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BIODIVERSITY FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE AND THE KUNMING-MONTREAL GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. In 2021, the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Commission), at its Eighteenth Regular Session,¹ and, subsequently, the Council,² at its 168th Session, endorsed the Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture (FA BFA).³ The FA BFA responds to gaps and needs identified in the country-driven report on *The State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture* (SOW BFA),⁴ launched by FAO in 2019.

2. The Council also adopted Resolution 1/168, *The conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity for food and agriculture and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework*,⁵ as submitted by the Commission,⁶ which stressed the importance of mutual supportiveness between the Commission's Global Plans of Action (GPAs) and the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and reiterated the need for FAO, the Commission and the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Treaty) to contribute, within their mandates, to the development and implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

3. The Commission also decided to “consider the need for adjustments or additions to the work of the Commission to address the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, including assessing the need for a Global Plan of Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture or other policy tools” once the post-2020 global biodiversity framework had been adopted. To this end, the Commission, assuming that the post-2020 global biodiversity framework would be adopted in April 2022, requested its Group of National Focal Points for Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture and its Intergovernmental Technical Working Groups (Working Groups) to assess, during the intersessional period, the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

4. Owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) was postponed until December 2022. The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KM GBF) was adopted on 19 December 2022.⁷ Given that the series of Working Group sessions started as early as 18 January 2023, proper and equal consultation of all the Working Groups was not possible.

5. The Commission's Bureau therefore agreed that, based on an initial analysis of the KM GBF, the Commission, at its Nineteenth Regular Session, would consider the need for: (i) adjustments or additions to its work to address the implementation of the KM GBF; and (ii) further consultations, including of its subsidiary bodies and/or National Focal Points.

6. This document summarizes key features of the FA BFA and provides an initial analysis of the KM GBF. The document maps the Commission's instruments against the KM GBF and explores to what extent the two frameworks and the Commission's GPAs are mutually supportive, i.e. may benefit each other's implementation.

II. FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION ON BIODIVERSITY FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

7. The FA BFA covers all biodiversity, wild and domesticated, of relevance to food and agricultural production. BFA is a subcategory of biodiversity and corresponds to “the variety and variability of animals, plants and micro-organisms at the genetic, species and ecosystem levels that sustain the ecosystem structures, functions and processes in and around production systems, and that

¹ CGRFA-18/21/Report, paragraph 51.

² CL 168/REP, paragraph 38.

³ FAO. 2022. *Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture*. FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. Rome. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cb8338en>

⁴ FAO. 2019. *The State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture*. J. Bélanger & D. Pilling, eds. FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture Assessments. Rome. <https://doi.org/10.4060/CA3129EN>

⁵ CL 168/REP, *Appendix E*.

⁶ CGRFA-18/21/Report, *Appendix F*.

⁷ CBD/COP/DEC/15/4.

provide food and non-food agricultural products.”⁸ The FA BFA emphasizes the importance of addressing biodiversity in an integrated way – across all the sectors of food and agriculture and at every level from genes to ecosystems – and stresses the need to pay increased attention to neglected groups of associated biodiversity, such as invertebrates and microorganisms, that are highly relevant to the production of food.

8. The implementation of the FA BFA requires the implementation of the Commission’s sectoral GPAs. As a cross-sectoral instrument covering all components of biodiversity relevant to food and agriculture, the FA BFA stresses the need for integrated management of genetic resources for food and agriculture (GRFA). It also focuses on associated biodiversity, wild foods and ecosystem services – topics that the current sectoral GPAs only touch upon. The 57 specific actions of the FA BFA are designed to contribute to a more resilient, adaptable and biodiversity-friendly food systems by facilitating the conservation and sustainable use of genetic resources and all other components of biodiversity for food and agriculture, with a view to delivering food security, promoting good nutrition and health, reducing poverty, supporting livelihoods and reducing threats to the environment.

9. Management of BFA, as considered by the FA BFA, comprises the various activities involved in its sustainable use, its conservation *in situ* and *ex situ* and its restoration. Use of BFA includes: cultivation or raising of domesticated species; implementation of formal or informal genetic-improvement activities and the domestication of additional wild species; introduction of domesticated or wild species into new production systems; management of associated biodiversity in and around production systems to promote the delivery of ecosystem services; and harvesting of food and other products from the wild. Some of these practices and approaches contribute to the maintenance of BFA, while others are major drivers of its loss, including via damaging changes in land and water use and management, pollution, unsustainable use of external inputs, and unsustainable exploitation and harvesting. Sustainable use is the use of components of biological diversity in a way and at a rate that does not lead to the long-term decline of biological diversity, thereby maintaining its potential to meet the needs and aspirations of present and future generations.

