



SBSTTA 24

Agenda item 3. Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework

Mr / Madam Chair

This statement is delivered on behalf of the CBD Alliance that gathers a diverse range of views and opinions.

Let me start by reiterating our concern on the process to discuss monitoring elements around targets and goals that have not been agreed yet and are not under discussion despite the mandate from OEWG 2.

Secondly, we want to alert about the lack of implementation of the obligations under the CBD, the lack of ambition and even regression in the updated zero draft. For example:

- In the current GBF draft, there is no more mention of halting the loss of intact ecosystems and especially primary forests¹, nor does it strengthen and build on like in Aichi target 5 and SDG 15.2. Action target 1 only refers to putting 50% of area under some kind of spatial planning and restoring degraded ecosystems and without addressing the key aspect of governance and use of areas.
- Aichi Target 3 is weakened in action target 17 by suggesting that only the most harmful perverse incentives should be phased out in the short term and contains no reference to the role of public and private investments in supporting biodiversity-harmful projects.
- States' obligations to regulate consumption patterns have been reduced to a vague reference to consumer choices ignoring the overarching role of governments in putting in place a regulatory framework that avoids harmful production and thus consumption.
- Target 4 is also a significant regression on SDG Goal 15.5 which commits to 'halt the loss of biodiversity' by 2030 and 'by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species'.
- Target 9 talks about increasing productivity in agricultural ecosystems, while Aichi target 6 demands the sustainable management of all areas under agriculture, aquaculture and forestry, ensuring conservation of biodiversity.

¹ Decision CBD 14/30 notes the “exceptional importance of primary forests for biodiversity conservation” and “the urgent necessity to avoid major fragmentation, damage to and loss of, primary forests of the planet”

Third, the over excitement around specific issues is alarming. A target of 30% to expand protected areas and OECMs without any conditions to ensure equitable governance of these areas, and no mention of ICCAs; and a focus on language like Nature based solutions that without a universally adopted definition is being used for carbon offsets and other activities that are very harmful for biodiversity and the communities that depend on it. As a minimum, all the elements contained in Aichi target 11, including equity and FPIC need to be put back into any area--based target.

On the other hand, the latest 'draft' does not integrate a Rights-Based Approach and does not include crucial aspects such as the human rights, role, participation, needs and aspirations of rights-holder groups like Indigenous Peoples, women, local communities, peasants and youth, except for very vague references that provide no guarantee that human rights violations, like forced resettlement in the name of conservation, will be halted.

There is a general lack of balance between the three objectives of the CBD in all the discussions and the targets and indicators proposed (e.g. CBD COP decision VII/2, VII/11, XII/5, XII/12, XIV/6, XIV/7) added to a major omission around DSI.

We reiterate our concern about working on indicators before the goals and targets have been agreed. Our inputs here do not constitute acceptance of the updated zero draft. Indicators presented so far are too quantitative and are not based on decisions on targets and goals. The idea of gross ecosystem product for example reduces biodiversity to a market commodity. Indicator 14.0.2 on corporate sustainability reporting is completely inadequate as is a Biomass material footprint per capita and in 15.0.2. we urgently need national and international regulation and the rectification of inequalities.

We continue to believe that formal virtual negotiations disadvantage most developing countries and civil society, particularly IPLCs, small farmers, women and youth, adding to inequities in multilateral negotiations and other global injustices. However, we participate in good faith, in order to amplify the voices of the disadvantaged.