la agricultura	Prioridad 2.2 Mejorar la conservación de la biodiversidad para la alimentación y la agricultura, <b><u>así como los conocimientos que posibilitan dicha conservación</u></b>
2.2.4 Fomentar la conservación por medio de una combinación de prácticas de gestión tradicional y tecnologías innovadoras, según corresponda, y mejorar su uso en aras de la caracterización, la recolección, el almacenamiento, la documentación o la gestión de datos.	2.2.4 4 Fomentar la conservación por medio de <b><u>la evaluación de la pertinencia</u></b> de prácticas tradicional o tecnologías innovadoras, según corresponda, y mejorar su uso en aras de la caracterización, la recolección, el almacenamiento, la documentación o la gestión de datos.
	<b><u>2.2.9 Establecer marcos normativos que garanticen y fomenten el uso, selección, intercambio y conservación de semillas, propágulos y conocimientos asociados a la BAA por parte de los productores y comunidades.</u></b>
3.1.5 Reforzar la cooperación y las sinergias en la investigación sobre la biodiversidad asociada y los servicios ecosistémicos y otros componentes de la BAA y mejorar la transferencia de los productos de la investigación a los productores y los encargados de formular políticas.	3.1.5 Reforzar la cooperación y las sinergias en la investigación sobre la biodiversidad asociada y los servicios ecosistémicos y otros componentes de la BAA y mejorar la transferencia de los productos de la investigación a los productores y los encargados de formular políticas, <b><u>además de promover actividades locales y regionales de intercambio de conocimientos y materiales entre productores y agentes directamente involucrados en la producción agrícola y gestión de la BAA.</u></b>
3.1.6 Reforzar la enseñanza de la taxonomía, la edafología, la ecología, la biología de los sistemas y otras materias intersectoriales pertinentes para la BAA en las universidades, escuelas y en la educación profesional e informal dirigida a distintos interesados,	3.1.6 Reforzar la enseñanza de la taxonomía, la edafología, la ecología, la biología, <b><u>la etnología, la sociología y aplicaciones en salud</u></b> de los sistemas y otras materias intersectoriales pertinentes para la BAA en las universidades, escuelas y en la educación profesional e informal dirigida a distintos interesados,

DICE	PROPUESTA DE CAMBIO
incluidos los investigadores científicos no profesionales.	incluidos los investigadores científicos no profesionales.
3.2.10 Reforzar y establecer políticas, estrategias y marcos nacionales que proporcionen apoyo, incluso mediante incentivos, a los productores y a otros actores de la cadena de valor en la aplicación de prácticas que favorezcan el mantenimiento y la utilización sostenible de la BAA y los servicios ecosistémicos, en particular los interesados indígenas y del sistema de producción local. En este contexto, los incentivos y el apoyo pertinentes pueden comprender la prestación de servicios de extensión, la concesión de microcréditos para las mujeres en las zonas rurales, el acceso adecuado a los recursos naturales y al mercado, la solución de los problemas de tenencia de la tierra, el reconocimiento de las prácticas y valores culturales, así como la adición de valor a sus productos especializados.	3.2.10 <b><u>Establecer políticas, estrategias y marcos nacionales que incentiven cadenas de valor en las que los productores y otros actores apliquen</u></b> prácticas que favorezcan el mantenimiento y la utilización sostenible de la BAA y los servicios ecosistémicos, en particular los interesados indígenas y del sistema de producción local. En este contexto, los incentivos y el apoyo pertinentes pueden comprender la prestación de servicios de extensión, la concesión de microcréditos para las mujeres en las zonas rurales, el acceso adecuado a los recursos naturales y al mercado, la solución de los problemas de tenencia de la tierra, el reconocimiento de las prácticas y valores culturales, así como la adición de valor a sus productos especializados.
3.2.15 Seguir elaborando mercados y cadenas de valor para productos procedentes de sistemas de producción que favorezcan el mantenimiento y la utilización sostenible de la BAA (por ejemplo, a través del etiquetado, la certificación, la trazabilidad, la denominación de origen, la identificación geográfica, el marcado, la gastronomía y el turismo) y fomentar el uso de alimentos locales o tradicionales con el fin de mejorar la nutrición y la salud.	3.2.15 <b><u>Fomentar los mercados locales y regionales para favorecer</u></b> cadenas de valor para productos procedentes de sistemas de producción que favorezcan el mantenimiento y la utilización sostenible de la BAA (por ejemplo, a través del etiquetado, la certificación, la trazabilidad, la denominación de origen, la identificación geográfica, el marcado, la gastronomía y el turismo) y fomentar el uso de alimentos locales o tradicionales con el fin de mejorar la nutrición y la salud.
3.3.4 Seguir desarrollando y reforzando la cooperación internacional para incorporar la BAA en los sectores agrícolas y más allá de dichos sectores.	3.3.4 Seguir desarrollando y reforzando la cooperación internacional para incorporar la BAA en los sectores agrícolas y más allá de dichos sectores, <b><u>así como la difusión de experiencias exitosas.</u></b>