10. *In situ* conservation of BFA comprises measures taken to promote the maintenance, protection, recovery and continued evolution of biodiversity in and around crop, livestock, forest, aquatic and mixed production systems. Restoration also contributes to *in situ* conservation efforts. *Ex situ* conservation comprises the maintenance of components of BFA outside their normal habitats in and around production systems. This may involve the storage of seeds, pollen or vegetative plant tissues or of cryoconserved materials, such as animal semen or embryos, in genebanks and the maintenance of live organisms at sites such as botanical gardens, aquaria, field genebanks, zoos or rare-breed farms. Managing BFA more sustainably will require efforts to address threats and drivers of biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation and build on opportunities associated with a wide range of interacting drivers of change. The sectoral GPAs include priorities for the conservation and sustainable use of the respective components of GRFA. Recent times have, in general, seen progress made in terms of strengthening *ex situ* conservation in all the sectors of food and agriculture. Promoting *in situ* and on-farm conservation and sustainable use has been more challenging.

11. The FA BFA was published in all UN languages⁹ and shared widely, including through social media. An interactive story on the FA BFA was published on the occasion of the 15th Meeting of the CBD COP and, in all UN languages, on the International Day for Biological Diversity on 22 May 2023.¹⁰ The Secretariat presented the FA BFA at various events, including the International Conference on Sustainability Science, Tokyo (January 2022), the Overseas Agriculture Technique Seminar, Rakuno Gakuen University, Ebetsu city, Hokkaido, Japan (February 2022) and the International Plant Health Conference, London, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (September 2022).

⁸ FAO. 2019. *The State of the World’s Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture*. J. Bélanger & D. Pilling, eds. FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture Assessments. Rome. <https://www.fao.org/3/ca3129en/CA3129EN.pdf>

⁹ FAO. 2022. *Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture*. FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. Rome. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cb8338en>

¹⁰ <https://www.fao.org/interactive/biodiversity/en/>

12. The 15th Berlin Agriculture Ministers' Conference, held in January 2023 in Berlin, Germany, highlighted the special role that biodiversity-friendly practices, such as sustainable intensification, agroecological and other innovative approaches, play for global biodiversity. It supported, in this context, the FA BFA. The conference also promoted the conservation and sustainable use of GRFA and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from their use. In this regard, it stressed "the great importance of the work carried out by the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, the FAO Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture, the Global Crop Diversity Trust and the CGIAR centres."¹¹

13. The Secretariat continued to follow closely the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. In response to a request from the Commission,¹² the FA BFA and the Council Resolution 1/168 were officially submitted to the Executive Secretary of the CBD on 31 January 2022, for the information of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework¹³ and the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice.¹⁴ In February 2022, a webinar, co-organized by the Secretariat of the CBD and FAO, introduced the FA BFA and discussed its possible contribution to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.¹⁵

14. During the second half of 2023, FAO, together with Apimondia, will organize, with extra-budgetary funds, regional capacity-building workshops, primarily for the Commission's Group of National Focal Points for Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture, with the aim of supporting countries in the implementation of the FA BFA.

III. KUNMING-MONTREAL GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

15. The KM GBF replaced the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020, including the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The vision of the KM GBF is a world of living in harmony with nature where "by 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people." Its mission for the period up to 2030, towards the 2050 vision is "to take urgent action to halt and reverse biodiversity loss to put nature on a path to recovery for the benefit of people and planet by conserving and sustainably using biodiversity and by ensuring the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of genetic resources, while providing the necessary means of implementation."

16. The CBD 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 KM GBF through their own governance processes, as appropriate, in order to support its operationalization. It further requested the CBD's Executive Secretary, in consultation with the secretariats of relevant multilateral environmental agreements and organizations, to identify opportunities for cooperation to achieve the goals and targets of the KM GBF.¹⁶

17. The KM GBF contains four overarching global goals for 2050 (see Table 1), which basically address (A) conservation and restoration of ecosystems, (B) sustainable use, (C) access and benefit-sharing, and (D) implementation. It has 23 global targets defining actions that need to be completed by 2030, of which at least fifteen targets relate to the agrifood sectors. The framework is based on a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach in that it "requires the political will and recognition at the highest level of government and relies on action and cooperation by all levels of government and by all actors of society." Similarly to the Commission's GPAs and the FA BFA, it is understood that each Party to the CBD will contribute to attaining the goals and targets of the KM GBF in accordance with national circumstances, priorities and capabilities.

¹¹ 15th Berlin Agriculture Ministers' Conference. Final Communiqué 2023. *Food Systems Transformation: A Worldwide Response to Multiple Crises*, paragraphs 20–21.

¹² CGRFA-18/21/Report, paragraph 117.

¹³ CBD/WG2020/3/INF/12.

¹⁴ CBD/SBSTTA/24/INF/32.

¹⁵ <https://www.cbd.int/article/pre-geneva-2022-webinars/webinar-feb-17>

¹⁶ CBD/COP/DEC/15/4.

Table 1. Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Global Goals for 2050**GOAL A**

The integrity, connectivity and resilience of all ecosystems are maintained, enhanced, or restored, substantially increasing the area of natural ecosystems by 2050; Human induced extinction of known threatened species is halted, and, by 2050, the extinction rate and risk of all species are reduced tenfold and the abundance of native wild species is increased to healthy and resilient levels; The genetic diversity within populations of wild and domesticated species, is maintained, safeguarding their adaptive potential.

GOAL B

Biodiversity is sustainably used and managed and nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services, are valued, maintained and enhanced, with those currently in decline being restored, supporting the achievement of sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations by 2050.

GOAL C

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.

GOAL D

Adequate means of implementation, including financial resources, capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation, and access to and transfer of technology to fully implement the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework are secured and equitably accessible to all Parties, especially developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, progressively closing the biodiversity finance gap of \$700 billion per year, and aligning financial flows with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the 2050 Vision for biodiversity.

18. The implementation of the KM GBF will be supported by several other decisions adopted by the 15th meeting of the COP to the CBD, including those on the following issues: the monitoring framework for the KM GBF;¹⁷ planning, monitoring, reporting and review;¹⁸ resource mobilization;¹⁹ capacity-building and development and technical and scientific cooperation;²⁰ digital sequence information on genetic resources;²¹ and cooperation with other conventions and international organizations.²² The COP also adopted decisions on biodiversity and agriculture,²³ marine and coastal biodiversity,²⁴ wildlife management²⁵ and a gender plan of action.²⁶

¹⁷ CBD/COP/DEC/15/5.

¹⁸ CBD/COP/DEC/15/6.

¹⁹ CBD/COP/DEC/15/7.

²⁰ CBD/COP/DEC/15/15.

²¹ CBD/COP/DEC/15/9.

²² CBD/COP/DEC/15/13.

²³ CBD/COP/DEC/15/28.

²⁴ CBD/COP/DEC/15/24–26.

²⁵ CBD/COP/DEC/15/23.

²⁶ CBD/COP/DEC/15/11.

IV. MUTUAL SUPPORTIVENESS OF THE FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION ON BIODIVERSITY FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE, THE COMMISSION'S GLOBAL PLANS OF ACTION AND THE KUNMING-MONTREAL GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK

19. The KM GBF contributes to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. At the same time, progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the achievement of sustainable development in all its three dimensions (environmental, social and economic) is necessary to create the conditions needed in order to reach the goals and targets of the KM GBF.²⁷ Similarly, the FA BFA and the Commission's GPAs contribute to the achievement of the KM GBF (and the SDGs). At the same time, progress towards all the targets of the KM GBF (and the SDGs) will be essential if the full benefits of the conservation and sustainable use of GRFA and other components of biodiversity for food and agriculture are to be realized.

20. While the KM GBF is broader in scope than the Commission's instruments, the achievement of several of its key targets will depend on the proper implementation of the strategic priorities and actions contained in the Commission's GPAs and the FA BFA. While the KM GBF contains general targets and actions, the Commission's policy instruments, including the FA BFA, as well as the multiple guidelines, standards and practical guides developed under the Commission's aegis, may help governments and other stakeholders to:

- translate the targets of the KM GBF into specific actions to be taken at local, country, regional and global levels;
- monitor and report in detail on actions taken and results achieved through FAO's monitoring and reporting systems, such as the World Information and Early Warning System on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (WIEWS), the Domestic Animal Diversity Information System (DAD-IS) and the Aquatic Genetic Resources Information System (AquaGRIS);
- take stock and regularly assess progress towards targets at national and international levels; and
- review, update and adjust actions and strategies in the light of achievements and failures.

21. While, again, the KM GBF is broader in scope than the Commission's instruments, the FA BFA and the GPAs contribute to the achievement of many of the KM GBF targets as they relate to GRFA and BFA. Table 2 illustrates a selection of linkages between the Commission's strategic priorities and priority activities and the KM GBF targets. On various issues, the FA BFA and the GPAs provide guidance and recommend actions that countries may wish to consider in their efforts to achieve several key targets of the KM GBF.

Characterization, assessment and monitoring of biodiversity/genetic resources for food and agriculture

22. The characterization, assessment and monitoring of GRFA and other components of biodiversity for food and agriculture are essential to their sustainable use and conservation. Target 21 of the KM GBF stresses the importance of the accessibility of data, information and knowledge to guide effective and equitable governance and integrated and participatory management of biodiversity, and to strengthen communication, awareness raising, education, monitoring, research and knowledge management. The importance of data, information and knowledge is also reflected in the FA BFA, which also refers to synergies in reporting with the CBD, among others.²⁸ All the GPAs and various guidelines developed under the auspices of the Commission²⁹ provide detailed guidance on the generation and management of information.³⁰

²⁷ CBD/COP/DEC/15/4, paragraph 8.

²⁸ FA BFA, Action 1.1.7.

²⁹ See, e.g. FAO. 2011. *Surveying and monitoring of animal genetic resources*. FAO Animal Production and Health Guidelines. No. 7. Rome. <https://www.fao.org/3/ba0055e/ba0055e00.pdf>; Ajmone-Marsan, P., Boettcher, P.J., Colli, L., Ginja, C., Kantanen J. & Lenstra, J.A., eds. 2023. *Genomic characterization of animal genetic resources – Practical guide*. FAO Animal Production and Health Guidelines No. 32. Rome. <https://doi.org/10.4060/cc3079en>.

³⁰ FA BFA, SP 1.1; GPA AnGR, SP 1, 2; GPA AqGR, SP 1.3; GPA FGR, SP 1; Second GPA PGR, PA 1.

Table 2. The KM GBF and the Commission's FA BFA and GPAs

Key themes KM GBF	Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture	GPAs
1. Reducing threats to biodiversity		
Target 1. Biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning	2.1.9 Improve landscape structure/connectivity; provide habitats for associated biodiversity and wild food species	SP 5 PA 4
Target 2. Effective restoration of degraded ecosystems	3.2.9 Reduce ecosystem degradation; promote sustainable management of biodiversity and sustainable production systems	SP 13
Target 3. Effective conservation of lands and seas ("30 by 30")	2.2.4 Maintain, develop or expand designated areas, such as protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures. 3.2.13 In planning and implementing designated areas, raise awareness of, and take into account, as relevant, the roles of components of BFA.	SP 5 SP 2.1 SP 5, 11 PA 4
Target 4. Halt human induced extinctions/maintain and restore genetic diversity	2.1.1 Identify and take into account drivers of change affecting BFA and associated ecosystem services. 2.2.2 Strengthen conservation programmes, in particular <i>in situ</i> and on-farm 2.2.3 Strengthen infrastructure for the <i>ex situ</i> conservation	SP 1, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 SP 2.3, 2.4, 2.5 SP 5, 6, 7, 11, 18 PA 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 16
Target 5. Sustainable use, harvesting and trade of wild species		SP 2.1, 2.6, 4.3 SP 12, 16 PA 4, 10
Target 6. Reducing the introduction/establishment of invasive alien species		SP 17 SP 2.6, 4.3
Target 7. Reducing pollution risks	2.1.3 Reduce risks to and impacts on BFA from inappropriate use of chemical pesticides and veterinary medicines and from excess use of fertilizers. 2.1.6 Promote agricultural inputs and practices based on the use of BFA for pest control and nutrient management.	PA 10
Target 8. Minimizing the impact of climate change and ocean acidification on biodiversity		SP 3 SP 2.2 SP 14 PA 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 14
2. Meeting people's needs through sustainable use and benefit-sharing		
Target 9. Benefits from the sustainable use of wild species	1.1.1 Improve the inventory, monitoring and characterization of associated biodiversity and wild foods 1.1.2 Improve the assessment of how BFA is being managed and the monitoring of the extent to which management practices and approaches contributing to its sustainable use and conservation are being adopted.	SP 3.3 SP 2, 16 PA 2, 4
Target 10. Sustainable management of areas under agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry through biodiversity-friendly practices	2.1.2 Promote sustainable food and agricultural production practices and approaches that make sustainable use of, conserve and restore BFA 2.1.4 Reduce overgrazing; promote best practices in rangeland management. 2.1.8 Promote production systems that serve several purposes. 3.1.9 Promote awareness raising and sharing of information on BFA-friendly management practices and approaches	SP 5, 6, and FAO Conference Resolution 3/2017 SP 2.3 SP 8, 9 PA 2, 4, 10
Target 11. Restoring, maintaining and enhancing nature's contributions to people, including soil health and pollination	1.1.4 Reduce knowledge gaps on the roles of BFA in the supply of ecosystem services. 1.1.5 Reduce gaps in knowledge of components' of BFA nutritional contents to improve food security, nutrition and health. 2.1.7 Implement strategies, plans and actions to manage soil biodiversity. 3.3.10 Contribute to international initiatives for soil biodiversity/pollinators.	PA 10
Target 12. Area/quality of green and blue spaces in urban and densely populated areas		
Target 13. Access to genetic resources and increasing benefits shared	3.2.11 Promote the implementation of access and benefit sharing measures for GRFA. 3.3.6 Promote facilitated access to GRFA and the sharing of benefits arising from their use.	SP 3, 4, 9, 10, 20, 21 SP 4.7 SP 23 PA 13

Key themes KM GBF	Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture	GPAs
3. Tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming		
Target 14. Integrating biodiversity into policies, regulations, planning, development etc.	3.2.1 Consider options for adequately mainstreaming all components of BFA and addressing drivers of change, as well as cross-sectoral considerations 3.2.6 Document and map existing incentive schemes and other economic instruments related to the management of BFA 3.2.7 Promote and incentivize production systems that sustainably use and conserve BFA 1. 3.3.1 Inventory and describe national and regional institutions with mandates related to the management of BFA to enable the establishment or strengthening of relevant coordination mechanisms	SP 7, 20, 21 SP 4.1, 4.4 SP 19 PA 2, 13
Target 15. Encourage business to monitor, assess & disclose impact	3.2.14 Support the mainstreaming of conservation, restoration and sustainable use of BFA into food value chains	SP 6 SP 3.3 PA 11, 12
Target 16. Encourage/enable sustainable consumption patterns & reduce global footprint of consumption	3.2.10 Promote sustainable consumption and production patterns, including through applying circular economy and other relevant approaches to resource-use efficiency	
Target 17. Strengthen biosafety implementation and capacity		SP 4.3
Target 18. Eliminate/phase out or reform incentives harmful to biodiversity	3.2.7 Promote and incentivize production systems that sustainably use and conserve BFA 3.2.8 Eliminate, phase out or reform incentives harmful to biodiversity.	SP 7
Target 19. Increase level of financial resources from all sources	3.2.4 Promote implementation of studies that identify the use and non-use values of BFA 3.2.5 Promote the integration of outcomes of economic analyses, into conservation strategies 3.3.7 Explore opportunities to increase financial support 3.3.8 Identify opportunities for efficient use of resources, for example by promoting synergies 3.3.9 Support funding strategies of the Commission's Global Plans of Action.	SP 23; Part III SP 4.8 SP 27 Paragraphs 313–322
Target 20. Capacity-building and development, access to and transfer of technology	SP 3.1 Build capacity through awareness raising, research, education and training 3.3.2 Improve cooperation on BFA between relevant stakeholders within sectors 3.3.4 Strengthen international cooperation to mainstream BFA within and beyond agriculture sectors. 3.3.5 Strengthen international cooperation to foster capacity building, technical assistance and technology transfer.	SP 13, 14, 16 SP 3.4, 4.6 SP 15, 21, 24, 25 PA 17
Target 21. Accessible data, information and knowledge	SP 1.1 Improve availability of, and access to, information on biodiversity for food and agriculture 3.2.12 Enhance national frameworks for the assessment and monitoring of BFA 3.1.8 Strengthen capacity to use assessment and monitoring systems, including by improving the dissemination of information to users	SP 1, 2 15, 18, 19 SP 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 4.2 SP 1, 3, 4, 26 PA 1, 15, 18
Target 22. Full, inclusive, effective representation and participation in decision-making by IPLC	Operative Principles: take into consideration the roles of indigenous peoples and local communities as managers of BFA and holders of BFA-related knowledge 1.1.10 Strengthen the role of citizen scientists, indigenous peoples and local communities	SP 6 SP 4.2 SP 9, 22 PA 1, 2, 4
Target 23. Gender equality	Operative Principles: take into consideration the particular roles of women as managers of BFA and holders of BFA-related knowledge and involve the effective participation of women.	SP 4.2 PA 2, 4, 8
<p>* Global Plan of Action for Animal Genetic Resources Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Aquatic Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture Global Plan of Action for the Conservation, Sustainable Use and Development of Forest Genetic Resources Second Global Plan of Action for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture Note: SP = strategic priority; PA = priority activity</p>		

Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity/genetic resources for food and agriculture

23. Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity/genetic resources are at the core of the KM GBF and the Commission's FA BFA and GPAs.³¹ Addressing the drivers of biodiversity loss, conserving GRFA *in situ*, on-farm and *ex situ* and improving their sustainable use, are key areas of the FA BFA and all the GPAs. The GPAs provide detailed guidance with regard to these activities. Together with guidelines developed under the guidance of the Commission, such as the guidelines for the preparation of national strategies and action plans³² and various technical guidelines,³³ they may assist countries in their efforts to achieve relevant KM GBF targets.

Access and benefit-sharing

24. Goal C and Target 13 of the KM GBF stress the importance of access to genetic resources and fair and equitable sharing of benefits resulting from their utilization and from the utilization of digital sequence information on genetic resources. While the FA BFA and the GPAs address access and benefit-sharing for genetic resources, they are silent on digital sequence information.³⁴ With regard to digital sequence information, the COP to the CBD decided to establish, as part of the KM GBF, a multilateral mechanism for benefit-sharing from the use of digital sequence information on genetic resources, including a global fund. It also decided to establish 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.³⁵

Implementation and capacity development

25. Tools and mechanisms that facilitate the achievement of targets and the implementation of priorities are key for the implementation of the KM GBF, the FA BFA and the GPAs. The GPAs provide sector-specific detail in this regard, for example with regard to capacity development.³⁶ On the other hand, they do not cover issues that go beyond the scope of their sectors. Many of these cross-sectoral dimensions, such as the promotion of sustainable consumption and production patterns or the reduction of risks to and impacts on biodiversity from inappropriate use of chemical pesticides and veterinary medicines and from excess use of fertilizers, are, however, addressed by the FA BFA, which complements the GPAs in this regard.

26. It is important to note that the 15th meeting of the COP to the CBD adopted a strategy for resource mobilization for the KM GBF and, in addition, requested the Global Environment Facility to establish, in 2023, and maintain until 2030 unless the COP decides otherwise, a special trust fund to support the implementation of the KM GBF.³⁷ Activities supporting the implementation the FA BFA and the GPAs may well be eligible for support from these funds.

27. Technical support from FAO for the national implementation of the KM GBF, including for review of national biodiversity strategies and action plans, is foreseen in the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors and its Action Plan 2024–27. Further details are provided in the document *Progress report on the implementation of the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors and its 2021-23 Action Plan*,³⁸ which also contains the draft Action Plan for 2024–27.

³¹ KM GBF, Targets 4, 10, 11; GPA AnGR, SP 1, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11; GPA AqGR, SP 2.3, 2.4, 2.5; GPA FGR, SP 5, 7, 11, 18; Second GPA PGR, PA 4, 5, 6, 7.16.

³² FAO. 2009. *Preparation of national strategies and action plans for animal genetic resources*. FAO Animal Production and Health Guidelines. No. 2. Rome. <https://www.fao.org/3/i0770e/i0770e.pdf>; FAO. 2015. *Guidelines for Developing a National Strategy for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture*. Rome. <https://www.fao.org/3/i4917e/i4917e.pdf>

³³ <https://www.fao.org/cgrfa/policies/global-instruments/codes-standards-and-guidelines/en/>

³⁴ FA BFA, Action 3.2.11, 3.3.6; GPA AnGR, SP 3, 4, 9, 20; GPA AqGR, SP 4.7; GPA FGR, SP 23; Second GPA PGR, PA 13.

³⁵ CBD/COP/DEC/15/9.

³⁶ FA BFA, Action 3.3.2, 3.3.4, 3.3.5; GPA AnGR, SP 13, 14, 16; GPA AqGR, SP 3.4, 4.6; GPA FGR, SP 21, 24; Second GPA PGR, PA 17.

³⁷ CBD/COP/DEC/15/7, Annex I.

³⁸ CGRFA-19/23/6.2.

28. Both the KM GBF and the Commission's instruments may therefore benefit from each other's funding opportunities, capacity-development activities and other mechanisms supporting their implementation.

