

Web Annex 2:

Update on the 27th Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the 15th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and negotiations for a Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

Introduction

1. The 27th Conference of Parties (COP27) to the United Nations Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) took place from 6 to 18 November 2022 in Sharm el-Sheikh, with the Arab Republic of Egypt hosting the presidency of the Conference. Prior to COP27, countries met in Bonn, Germany during the 56th Session of the Subsidiary Bodies to the UNFCCC (SB 56) from 6 to 16 June 2022 to support implementation of the mandated programmes and thematic work streams and to prepare draft decisions for the COP27.
2. Part II of the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP15) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) will take place from 7 to 19 December 2022 in Montréal, Canada, under the presidency of the People’s Republic of China. The main objective of the Conference is to adopt the “Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework” (GBF). The GBF will replace the CBD’s Strategic Plan 2011-2020 and its 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets, which expired at the end of 2020. The Framework sets out goals, targets, and indicators to achieve the CBD’s three objectives¹, and its 2050 vision of “Living in Harmony with Nature”. Many targets are closely related to FAO’s mandate, and the active engagement of the agrifood sectors is critical to the success of the Framework.

The 27th Conference of Parties (COP27) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

3. During the 27th Conference of Parties (COP27), countries were expected to advance on the COP26 decisions (Glasgow–Sharm el-Sheikh work programme on the global goal on adaptation, the Koronivia Joint work on Agriculture) and the Paris Agreement (scaling up mitigation ambition and implementation, loss and damage, and the review of the Global Stocktake to review the progress made and prioritize future actions, the carbon markets and the Enhanced Transparency Framework). FAO is contributing to these processes through its technical expertise and convening power to advance topics related to agrifood systems and climate change.
4. The COP27 Egyptian Presidency has given priority to areas relevant to FAO’s work including food security, agriculture, water scarcity, energy, nutrition and waste. COP27 was a unique opportunity for FAO to enhance advocacy for agrifood systems to become part of the solution to the climate crisis, and to showcase examples of actions for climate change adaptation and mitigation.
5. FAO, as an observer, will continue supporting countries to engage in the negotiations, to access climate finance and to implement innovative projects/solutions on the ground. COP27 was also timely for FAO to promote its Strategy on Climate Change 2022-2031 and Strategy on Science and Innovation. FAO hosted, for the first time, a Food and Agriculture Pavilion with partners and which held over 80 side events to showcase climate action solutions across agrifood systems.
6. The Egyptian Presidency Agenda was organized around thematic days and initiatives. A World Leaders Summit was organized at the beginning of the COP27 from 7 to 8 November, followed by thematic days (including Finance day, Science and Youth & Future Generations Day, Decarbonization Day, Adaptation and Agriculture Day, Water and Gender Day, Biodiversity Day).
7. Upon the invitation by the Presidency, FAO supported the formulation of the “[Food and Agriculture for Sustainable Transformation Initiative](#)” (FAST). FAO also contributed to the “Action for Water Adaptation and Resilience” (AWARE) led by the World Meteorological

¹ <https://www.cbd.int/convention/articles/?a=cbd-01>

Organization (WMO) and the “Initiative on Climate Action and Nutrition” (I-CAN) led by the World Health Organization (WHO). FAST and AWARE were launched on 12 and 14 November. AWARE is set to deliver on the outcome of the 2023 UN Conference on Water. The initiative will catalyse inclusive cooperation to address water as key to climate change adaptation and resilience, including partnerships for early warning and early action. It aims at offering transitional adaptation solutions for planet and people, starting with the world’s most vulnerable communities and ecosystems.

Update on the 15th Conference of Parties (COP15) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

8. COP15 was originally scheduled to take place in 2020 in Kunming, China, but has been delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. COP15 has been organized following a two-part hybrid structure. Part one (I) was held in October 2021 online with limited on-site participation, while Part two (II) will take place in Montréal, Canada, between 3 and 19 December 2022. Whilst the location of the Conference has been moved to Montréal, China, as COP15 President, will continue to preside over the meetings. China will also convene the High-level Segment to be held from 15 to 17 December 2022 and lead the facilitation of negotiations.

9. The main objective of the Conference is to adopt the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). The Framework is described as “biodiversity’s equivalent of the Paris Agreement”, with COP15 representing biodiversity’s “Paris moment”. The Framework sets out goals, targets, and indicators to achieve the CBD’s three Objectives, and its 2050 vision of “Living in Harmony with Nature”. Many targets are closely related to FAO’s mandate, and the active engagement of the agrifood sectors is critical to the success of the Framework. Once adopted, urgent action will be needed to jumpstart the implementation of the Post-2020 GBF, with less than eight years to achieve the framework’s 2030 targets.

10. The High-Level Segment aims to build political momentum in support of the ongoing negotiations to develop and adopt the Post-2020 GBF. It will also provide an opportunity for announcements of significant actions and commitments in support of the Post-2020 GBF.

11. In its first Part in October 2021, the High-level Segment adopted the Kunming Declaration² and the President of the People’s Republic of China, His Excellency Xi Jinping, announced a RMB 1.5 billion (equivalent to USD 230 million) Kunming Biodiversity Fund to support biodiversity protection in developing countries, calling on other countries to contribute to the fund.

12. FAO’s participation in COP15 will contribute to showcasing how to transform agrifood systems to make them more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable, as laid out in the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-31. FAO will advocate for the recognition of the central role of biodiversity for food security and nutrition, as laid out in the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors. To help achieve this, FAO will: (i) continue and enhance its support to Member Nations in negotiations, particularly on the Post-2020 GBF and its Monitoring Framework, the International Initiative for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Soil Biodiversity, marine and coastal biodiversity, sustainable wildlife management, digital sequence information and invasive alien species; and (ii) contribute to both Restoration Day and the Food Day to be organized at the Rio Pavilion and other events as appropriate.

² <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/99c8/9426/1537e277fa5f846e9245a706/kunmingdeclaration-en.pdf>