## F. NORWAY

In reference to the [circular State Letter](#) (CSL) sent by the Commission 18 June 2019, Norway has the following comments to the document entitled Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture – Revised draft needs and possible actions:

- Clarification, or at least some indication to who is expected to possible implement the different possible actions. Possible actions could maybe be organised at country, regional and global levels, or use formulations used in sectoral GPAs such as "Governments in collaboration with stakeholders"; "Governments in cooperation with relevant UN bodies"; "FAO should". This clarification could also assist in highlighting areas for partnerships with multiple stakeholders, as requested by the Commission.
- As an input to the ongoing development of FAO's strategy to mainstream biodiversity, Norway suggested to expand the mandate of the Commission to be in a position to follow up mainstreaming of biodiversity at large (not limited to GRFA and BFA) in FAO's policies, programmes and activities. Bearing in mind that also the Commission at its 17<sup>th</sup> regular

session, requested the secretariat to reflect the main findings of the State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture in FAO's policies, programmes and activities, the document on needs and possible actions should have some specific possible actions to be conducted by the secretariat/FAO in this regard.

- In order to "contribute to the implementation of the SDGs" the document need to present relevant SDGs, and suggest possible actions in this regard,
- It's a bit premature to suggest possible actions to contribute to the implementation of "the post-2020 global biodiversity framework" as its currently under development, but the documents could suggest possible actions that are more specific than "3.2.5 Encourage relevant international organizations to consider the importance of BFA and the ecosystem services it supports when revising global agreements on biodiversity." The current experiences with Aichi target 13 and the specific indicators could be used as a starting point to identify possible actions. (incl. e.g. expanding the focus from "the genetic diversity of cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and of wild relatives" to include all BFA).
- "Promote the implementation of the sectoral global plans of action" is listed as a possible action under each priority area. It would be better to have this as a general possible action in the first part of the document, so that is clearer that this document highlight additional possible actions in addition to the existing ones.
- The use of "sector" could cause some confusion, since its used in reference to three different kind of sectors:
  - Plants, animals, forest, aquaculture
  - Environmental, food and agriculture, and other sectors
  - Public-sector, non-governmental and private-sector

Thus, it becomes unclear what is meant by "cross-sectoral", "multisectoral" and "among sectors" in other parts of the document.

- The SoW BFA also describes soil biodiversity, but I miss specific possible actions addressing soil biodiversity in the document.
- The document should describe drivers of change in more detail, so as it's possible to be a bit more specific about the identification of possible actions. "3.2.3 Adapt existing or develop new legislation or policies to counter drivers of change that negatively affect BFA and associated ecosystem services" is so general that it does not provide much of guidance to governments or others who would like to address drivers. And what is the intention in "2.1.3 Take into account drivers of change...", does it mean to *address* drivers of change?
- The document does not prioritise the different possible actions. It has a value to list a rich options for possible actions. At the same time, the key possible actions are "drowning". It could be worthwhile to make an effort to identify a few, most relevant possible actions.
- In further work on the document and the possible actions, it could be kept in mind what possible indicators could be used to monitor a potential GPA for BFA.
- And finally, just a reminder of ERG's specific inputs to the document at the 17<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission:
- *Associated biodiversity*
- **2.1.2 Promote practices and approaches that make use of, conserve and restore associated biodiversity, such as sustainable beekeeping, pollination management and conservation agriculture.**

- *Integrated management*
- 2.1.23 Promote sustainable food and agricultural production practices ~~and~~ **as well as integrated approaches at production and ecosystem level that make use of, conserve and restore BFA and associated ecosystem services while improving livelihoods and supporting economic performance and environmental health, such as organic farming, sustainable forest management and ecosystem approaches to fisheries and aquaculture.**
- **2.1.4 Promote integrated pest management practices and approaches, such as agroforestry, reduced use of pesticides, reduced use of antibiotics, as well as integrated nutrient management and practices, such as integrated animal and crop production systems that promote soil organic matter accumulation and nutrient cycling.**
- **2.1.5 Promote sustainable land management practices that yield net climate benefits while enhancing ecosystem services associated to biodiversity for food and agriculture, such as conservation measures, agroforestry and some integrated animal and crop production systems that promote soil organic matter accumulation and nutrient cycling, restoration of degraded forests, rangelands and wetlands, and measures that enhance soil carbon storage in managed landscapes such as reduced or no-till farming practices, cover crops, green manures or intercropping.**

## G. SWITZERLAND

At this stage we would like to limit our input to general remarks.

### 1. From a BFA component-based approach to an integrated ecosystem approach

We consider the development of a Plan of Action to be a unique opportunity to move from a component-based approach to an integrated ecosystem approach for the management and sustainable use of BFA in the different agricultural production systems.

The notion of integrated management should be an umbrella term, and not complement the components of BFA. In our view, the current document focuses too much on the genetic approach, which is already largely covered in the sectoral GPAs.

BFA is fundamental for the production of food and, consequently, for food security and nutrition. The more biodiversity there is, the more ecosystem services will be provided to the farming systems. BFA is therefore at the heart of “Nature based solutions” to support transformative change of all agricultural systems towards more sustainability.

It is also important to emphasize the fact that there are not “one fit all” actions. Agricultural production systems vary considerably in terms of BFA status and potential to contribution to conservation of BFA and delivering of BFA based ecosystem services. This means that the type and intensity of measures/actions will change from case to case based on the existing profile and the type of production. It is also important to reflect that some measures/actions could be realized rapidly whereas others might be more complex and require more time in terms of implementation.

The document should also recognize the added value of certain existing agricultural practices in terms of management of BFA (such as conservation agriculture, agroforestry, organic farming) and also the potential of existing recognized BFA friendly practice ( such as flower strips or no tillage) for intensive agricultural systems.

It is key that national strategies consider this in identifying actions. In this context, the document should refer to already existing approaches and tools to assess the BFA status such as the Agrobiodiversity index developed by Bioversity International.

## 2. Strengthened focus on the ecosystem services

Biodiversity is an important basis for the provision of ecosystem services and, consequently, both are interdependent. The relevance of BFA comes from the fact that the more biodiversity there is, the more ecosystem services are provided free of charge to the society. If those ecosystem services (e.g. pollination, erosion control, water filtration, nutrient cycling/supply, clean air/drought/flood regulation, pest and disease control, etc.) decline further and have to be replaced by human activities, it would generate tremendous costs. Therefore, the document and especially the possible actions should include a strengthened focus on the ecosystem services that are relevant for the sustainable use and conservation of BFA.

## 3. Current draft is too general

We see the current draft as being too general and not fit for the purpose that is primarily to develop a voluntary tool to support member states in addressing biodiversity for food and agriculture in relevant national strategies and policies to support the transition to more sustainable agriculture and food system. The actions should be more specific and based on current scientific knowledge and experience. The outcome of the IPBES assessment relevant reports (e.g. Policy and management options from IPBES Assessment Report on Pollinators, pollination and products as well as agriculture and food relevant possible actions and pathways for achieving approaches for sustainability from the IPBES 2019 Global Assessment Report biodiversity and ecosystem services) could serve as a reference.

