



technical issues

**Convention on Biological Diversity
Fifteenth Meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP15)
7 – 19 December 2022, Montreal, Canada**

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Marine and coastal biodiversity

(Agenda item 20)

EBSAs

IUCN supports efforts carried out so far in clarifying concepts and modalities, and encourages Parties to ensure the EBSA process continues based on the most up-to-date science, with the full participation of relevant experts and knowledge holders. In this regard, IUCN is ready to contribute knowledge for the identification of marine Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs), on Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs) and other relevant knowledge

a moratorium on seabed mining and urges its State Members of the provisions therein³.

Finally, IUCN and its Fisheries Expert Group are committed to pursue its collaboration with FAO and the CBD on the topic of mainstreaming in fisheries, assessing the progress toward Aichi Target 6 and Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECMs) and to work towards greater capacity-building and context specific guidance on the topic, including on gender inclusion and responsiveness.

Invasive alien species

(Agenda item 21)

IUCN support the findings of the Ad Hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG) on Invasive Alien Species and welcomes the draft guidance in Annexes I to VI of the draft decision.

IUCN welcomes the work undertaken by the Inter-agency Liaison Group on Invasive Alien Species and by the World Customs Organization to address the risks posed by e-commerce of living organisms, and will continue to support the development of a globally harmonized classification and labelling system for consignments of environmentally hazardous living organisms.

In 2020, IUCN launched its standard for classifying alien species in terms of their environmental impact, the Environmental Impact Classification for Alien Taxa (EICAT), and the IUCN Invasive Species Specialist Group (IUCN ISSG) continues to develop and apply its sister scheme the Socio-Economic Impact Classification for Alien Taxa (SEICAT). In addition, IUCN ISSG has led the development of the Global Register of

³ IUCN calls on its State Members to support and a moratorium on deep seabed mining unless or until: i) rigorous and transparent impact assessments have been conducted, the environmental, social, cultural and economic risks of deep seabed mining are comprehensively understood, and the effective protection of the marine environment can be ensured; ii) the precautionary principle, ecosystem approach, and the polluter pays principle have been implemented; iii) policies to ensure the responsible production and use of metals, such as the reduction of demand for primary metals, a transformation to a resource-efficient circular economy, and responsible terrestrial mining practices, have been developed and implemented; and iv) public consultation mechanisms have been incorporated into all decision-making processes related to deep-sea mining ensuring effective engagement allowing for independent review, and, where relevant, that the free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples is respected and consent from potentially affected communities is achieved.

Introduced and Invasive Species (GRIIS), a product of the Global Invasive Alien Species Information Partnership (GIASI Partnership) launched during CBD COP11. This register presents verified national checklists of introduced and invasive species, available on the CBD country profile page. IUCN also serves as the custodian agency for SDG Indicator 15.8.1 on policy responses to invasive alien species, and urges the strengthened application of this indicator in the CBD, including in the GBF.

Through

experts, IUCN is ready to support Parties and others in developing and implementing science-based national strategies, action plans, policies and regulatory mechanisms required to meet a post 2020 target on IAS, and to help monitor its progress.

In line with the above, **IUCN and its SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group welcome the invitation to assess the magnitude of negative impacts from alien pathogens or parasites and invasive alien species that may transmit pathogens or parasites that may affect biodiversity** and encourages Parties to lift the brackets from paragraph 12 of the draft decision.

Biodiversity and climate change

(Agenda item 23)

Biodiversity loss and climate change are inseparable and interdependent challenges that must be coherently and consistently addressed urgently in an integrated manner. Since 2019, when this item was discussed at SBSTTA23, further scientific assessments report on the exacerbation of these twin crises, but also highlight that safeguarding biodiversity and ecosystems is fundamental to climate resilient development. IUCN welcomes the note from the Executive Secretary (CBD/SBSTTA/23/3) and concurs with the key messages emerging from the review of new scientific and technical information on biodiversity and climate change and invites Parties to take note of findings of the *IPCC Sixth Assessment Report* and the *2021 IPBES-IPCC Co-sponsored Workshop Report on Biodiversity and Climate Change*.

IUCN recommends Parties that are also Parties to the UNFCCC to strengthen their efforts to integrate nature-based solutions (NbS), including ecosystem-based approaches into their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and their domestic climate actions, in

support of the Paris Agreement, and proposes to strengthen paragraph 5 as follows:

5.

IUCN globally supports the draft plan of action 2020-2030 of the international initiative. It is comprehensive and covers the most relevant field of activities to promote soil health into policy, practice, knowledge and monitoring.

Nature and culture

(Agenda item 26)

Recognising that the connection between culture and nature provides a crucial, untapped potential for achieving life for humanity in harmony with nature, **IUCN welcomes the *Elements and Tasks related to the Joint Programme of Work on the Links between Nature and Culture in the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework*, and fully supports the proposed draft decision including its Annex, as previously agreed at the Working**