Monitoring of implementation

29. The KM GBF and the Commission's GPAs require regular monitoring of their implementation. The KM GBF monitoring framework makes specific reference to, or reflects, multiple SDGs, several of which are under FAO custodianship.³⁹ The "Number of plant and animal genetic resources secured in medium or long-term conservation facilities" (SDG 2.5) has been agreed upon as a component indicator for Target 4 and a complementary indicator for Target 9. The "Proportion of agricultural area under productive and sustainable agriculture" (SDG 2.4.1) and "Progress towards sustainable forest management" (SDG 15.2.1) are headline indicators for Target 10. "Proportion of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels" (SDG 14.4.1) is a headline indicator for Target 5. All these are under FAO custodianship. FAO is expected to play an important role in the development of methodologies for other indicators, for example "Fertilizer use" and "Pesticide use per area of cropland", component and complementary indicators respectively for Target 7, or the proposed headline indicators on "Pesticide environment concentration" (Target 7) and "Area under restoration" (Target 2).

30. The 15th Meeting of the COP to the CBD decided to conduct a global review of the collective progress in the implementation of the KM GBF, including the means of implementation, and to mandate the Subsidiary Body on Implementation to develop the concrete procedures for the global review, including on the use of indicators.⁴⁰

31. As several indicators of the monitoring framework of the KM GBF have not yet been finalized, the framework will be kept under review.⁴¹ When possible, indicators are aligned with existing intergovernmental processes under the UN Statistical Commission, such as the SDGs, the Framework for the Development of Environment Statistics or the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting,⁴² to which FAO contributes.⁴³

32. Assessing the state of GRFA and monitoring the implementation of the Commission's GPAs provide the basis for the Commission's recurring assessments of the state of the world's GRFA. Monitoring systems for the implementation of the GPAs have therefore been established or are in the process of being established for all sectors of GRFA. The Commission and its Working Groups review reports on the implementation of the Commission's GPAs on a regular basis.

33. No monitoring and reporting scheme has yet been agreed for the implementation of the FA BFA. However, if the Commission wishes to adhere to its decision, that *The Second Report on the State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture* be prepared,⁴⁴ it might wish to agree on some form of monitoring/reporting, and decide how it wishes to oversee this work. Table 2 demonstrates that reports on the implementation of the FA BFA could benefit greatly from the reports on the implementation of the Commission's GPAs and the KM GBF monitoring framework, and vice versa.

Conclusion

34. Table 2 demonstrates that there is a high level of coherence between the FA BFA, the GPAs, and the KM GBF. Both the FA BFA and the KM GBF are frameworks that refer to and support other agreements. While the KM GBF provides an umbrella for all biodiversity, the FA BFA applies to biodiversity for food and agriculture and the GPAs address specific sectors of GRFA. Any action taken to implement the GPAs or the FA BFA will contribute to the implementation of the KM GBF

³⁹ CBD/COP/DEC/15/5.

⁴⁰ CBD/COP/DEC/15/6, paragraph 16-17

⁴¹ CBD/COP/DEC/15/5, paragraph 3.

⁴² CBD/COP/DEC/15/5, Annex 1, paragraph 2f.

⁴³ See also Resolution 4/2017 The Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and its Contribution to the Achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals

⁴⁴ CGRFA-17/19/Report, *Appendix F*, Annex 1; CGRFA-19/23/12, *Appendix I*, Annex 1.

and vice versa. The KM GBF and the Commission's instruments are mutually supportive and complement each other in areas of high relevance to FAO and the Commission. The KM GBF also reflects important concepts of the FA BFA, in particular by referring to biodiversity-friendly practices, a concept originally introduced by the SoW BFA.⁴⁵ An immediate need for a review or revision of the FA BFA is therefore not obvious.

35. The instruments stress the importance of characterization, assessment and monitoring. The Commission's information and monitoring systems for plant, animal, aquatic and forest genetic resources may provide information that is essential for monitoring the implementation of the SDGs and the KM GBF. The KM GBF monitoring framework could, similarly, be of help for monitoring the implementation of specific strategic priorities of the FA BFA.

36. The frameworks may also benefit from each other's support mechanisms, including financial resources made available for their implementation. The Commission's instruments could potentially greatly benefit from capacity-development activities as well as from financial resources that may become available for the implementation of the KM GBF. Contracting Parties to the CBD may, on the other hand, benefit from FAO's support in the implementation of a number of key targets of the KM GBF.

V. GUIDANCE SOUGHT

37. The Commission may wish to:

- (i) welcome the adoption of the KM GBF;
- (ii) review and revise, as appropriate, the draft Resolution contained in *Appendix I* to this document, and invite the Director-General to bring the Resolution to the attention of the Conference for the latter's approval;
- (iii) note with appreciation the high degree of mutual supportiveness of the KM GBF and the Commission's FA BFA and GPAs and recommend considering, at this stage, no amendments to the FA BFA;
- (iv) invite Members to implement the FA BFA and the Commission's GPAs in harmony with the KM GBF and request the Secretariat to support countries in this regard, including by assisting countries in mobilizing the necessary resources;
- (v) recommend that FAO contribute to the development of tools and guidelines, as appropriate, facilitating the implementation of the FA BFA, the Commission's GPAs and the KM GBF in a mutually supportive, coherent and consistent way, for consideration by relevant subsidiary bodies of the Commission and by the Commission;
- (vi) encourage Members to make use of financial and other support available for the implementation of activities supporting the implementation of the two frameworks and the Commission's GPAs;
- (vii) support the inclusion of FAO activities supporting the implementation by countries of the FA BFA in the Action Plan 2024–2027 for the Implementation of the FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors;
- (viii) recommend that subject to the availability of the necessary resources, FAO develop indicators for monitoring the implementation of the FA BFA, taking into account existing indicators, including those developed under the aegis of the Commission and those currently being developed for the KM GBF, with a view to reporting, at regular intervals, to the Commission on the status of implementation of the FA BFA and to facilitate the preparation of *The Second Report on the State of the World's Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture*.

⁴⁵ See FAO. 2022. *Information provided by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations on certain terms used in draft Target 10 of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework*.
<https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/8c23/393f/b0e59c8da9eb4aefce374bfe/fao-information-selected-target10-terms-en.pdf>

*APPENDIX I***THE KUNMING-MONTREAL GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK
DRAFT CONFERENCE RESOLUTION**

THE CONFERENCE,

Recalling the three Global Goals of Members as included in the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-2031, especially Goal 3 on the sustainable management and utilization of natural resources, including land, water, air, climate and genetic resources for the benefit of present and future generations, and the FAO Strategic Framework 2022-2031 for the transformation to MORE efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems for better production, better nutrition, a better environment, and a better life, leaving no one behind;

Having noted the adoption, by the 15th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework with its vision of a world of living in harmony with nature where “by 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people”;

Having considered the report of the Nineteenth Regular Session of the Commission on Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Commission);

Recognizing the importance of the Commission’s Global Plans of Action, its Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture, and other policy tools as voluntary frameworks for action at local, national, regional and global levels;

Recalling the importance of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Treaty) and its support for the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture and equitable sharing of benefits derived from their use;

Recalling the importance of the International Plant Protection Convention and its support for the management of plant pests and diseases, including of invasive alien species;

Acknowledging the important work of the Commission, the Treaty and FAO in the development of targets and indicators for monitoring the implementation of their respective instruments and policies, the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;

Noting the important role of the *FAO Strategy on Mainstreaming Biodiversity across Agricultural Sectors* and the *2024-27 Action Plan* in coordinating FAO’s assistance to countries in mainstreaming biodiversity across agricultural sectors;

Stressing the mutual supportiveness of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and instruments and policies of FAO on the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits derived from genetic resources;

1. **Endorses** the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;
2. **Requests** FAO, the Commission, the Treaty and the International Plant Protection Convention to contribute to the implementation and monitoring of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, within their mandate and subject to the availability of resources, for this purpose, support countries in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and collaborate with relevant international organizations and instruments, research institutes, non-governmental organizations, civil society organizations, Indigenous Peoples and local communities, women and youth, and the private sector with a view to avoid duplications and to enhance effectiveness;

3. *Invites* Members to:

- i. integrate the Commission's sectoral Global Plans of Action, the Framework for Action on Biodiversity for Food and Agriculture and other FAO instruments and policies related to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity into relevant policies, programmes and national and regional plans of action, including National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), as appropriate;
- ii. actively engage, and collaborate closely with all relevant sectors at all levels, as appropriate and in accordance with national circumstances, priorities and capabilities, in the transformation to more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems that promote the sustainable use, conservation and restoration of biodiversity for food and agriculture, leaving no one behind; and
- iii. consider the importance of the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity for food and agriculture, when seeking funding and support from various sources, including the Global Environment Facility, the Green Climate Fund and other relevant funding mechanisms.