We support the current three Strategic Priority Areas (by analogy with previous GPA we recommend to keep the reference to Strategic).

For Strategic Priority Area 1 we suggest **adding a second SP** “Develop international reference tools for assessment and monitoring of BFA”

For Strategic Priority Area 2 we would recommend a more innovative format with the three following Strategic Priorities/Under Priorities.

1. Improve current conditions for BFA
  - Manage immediate risks
    - Example of Actions/responses
  - Utilize existing opportunities
    - Example of Actions/responses
2. Transform agricultural ecosystems
  - Promote ecological intensification through active management of ecosystem services
    - Example of Actions/response
  - Strengthen existing diversified agroecosystem
    - Example of Actions/responses
  - Invest in landscape approach
    - Example of Actions/responses
3. Nature based solutions
  - Integrate diverse knowledge (including TK)
    - Example of Actions/responses
  - Link actors through collaborative cross sectoral approaches
    - Example of Actions/responses

For Strategic Priority Area 3 we would suggest to reorganize it along the following Strategic Priorities:

1. Establish or strengthen national institution
2. Review and develop National Policies for BFA mainstreaming
3. Develop positive incentives for BFA including recognition of BFA contribution to ecosystem services
4. Awareness raising
5. Capacity building through research education and training
6. Cooperation between actors at national level including Role/Participation of women and youth
7. Regional & International Cooperation including the role of the CGRFA

We stand ready to provide the Secretariat with more details regarding the different measures/actions distribution for the different Strategic Priorities

#### **4. Coherence with the CBD its Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework as well as the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development**

Coherence with the CBD should be ensured. On one hand, the GPA should address the implementation of the current Aichi targets relevant to agriculture. It should also be open to anticipate, as far as possible, the outcomes of the on-going process on the Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework . It should in this regard establish a linkage with the “Other effective area based measures” approach under development in the CBD and their relevance for the agricultural sector (see **CBD COP decision 14/8**).

The Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development is only mentioned as existing monitoring systems that can be used in this context (1.1.5). We believe that the practices that include BFA should be in line with the Agenda 2030. We therefore suggest adding the importance of the SDG framework under PA3.

#### **5. Stakeholder’s role and responsibilities**

As already mentioned, the GPA will be primarily directed to States to support them in developing their national strategies. However, it might be helpful to identify actions that could be appropriate for the different non-state actors, in a manner similar to the model of the HLPE based CFS policy convergence outputs. Actions directed towards the CGRFA could also be more clearly identified. The underlying idea is to develop an action-oriented document meant to guide States in the development of their national strategies.

## **H. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

### **General comments:**

- 1) We noted many of these actions/needs refer to associated biodiversity only, and do not mention wild foods...wild foods is another component of BFA not covered under existing GPAs. We felt that for consistency, wild foods should also be included in the needs and possible actions where appropriate.
- 2) The introduction text for priority areas 2 and 3 could be pared down and focused. More detailed discussions could be kept for the rationale section.
- 3) Framing in priority area 3 should focus on broad policy mechanisms (eg., economic instruments vs. incentives and economic analyses vs. economic valuation). For example, economic instruments includes things like incentives, market approaches, finance, etc. The document however, focuses on only certain policy types or analysis types (incentives, economic valuation). To be more even and inclusive we recommend setting out a framework more clearly that is inclusive of many different types of measures that may be undertaken.

