

IUCN World Conservation Congress CBD Process

LDAC Working Group 5 Horizontal Issues

19-20 October 2021

Despina Symons





IUCN 2021 World Conservation Congress



- The biggest environmental gathering held every four years (Governments, NGOs, civil society and scientific community)
- Over 5.000 participants and 3 000 on-line with several heads of states
- The EU represented at the highest level
- Ocean biodiversity and fisheries were high in the agenda
- Main focus: The upcoming CBD COP 15 and UN Climate Summit (UNFCC COP 26) and the SDGs
- Macron announced France will convene One Ocean Summit, beginning of 2022, to serve as a pre-meeting to the UN Ocean Conference in Lisbon in June



Fisheries-related events



33 ocean events in total, relating to:

- MPAs & OECMs
- Fisheries management
- Bottom trawling
- BBNJ
- Seabed mining
- Bycatch
- Underwater noise pollution
- Marine plastics



Fisheries-related resolutions adopted



- Protecting deep-ocean ecosystems and biodiversity through a moratorium on seabed mining
- Planning of maritime areas and biodiversity and geodiversity conservation
- Restoring a peaceful and quiet ocean
- Setting area-based conservation targets (OECMs) based on evidence of what nature and people need to thrive
- Acting for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity in the ocean beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ)
- Reinforcing the protection of marine mammals through regional cooperation

All resolutions were approved after several hours of negotiations in Contact Groups.

More than 30 fisheries-related resolutions passed before the Congress through electronic vote ([see all here](#))



Resolutions voted before the congress online



- Reducing impacts of incidental capture on threatened marine species
- For an improved management of drifting fish aggregating devices (FADs) in purse seine fisheries
- Guidance to identify industrial fishing incompatible with protected areas
- Reducing the impact of fisheries on marine biodiversity
- Protection of herbivorous fish for improved coral community
- Reducing marine turtle bycatch: the important role of regulatory mechanisms in the global roll-out of Turtle Excluder Devices



Resolutions voted before the congress online



- **Acting for the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity in the ocean beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ)**
- **Aquatic biodiversity conservation of shallow marine and freshwater systems**
- **For the urgent global management of marine and coastal sand resources**



CBD Process

The CBD COP 15 - 1st part

- **Kunming, China, October 11 -15**
- 3000 delegates met physically with other 3000 online to set the stage for the negotiations to take place physically in January and the 2nd part of COP 15 in spring
- Participants included all parts of civil society: governments, NGOs, business communities, youth, women, indigenous and local communities and high-level participation from UN agencies (FAO, CITES, UNDP, WTO UNDOALOs and others)
- China opened with the establishment of the Kunming Biodiversity Fund with the allocation of \$230 million
- Two days high-level segment concluded with strong financial and political commitments from several governments and agencies and adopted **the Kunming Declaration** with the aim to give clear political direction for the negotiations



COP 15, 1st part - Kunming Declaration

- Reversing the current loss of biodiversity and ensure that biodiversity is put on a path to recovery by 2030 at the latest, towards the full realization of the 2050 Vision of “Living in Harmony with Nature
- Reducing the negative effects of human activities on the ocean to protect marine and coastal biodiversity and strengthen the resilience of marine and coastal ecosystems to climate change
- Strengthening the sustainable use of biodiversity in order to meet the needs of people
- Enhancing the global environmental legal framework and strengthen environmental law at the national level, and its enforcement
- Increasing the application of ecosystem-based approaches to address biodiversity loss, restore degraded ecosystems, boost resilience, mitigate and adapt to climate change, support sustainable food production

Kunming Declaration ➡ [see here](#)

The Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework – the big decision!

- The process run by the CBD - involves all other UN ocean processes (BBNJ, SDGs, UNFCCC, IPBES, CITES)
- Thematic consultations on Oceans
- An Open Ended Working Group (OEWG) – two meetings in last two years and produced a Zero Draft
- A third meeting held in August to discuss the zero draft
- A new document expected soon for the negotiations
- A physical meeting is planned for January in Switzerland

What's new in these targets ?

- Aichi Targets 2010-2020 included two fisheries targets: Aichi Target 6 (Sustainable Fisheries) and 11 (MPAs and OECMs)

The new Framework contains:

- **5 long-term goals (2050)**
- **20 short-term targets (2030)**
- **No sector-specific targets as before**

The 20 targets as they stand ([see here](#)).

New draft to come soon

Fisheries touched in different targets:

Reducing threats to biodiversity

30% MPAs & OECMs, MSP, sustainable harvest, trade and use of wild species, IUU

Sustainable use (one of the three main objectives of CBD)

Sustainable use of marine resources (MSY), resilience of marine ecosystems, food security, livelihoods

Implementation and mainstreaming

Fisheries subsidies, economic incentives, biodiversity mainstreaming in fisheries

The CBD Process

May - June

August

October

January 2022

May 2022

Meeting of the **Subsidiary Body (SBSTTA)**

A third meeting held in August to look at the **zero draft** of the new Framework Biodiversity

The CBD COP **15** first part met in **Kunming China** in a hybrid manner

A physical meeting in Switzerland to negotiate the **Post-2020 Framework**

Final adoption of the **Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework** at **CBD COP 15 (Part 2 - Kunming, China)**

The physical meeting in January of SBSTTA and the OEWG on the Post 2020 Framework of high importance



➔ UN Climate Change

- Ocean-climate nexus are to be discussed at COP26, November 2021.
- EBCD co-organizer of the EU Ocean Day side event at COP26, in collaboration with DG MARE, Ocean Climate and Plymouth Marine Laboratory

Thank you!

For more information:

www.ebcd.org

despina.symons@ebcd.org



FEG



ebcd
EUROPEAN BUREAU FOR
CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT

