



## ITEM 22. BIODIVERSITY AND HEALTH

Document [CBD/COP/16/2/Rev.1](#)

Deutscher Bundestag

Ausschuss für Gesundheit  
UA Globale Gesundheit

Ausschussdrucksache

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### Key Messages and Recommendations

Healthy human communities rely on well-functioning ecosystems, which provide clean air, fresh water, medicines and food security, as well as limiting disease and stabilising the climate. Human activities which disturb the structure and functions of ecosystems, impact patterns of infectious diseases, and along with wildlife exploitation and trade are major risk factors for zoonotic disease and for other health risks. It is crucial for the Convention to address these concerns through **adoption of a Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health**, as contained in document [CBD/COP/16/2](#).

WWF recommends that Parties resolve with urgency remaining square brackets and adopt the Action Plan, **incorporating all the annexes** which provide highly useful content for implementation.

WWF also recommends that Parties consider **including the actions of the Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health in their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans**. The format of the Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health, which provides specific actions against each of the Global Biodiversity Framework Targets, is particularly useful in this regard.

### BACKGROUND AND SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

Available evidence points to ecosystem degradation and fragmentation, interactions between humans, livestock and wildlife, and the use of wild animals for food, as risk factors for epidemics and pandemics. Biodiversity loss contributes to poor health outcomes in other respects, by depleting natural resources on which rural communities depend, and by limiting access to green spaces which support mental health. Finally, the risks to human health from other drivers of biodiversity loss, including pollution and climate change, need to be recognised.

Dem Ausschuss ist das vorliegende Dokument  
in nicht barrierefreier Form zugeleitet worden.

Of the thousands of pathogens known to infect humans, the majority are zoonotic (i.e. transmitted from animals to humans, and vice versa). The 21st century has seen a [drastic increase](#) in the emergence and re-emergence of viral zoonotic disease. Analysis indicates that addressing the biodiversity related drivers of zoonotic spillover - such as better wildlife trade management and reducing deforestation - cost less than [1/20th](#) of the costs each year from emerging viral zoonoses and have substantial co-benefits, including delivering against the Targets of the Global Biodiversity Framework.

The Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health is therefore an important development, providing clear guidance on the linkages between biodiversity and health, and specific actions under each of the Global Biodiversity Framework Targets.

WWF supported the adoption of the Action Plan at SBSTTA26 and we continue to support the adoption of the Action Plan at CoP16. We would prefer a binding plan to a voluntary plan, whilst recognising that a voluntary plan still has value. WWF strongly supports the designation of national focal points on biodiversity and health, as proposed in the Action Plan. WWF believes that the content included in the Annexes to the Action Plan are extremely valuable, and should be adopted along with the Action Plan itself.

Whilst there is global momentum and support for the One Health approach, the environment pillar of this approach is often the least well understood. WWF is pleased to launch at CoP16 guidance on implementing a One Health approach to conservation.

## TEXT PROPOSALS

WWF welcomes the draft **Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health** outlined in the draft COP decision in [CBD/COP/16/2/Rev.1](#) and calls on the COP to adopt the plan. We invite Parties to consider the inclusion of the following **proposed text changes** in the final decision.

New text proposed by WWF is in **red, bold and underlined**.

Text that WWF proposes to delete is ~~in strike through~~.

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*The following draft decision is taken from recommendation 26/9 of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice*

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The Conference of the Parties,

[...]

*Noting* the importance given to biodiversity and health interlinkages by other organizations and initiatives, including the United Nations Environment Assembly, which, in its resolution 5.6 on biodiversity and health, ~~r~~recognized, inter alia, the interdependent crises of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution and strains on health, the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement[5] adopted under the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which, in its decisions 1/CMA.5 and 2/CMA.5, urged Parties, and invited non-Party stakeholders, to advance actions related to ecosystems, biodiversity and health, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, which recognized the centrality of nature to health,[6] and the Global Framework on Chemicals– For a Planet Free of Harm from Chemicals and Waste, which is aimed at preventing or

minimizing harm from chemicals and waste, protecting human health and biodiversity ~~¶~~, as well as the current negotiations held at the World Health Organization on a new pandemic agreement, especially in terms of the potential risks of zoonotic diseases spilling over from wildlife, ~~¶~~

Considering the importance of cooperation with other multilateral environment agreements and relevant organizations and initiatives [to achieve a global approach to biodiversity and health] and [CO4] the need to avoid duplication of efforts,

~~¶~~1. Adopts the Global Action Plan on Biodiversity and Health, as contained in annex I to the present decision, as a voluntary plan for supporting the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework,~~[7]~~ complementary to the guidance contained in decisions [XIII/6](#) and [14/4](#); ~~¶~~

~~¶~~2. Welcomes the targeted messages for mainstreaming biodiversity into the health sector contained in annex IV to the present decision; ~~¶~~

