



Convention on
Biological Diversity



Joint Communiqué

On the intent to collaborate in responding to the global biodiversity crisis and implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

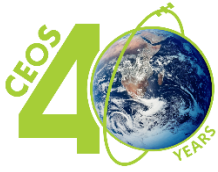
- Recalling: That the Convention on Biological Diversity established three objectives related to biodiversity: the conservation of biological diversity; the sustainable use of the components of biological diversity and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources.
- Recognizing: That collaboration between international organisations involved in biodiversity actions and their respective members is crucial in addressing biodiversity loss and nature restoration.
- Recognizing: That the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (the Framework) represents a global commitment toward achieving the vision of living in harmony with nature by 2050.
- Noting: That a monitoring framework was adopted by Parties to the Convention alongside the adoption of the Framework and that this monitoring framework provides a commitment by individual countries to use high-quality, relevant data and indicators to track progress towards the Framework.
- Recognizing: That at the national level, national biodiversity strategies and action plans are the primary instrument for implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.
- Recognizing: That there are current gaps in national biodiversity monitoring systems and that effort across different parts of the data value chain will be needed to improve biodiversity monitoring at the national, regional and global level.
- Recognizing: That space-based Earth Observation (EO) offers a unique opportunity to improve the observation of ecosystems.



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- Whereas: The United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity is a Convention of 193 Parties which have ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity and which adopted the 4 goals and 23 targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in December 2022.
- Whereas: The Secretariat for the Convention on Biological Diversity is the office which was established to support the Convention.
- Whereas: The Group on Earth Observations (GEO) is an intergovernmental organization of 139 Country members which was established coordinate international efforts related to Earth Observations and that the Group on Earth Observations has formally agreed to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework as a part of their work programme which was adopted in November 2022.
- Whereas The Group on Earth Observations (GEO) Secretariat supports the Group on Earth Observations (GEO), including through coordinating efforts around Earth intelligence solutions for informing decisions and accelerate action on global, societal, and environmental challenges including through the development of an Global Ecosystem Atlas.
- Whereas: Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) is an intergovernmental committee of space agencies with the primary mission of ensuring international coordination of civil space-based Earth observations programs and promoting exchange of data to optimise societal benefit and that the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites has identified biodiversity as a key area for collaboration in their terms of reference agreed in November 2013.
- Whereas: The Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) Secretariat is led by the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) Chair which is elected each biennium in order to coordinate the work programme of the Committee. The Chair in 2024 is the Canadian Space Agency.
- Whereas The Group on Earth Observation Biodiversity Observation Network (GEOBON) is a global network of more than 3,300 researchers in 149 countries dedicated to improving the acquisition, coordination, and delivery of biodiversity information at the global, regional, and national levels, including by promoting their flagship efforts



around the Essential Biodiversity Variables and the Essential Ecosystem Service Variables and the establishment of Biodiversity Observation Networks (BONs) to support monitoring.

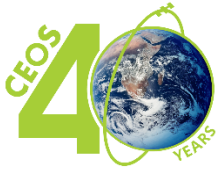
Whereas

The Group on Earth Observation Biodiversity Observation Network Secretariat is led by the co-chairs of Network which are elected to serve as Chair over a six-year term. The current Secretariat is hosted at McGill University.

CBD, GEO, CEOS and GEOBON, represent different parts of the value chain - from data to decisions. However, all four organizations have a shared commitment to improve the ability to monitor biodiversity and the national, regional, and global levels in support of the ambitious goal to halt and reverse nature loss by 2030.

Building on our collective mandate to support countries to monitoring and track progress related to biodiversity outcomes, in particular those elaborated in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, the Secretariats of the CBD, CEOS, GEO and GEOBON agree to the following actions, in line with their existing mandates:

- Collaborate and establish a mechanism for improving coordination between our organisations.
- Co-designing/co-creating information products and tools which will directly support Parties in applying the monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework at the national level, including through building upon the existing experiences of the GEO in developing the Global Ecosystem Atlas and of GEO BON in developing the BON in a Box tool for data, indicators, and reporting.
- Identify opportunities for building awareness and increasing engagement of CBD, GEO, GEOBON and CEOS stakeholders in biodiversity monitoring and science, including through linking with the essential biodiversity variables and the essential ecosystem service variables.
- Supporting access to data to advance biodiversity science and climate science.



- Co-develop guidance and share best practices of countries on applications of Earth Observation data for improving biodiversity monitoring systems.

As the Secretariat of CEOS and GEOBON rotates with the chairmanship of these bodies, the current Chairs agree to work with future incoming Chairs in order to ensure sustained commitment towards the actions in this Communiqué.

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