



Ms Elizabeth Maruma Mrema, Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity
Mr Francis Ogwal and Mr Basile Van Havre, Co-Chairs for the Convention on Biological Diversity's
Post-2020 Open Ended Working Group

1st July 2021

Dear Executive Secretary Mrema,

Dear Mr Ogwal, Mr Van Havre,

We, the Heads of Delegation for Colombia, Costa Rica, EU, France and the UK, which have all endorsed the Leaders' Pledge for Nature (LPN), would like to express our deep gratitude for your continued commitment to ensure a successful outcome of the negotiations towards the development of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework at CBD COP15. We acknowledge the challenges that flow from the global pandemic, and we would like to thank you, as well as the entire CBD Secretariat, for your profound commitment to the ongoing work in these difficult circumstances.

In line with the Leaders' Pledge for Nature – already endorsed by 88 countries and the EU – and the implementation of its ten commitments, we reaffirm our determination to step up global ambition for action to tackle the biodiversity crisis. We are in a state of planetary emergency: the interdependent crises of biodiversity loss, ecosystem degradation and climate change require urgent, immediate transformative action at all levels.

Unless we take the necessary steps to halt and reverse the biodiversity crisis with immediate effect, it will continue to worsen, causing considerable damage to global economic, social and political stability, and making it impossible to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and climate objectives.

The post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework represents a historic opportunity to drive ambitious global action over the next decade – an opportunity humanity cannot afford to miss.

In this regard, we would like to reaffirm our commitment to an ambitious, transformational Framework that addresses all major drivers of biodiversity loss. This Framework must include commitments to halt the human-induced extinction of species, ensure species populations recover, and significantly increase the protection of the planet's land and oceans through effectively managed systems of protected areas and conservation measures. This will only be possible with the full participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, as well as other relevant stakeholders including women, youth, subnational governments, and the private sector.

Our objectives must be based on the best available science and supported by a strong implementation framework. It will be critical to ensure a robust monitoring and review mechanism, enhanced technical assistance and cooperation, and strong commitments on resource mobilization.

It is our strong hope that the next draft of the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework will reflect these points with commensurate ambition.

As a like-minded group, we will strive to translate these commitments in the relevant goals and targets of the Framework during the third session of the Open-Ended Working Group. We will also aim to mobilize additional high-level political support to the process, including through the Pre-COP that will be hosted by Colombia on 30th August.

Finally, we encourage you to enhance the participation of all stakeholders, including by highlighting their particular roles in relevant goals and targets, to foster effective partnerships and cooperation and strengthen ambition across all aspects of the framework, to deliver the actions needed to reverse and halt biodiversity loss.

Please rely on our delegations to encourage all Parties to come together both ahead of – and at – CBD COP15 to pursue the ambitious approach that the current crisis demands.

We renew to you all the assurances of our highest considerations and our continued involvement to secure a truly ambitious post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, in line with our endorsement of the LPN.



Laura Juliana Arciniegas Rojas
Coordinator of Environmental Affairs
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia




MSC Eugenia Arguedas Montezuma

Coordinadora Programa Nacional de Monitoreo Ecológico
Departamento de Conservación y Uso sostenible de la biodiversidad y servicios de los ecosistémicos
Tel: (506) 2522-6500 /2522-6666 Ext. 113
Apdo: 11384-1000 San José, Costa Rica
www.sinac.go.cr
Ministerio de Ambiente y Energía



Stefan Leiner
Head of Unit ENV.D2 Biodiversity
EU Focal Point to the CBD
European Commission
Environment Directorate-General



Stéphane Pailler
Sous-directeur
Sous-Direction de l'environnement et du climat
27 rue de la Convention - 75015 PARIS



Will Lockhart
Joint Head of International Environment Negotiations
Department for Environment, Food, and Rural Affairs
United Kingdom