## Comments on specific parts of the document:

### Section 2 “Rationale”

- [referring to third bullet of paragraph 7] This mentions many wild-source foods, but doesn’t capture the scope of wild meat or the distances that it can travel, only noting that they are “mostly locally harvested.” Bushmeat can be traded across longer distances, most commonly from rural to urban areas within a country. The characterization here doesn’t include those aspects of the trade or the impacts on wildlife and habitats.  
[Proposed edit in track changes as follows:] The wild foods component of BFA encompasses those that contribute to major economic sectors such as capture fisheries, and a wide range of other, mostly locally harvested, fungi, plants and animals, including invertebrates. They are important for food security and nutrition in many countries, yet are increasingly at risk of loss. Wild species harvested as sources of food are an important, but often overlooked, component of biodiversity in and around production systems. Some wild foods, including wildlife taken for bushmeat as well as wild plant and animal species taken for commercial purposes such as medicine, can be traded across long distances and often have negative impacts on wildlife populations and habitats. ~~Some w~~Wild foods are can also be relatives of domesticated species, have potential for domestication, and provide a pool of genetic resources for hybridization and selection.

### Section 4 “Objectives”

- [referring to third bullet of paragraph 13] There’s not sufficient coverage of wild foods and risk of overexploitation and loss of species and ecosystem functions in the objectives section. [Proposed edit in track changes as follows:] promote the ~~management and~~ management and use of BFA, in particular associated biodiversity and wild foods, within production systems and terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, as a basis for ecosystem services and resilience, in order to foster economic development and to reduce hunger and poverty, particularly in developing countries, as well as to provide options for adapting to and mitigating climate change;

### Priority Area 1 “Introduction”

- [referring to paragraph 1] We agree it is important to improve the availability and access to information on BFA.
- [referring to paragraph 3 and first sentence of paragraph 4] Wild foods/Bushmeat/wild meat is insufficiently captured here.
- [referring the text “other “omics” methods can be used to identify assemblages” in paragraph 4] This is vague. What are some of the other “omics” methods?
- [referring to paragraph 6, proposed edit in track changes as follows:] In view of the above, there is an overall need to improve the availability of data and information. More specific needs include improving methodologies for recording, storing and analysing data (including ~~geographical information systems~~ spatial data) on changes in the abundance and distribution of species and ecosystems and improving capacity for monitoring and assessment, for example by increasing the number of skilled taxonomists.

### Priority 1.1 “Rationale”

- [referring to the last sentence of the last paragraph] Good to see this recognized, especially in regards to agroecology’s contribution to BFA.

### Priority 1.1 second subheading under [Possible] Actions

- Possible actions section should address wild foods as well as associated biodiversity. Wild foods and bushmeat (with exception of wild-caught fisheries) are not captured in the existing GPA’s. Suggest including wild foods in this sub-category and also making sure it is covered in some of the sub-items such as 1.1.2, 1.1.4...  
[proposed edit in track changes as follows:] “*Associated biodiversity, wild foods, and ecosystem services*”

## [Possible] Action 1.1.2

- [proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Improve understanding of the effects of particular drivers (including climate change) on population sizes and distributions of associated biodiversity and wild foods as well as ~~and on~~ the ecological relationships that underpin the supply of ecosystem services.

## [Possible] Action 1.1.4

- Include wild foods here.  
[proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Identify responsibilities for assessment and monitoring of associated biodiversity and their ecosystem services as well as the consumption and use of wild foods. This could involve mandating a national agency (e.g. from the agriculture or environment sectors, or both) to collect data and undertake monitoring activities.

## [Possible] Action 1.1.8

- [develop tools] or using existing tools and methodologies where available and appropriate

## [Possible] Action 1.1.9

- [proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Improve the collection and availability of the data needed to monitor how BFA is being managed and the extent to which management practices and approaches are being ~~used~~ adopted, taking into account traditional knowledge.

## Priority Area 2 “Introduction”

- This section seems poorly organized. Would prefer a shorter section that discusses what we mean by management of BFA and then leave specifics for the rationale sections before section.
- [referring to the word “considered” in the first sentence of paragraph 4] “assumed” or “perceived” (for consistency with the framing above in the section on Rationale).
- [referring to paragraph 5 subparagraph iii, proposed edit in track changes as follows:] addressing specific threats to BFA such as invasive alien species or ~~particular~~ unsustainable practices in agriculture, forestry, fisheries, ~~or~~ aquaculture, or use of wild foods; and
- [referring to paragraph 8, fourth sentence, proposed edit in track changes as follows:] A lack of resources makes it more difficult to bridge knowledge gaps of the kind described above, and constrains programme implementation or prevents effective enforcement of regulations and policies aimed at protecting biodiversity.