3. Encourages Parties, in accordance with national circumstances and priorities and on a voluntary basis:

~~¶~~(a) To implement the Global Action Plan and provide information on their implementing activities and the results thereof, including in national reports, as appropriate; ~~¶~~

~~¶~~(b) To designate a national focal point on biodiversity and health to enhance national coordination, knowledge exchange, implementation and the sharing of good practices and lessons learned among biodiversity and health actors, including those working in human, animal and plant health, the environmental sector and traditional medicine systems, and to work comprehensively with health and health-related agencies and professionals at the national level; ~~¶~~

~~¶~~(c) To designate a national youth focal point on biodiversity and public health, who will, inter alia, report on the contributions and needs of children and youth in relation to environmental stewardship, health and intergenerational equity; ~~¶~~

(d) To integrate biodiversity and health interlinkages into biodiversity-related policies, programmes ~~[and accounts]~~, in line with decision 14/4 and, if appropriate, in their national biodiversity strategies and action plans, ~~[taking the elements of the Global Action Plan into account.]~~ in line with section C of the Framework;

(e) To recognize the need to address the drivers of biodiversity loss urgently to reduce risks to health, while contributing to the implementation of the Framework, in particular paragraph 7 (r) of section C and Target 14;

**~~¶~~ (f) To ensure that biodiversity is considered in assessments, national strategies and reports related to human health;**

~~¶~~4. Invites other Governments, the governing bodies and secretariats of relevant multilateral environment and health agreements and international organizations, including the members of the Quadripartite alliance on One Health, ~~[to make use of, as appropriate, the Global Action Plan in order]~~ to mainstream biodiversity and health interlinkages into their respective constituencies and across sectors, respecting self-determined national priorities, and to further support the development and implementation of measures, guidance and tools for promoting and supporting the mainstreaming of biodiversity and health linkages; ~~¶~~

~~¶~~5. Invites indigenous peoples and local communities, relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and academia, women, children and youth to contribute to the implementation of the Global Action Plan; ~~¶~~

6. Invites the World Health Organization to take synergies into account, as appropriate, in its work on biodiversity and health undertaken pursuant to its fourteenth General Global Programme of Work, 2025–2028, as well as resolutions of the World Health Assembly related to One Health and to environmental determinants of health, and the work undertaken under the Convention on Biological Diversity;

7. ~~Urges~~ Requests Parties, ~~in accordance with Article 20 of the Convention,~~ and invites other Governments, relevant multilateral environmental and health agreements, relevant organizations, donors and relevant financial institutions to provide financial and technical support, as appropriate, for capacity-building and development ~~and avail themselves of adequate resources in a timely manner,~~ and for addressing the biodiversity and health interlinkages, including for ~~enabling~~ the effective implementation of the Global Action Plan;}

8. Requests the Global Environment Facility to provide financial assistance to all ~~developing~~ eligible countries, without ~~prejudice,~~ discrimination or bias, including capacity-building and development activities, for national, subnational and regional projects that address the Global Action Plan;}

9. Invites Parties, other Governments, relevant multilateral environmental agreements and other organizations to share measures, guidance and tools, examples, best practices and lessons learned in the implementation of the Global Action Plan and the mainstreaming of biodiversity and health interlinkages at all levels;}

10. Requests the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources:

(a) To complete the work conducted pursuant to paragraph 13 (a) of decision [14/4](#) on the development of integrated science-based indicators, metrics and progress measurement tools on biodiversity and health, taking account of section III and paragraph 14 of annex I and the information referred to in annex II to the present decision, among others, and to prepare a note on how the indicators, metrics and progress measurement tools could be used to monitor the implementation of the Global Action Plan;

(b) To facilitate, in collaboration with partners, capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation and technology transfer activities to support Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities and stakeholders, such as relevant organizations, **veterinary and public health professionals**, academia and women, children, youth and the elderly in the uptake and implementation of the Global Action Plan, including by convening regional workshops and facilitating dialogues, ensuring the participation of indigenous peoples, local communities, women and youth, in collaboration with, inter alia, members of the Quadripartite alliance on One Health and the secretariats of other multilateral environmental agreements;

(c) To continue to raise awareness at all levels, including through relevant processes of other multilateral environmental agreements and intergovernmental bodies, of the important interlinkages between biodiversity and health, including their relevance to the implementation of the Framework;

(d) To enhance and strengthen cooperation with international organizations and the secretariats of other multilateral environmental, health and human rights agreements with regard to biodiversity and health interlinkages;

(e) To explore, in consultation with the World Health Organization, the development of an online information platform to collate knowledge and experiences on interlinked biodiversity and health policies and actions, including, inter alia, case studies, indicators, assessments and methodologies, in order to facilitate knowledge-sharing and capacity-building and thereby further support the implementation of the Global Action Plan;

(f) To report on the outcomes of that work to the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting held before the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and to the World Health Assembly at its seventy-ninth meeting.<sup>9</sup>

### For more information

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