## Priority 2.1 “Rationale”

- [referring the word “practices” in paragraph 2] Suggested insertion of “among others” to indicate that this is not an exhaustive list of approaches/practices.  
[proposed edits in track changes as follows:] Management approaches for BFA range in scope from the landscape or seascape to the production system or the individual plot. Landscape and seascape approaches and integrated land- and water-use planning have been adopted, at least to some extent, in numerous countries. Sustainable forest management, the ecosystem approach to fisheries and aquaculture, agroecology and restoration practices, among others, are also applied in many countries. At the production system level, specific practices related to the diversification of production systems, and specific management practices and production approaches, may promote the sustainable use and conservation of BFA. Such approaches and practices should be more widely applied. However, a lack of research and knowledge, capacity and resources, and enabling frameworks ~~makes~~ may be a barrier to their adoption and implementation ~~difficult~~.
- [referring to paragraph 3, first sentence; proposed edits in track changes as follows:] Many of the management practices and approaches that make use of various components of BFA are relatively complex and require a good understanding of the species composition of the ecosystem, the functions of these species within the ecosystem, ~~and~~ the trophic relationships among them and interaction with downstream and other inter-dependent ecosystems.

## [Possible] Action 2.1.2

- Good to see the economic pillar captured.  
[proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Promote sustainable food and agricultural production practices and approaches that make use of, conserve and restore BFA while improving livelihoods and supporting economic performance ~~and environmental health~~ and healthy ecosystems.

## [Possible] Action 2.1.3

- [proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Identify and take into account drivers of change that negatively affect BFA and associated ecosystem services when developing or implementing integrated approaches to the management of BFA.

## [Possible] Action 2.1.5

- [proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Identify best management practices (including those based on traditional knowledge) that contribute to the increased sustainable use and conservation of BFA and develop ~~guidelines and tools~~ and guidance to facilitate their implementation and adoption, as appropriate.

## [Possible] Action 2.2.4

- [proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Promote conservation of BFA through a combination of traditional management practices and innovative technologies, as appropriate, and improve their use for characterization, collection, storage, documentation or data management.

## [Possible] Action 2.2.5

- [proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Establish or strengthen effective infrastructure, including at the local level, for the conservation of BFA, including micro-organisms, invertebrates, wild foods and other associated biodiversity ~~species~~, and improve documentation and overviews of collections within countries.

## [Possible] Action 2.2.6

- [referring to the phrase “create and strengthen networks”] This should focus on sharing data and best practices, for instance, or something besides just linking them for no clear purpose.  
[proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Create and strengthen networks, including at national and regional levels, for linking users and communities that maintain associated biodiversity and ecosystem services on-farm and *in situ*, research institutes, scientists and other relevant stakeholders.

## [Possible] Action 2.2.7

- [proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Promote, where appropriate, multipurpose production systems managed for both sustainable use and conservation of BFA, such as multiple-use forests.

## [Possible] Action 2.2.8

- [referring to the words “and areas recognized for origin-linked products (e.g. geographic indications)”] This is problematic and should be removed. We question the relevance of GIs to biodiversity and note that there are a variety of ways to protect the intellectual property of a product including trademarks. However intellectual property is not in the scope of this effort to conserve/enhance biodiversity for food and agriculture. <https://www.usda-eu.org/topics/geographical-indications/>  
[proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Develop, maintain, or expand designated areas, such as protected areas (including International Union for Conservation of Nature Categories 5 and 6) and other effective area-based conservation measures for BFA and related ecosystem services, as well as Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems. ~~and areas recognized for origin-linked products (e.g. geographic indications)~~.

## Priority Area 3 “Introduction”

- [general comment on introduction] This introduction leaves me a little lost. The framing is not straightforward and seems to jump from idea to idea. Similar to comments for last section—would suggest cutting this section considerably to focus on what is meant by institutional frameworks and leave specifics for the rationale sections.
- [referring to the phrase “intensification packages” in paragraph 2] This phrase is odd. Maybe “agricultural intensification.
- [referring to the phrase “small-scale producers” in paragraph 5] What about other producers?
- [referring to the first sentence of paragraph 7] Economic valuation is one tool...unclear why it is singled out here. Suggest making economic valuation as an example of the types of analyses that could help make the business case for sustainable use and conservation of BFA.  
[proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Economic analysis, including economic valuation, ~~tools~~ can help to make the hidden benefits and costs of biodiversity and biodiversity loss more visible, increasing awareness of the need for conservation and driving more effective conservation policies, including incentive schemes.
- [referring the phrase “market for certified products” in paragraph 8] Again—this kind of marketing or ecolabeling is one tool among several economic/market-based instruments that might be employed. Should be cited as an example of these types of mechanisms. Treatment in this document is uneven.
- [referring to the first sentence of paragraph 9] Incentives is one type of economic instrument. Mentioning incentives as one type of instrument that can be combined with things like low cost loans, market instruments (e.g. ecolabeling), etc. would be a better way to discuss and frame this within the document.  
[proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Economic instruments such as incentives for the sustainable use and conservation of BFA can take a range of forms and originate from public programmes, private-sector investments or civil-society initiatives.

## Priority 3.1 second subheading under [Possible] Actions

- Should include wild foods.  
[proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Wild foods, associated biodiversity and ecosystem services

## [Possible] Action 3.1.2

- Do wild foods fit here? This may work.  
[proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Raise awareness at the national level of the importance of wild foods, associated biodiversity and ecosystem services, and of the need for their sustainable use and conservation, among farmers, livestock keepers, fisherfolk, forest dwellers, the wider public, donors, policy-makers, the private sector, consumers, children and youth and the media

## [Possible] Action 3.1.3

- [proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Support regional and international campaigns to raise awareness of the importance of wild foods, associated biodiversity and the ecosystem services it provides, and of the need for its sustainable use and conservation, with a view to strengthening support from governments, institutions and other relevant stakeholders.

## [Possible] Action 3.1.4

- [proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Improve capacity for research on wild foods, associated biodiversity and ecosystem services and encourage the formation of multidisciplinary research teams. Promote innovative ways of building capacities, such as through the use of information and communication technologies.

## [Possible] Action 3.1.5

- [proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Strengthen cooperation and synergies in research on wild foods, associated biodiversity and ecosystem services and other components of BFA and improve the transfer of research outputs to producers and policy-makers.

## [Possible] Action 3.1.9

- [proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Strengthen research-related policy frameworks for BFA to ensure support for long-term research activities, and increase the availability of human, physical and financial resources for this purpose.

## [Possible] Action 3.1.10

- [referring to the word “Incentivize”] Promote?
- [referring to the word “biodiversity”] BFA? Or biodiversity generally?

## Priority 3.2 “Rationale”

- [referring to the phrase “valuation data” in paragraph 2] As written it is focused on ecosystem service valuation which is a very specific type of study that is hard to do. I suggest broadening this to economic analyses to include EV studies. For instance, the value of pollinators, medicinal plants and even healthy soil can be valued as they contribute to ag production, and don’t necessarily need ecosystem service valuation studies to make the case that they are valuable.

[proposed edit in track changes as follows:] The importance of valuation of biodiversity and ecosystem services is widely recognized. Nevertheless, the integration of the results of economic analyses, including valuation studies, into national accounting systems or into broader measures of social welfare is limited. Economic analyses as well as ecosystem service vValuation data, could play a more prominent role, *inter alia* in the development of conservation strategies and research programmes. Overall, valuation efforts for BFA and ecosystem services still need to fill major knowledge gaps, including, for example, with respect to microbial genetic resources, wild pollinators and wild medicinal plants.

- [referring to the phrase “incentive programmes” in paragraph 3] I think they are really talking about more than incentives here...but probably a host of economic instruments (incentives, market-based measures, micro-finance, etc.) as well as education and outreach measures...which could all be more powerful if they are coordinated. Should talk about these more broadly than just “incentives”

[proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Countries often use economic instruments (e.g. incentives, microfinance, markets), to promote various aspects of sustainable management, production, or use of BFA. However, these instruments are often used in isolation and not coordinated with other types of economic instruments. In terms of the use of incentive programmes, countries often use individual incentive schemes rather than approaches based on multiple incentive measures. While individual public programmes, private-sector investments or civil-society initiatives may provide incentives related to their own particular purposes, a coordinated package of economic measures can create a much larger impact in terms of improving outcomes for BFA. Challenges to the establishment of multiple- incentive programmes include the need for a suitable enabling environment to support the high level of coordination required between institutions and across scales (international, national and subnational), the need to engage with the private sector and promote responsible investment, and the need for cross-sectoral dialogue, i.e. among the environmental, food and agriculture production and other sectors in the food system. Overall, there is also a need to better document and map incentive economic instruments that are used or can be used to conserve and promote the sustainable use and management of BFA-schemes.

## [Possible] Action 3.2.5

- [proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Encourage relevant international organizations to consider as appropriate and consistent with their respective mandates, the importance of BFA and the ecosystem services it supports when revising global agreements on biodiversity.

## [Possible] Action 3.2.7

- What about “promote studies and economic analyses, including ecosystem service valuation studies, that identify the value of BFA and ecosystem services in the production of food and fiber.”

## [Possible] Action 3.2.9

- [proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Document and map existing ~~incentive schemes~~ economic instruments that are employed for the improved management of BFA across environmental and food and agriculture sectors and public, non-governmental and private-sector stakeholders.

## [Possible] Action 3.2.10

- [proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Strengthen and establish national policies, strategies and frameworks that provide support, including through incentives or other economic instruments, to producers and other value-chain actors in applying practices that favour the maintenance and sustainable use of BFA and ecosystem services, in particular indigenous and local production system stakeholders.

## [Possible] Action 3.2.11

- [proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Strengthen policy and institutional frameworks for integrating the outcomes of economic analyses, including valuation studies, into incentive schemes and conservation strategies.

## [Possible] Action 3.2.12

- [proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Improve coordination in the management of ~~incentive schemes~~ economic instruments, including incentives, between the environment and food and agriculture sectors and between public-sector, non-governmental and private-sector stakeholders.

## [Possible] Action 3.2.15

- [referring to the words “Further develop markets and value chains”] Developing markets and value chains is good, without explicitly demanding that they displace other products.
- [referring to the words “geographic identification”:] This is problematic and should be removed. We question the relevance of GIs to biodiversity and note that there are a variety of ways to protect the intellectual property of a product including trademarks. However intellectual property is not in the scope of this effort to conserve/enhance biodiversity for food and agriculture. <https://www.usda-eu.org/topics/geographical-indications/>
- [referring to the words “local/traditional foods to improve nutrition and health”] This suggests that local/traditional foods are more healthful. Suggest adding “where appropriate” to caveat this. Also, where local/traditional foods are not sustainably produced/managed this can be an issue.
- [proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Further develop markets and value chains for products from production systems that favour the ~~maintenance~~ conservation and sustainable use of BFA (e.g. through labelling, certification, traceability, denomination of origin, ~~geographical indication~~, branding, gastronomy and tourism) and, where appropriate, promote the use of local/traditional foods to improve nutrition and health.

## [Possible] Action 3.3.1

- [proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Inventory and describe relevant national and regional institutions and their mandates to enable the development of coordination mechanisms for the establishment of, for example, a national BFA steering committee to strengthen collaboration between relevant institutions, seek synergies and coordinate the implementation of their respective activities.

## [Possible] Action 3.3.3

- [proposed edit in track changes as follows:] Promote existing and/or ~~e~~Establish new ~~and promote existing~~ national, regional or global networks linking scientists and researchers to improve information sharing as it relates to BFA.