



COOP4CBD

CBD · SBSTTA-28 · AGENDA ITEM 6

Sustainable Wildlife Management

From the wildmeat crisis to a global governance framework

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TODAY'S

Agenda

- 1 What sustainable wildlife management is
- 2 How the CBD mandate evolved
- 3 What SBSTTA-28 will consider

What Is Sustainable Wildlife Management?



CBD DECISION 14/7

“... the sound management of wildlife species to sustain their populations and habitat over time, considering the socioeconomic needs of human populations.”

— adopted by COP14, 2018

The CBD's work simultaneously addresses:



Wild meat, food security & subsistence use



Local livelihoods & human-wildlife interactions



Monitoring systems & governance



Indigenous rights & multiple knowledge systems

The CBD treats wildlife management as a biodiversity, food-security, livelihood, cultural and governance issue. Not conservation alone.

THE STAKES

Why Sustainable Wildlife Management Matters



Biodiversity & Ecosystems

Unsustainable hunting and harvest threaten species populations, habitats and ecosystem function.



Food Security & Livelihoods

Wildmeat and wildlife products sustain nutrition, income and subsistence for millions, especially IPLCs.



Governance, Rights & Knowledge

Effective management depends on customary institutions, traditional knowledge and equitable rights.

ROOTED IN THE THREE CBD OBJECTIVES



Art. 8 — Conservation



Art. 10 — Sustainable use



Art. 15 — Access & Benefit-sharing

Origins: The Bushmeat Crisis and COP9

FOCUS AREAS



Unsustainable hunting of wildmeat (“bushmeat”)



Impacts on biodiversity, ecosystems and livelihoods



Role of customary sustainable use & traditional knowledge

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- **Decision 9/5** Identifies unsustainable bushmeat hunting as a priority
- **Decision 9/17** Recognises SWM as a mechanism supporting IPLC livelihoods
- **Post-COP9 (2009)** CBD Liaison Group on Bushmeat established

Key message: the initial CBD response targeted overharvesting of wildmeat species, while recognising wildlife as essential for food security, culture and livelihoods.

The Bushmeat Liaison Group

2009



**CBD Liaison Group on
Bushmeat established**

Convenes experts and institutions to address the bushmeat crisis.

2010



**SBSTTA & COP develop
recommendations**

National and international bushmeat recommendations are drafted.

2011



**SBSTTA 15/6 welcomes
revised recommendations**

Requests exploration of a Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management.

Creation of the CPW

Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management

2013

CPW LAUNCHED

Hosted by FAO



ORIGINS

- Requested by COP11 (Decision 11/25)
- Welcomed and reinforced by COP12 (Decision 12/18)

MISSION

- Increase cooperation & coordination among international organisations
- Promote sustainable management of terrestrial vertebrate wildlife

COP13 (2016, Decision 13/8) builds on the CPW to request technical guidance for a more sustainable wildmeat sector.

Guidance for a Sustainable Wildmeat Sector



Sustainable Supply

Harvest and management practices that keep wild meat species and ecosystems viable.



Demand Management

Approaches to reduce unsustainable consumption pressure in source and destination markets.



Enabling Conditions

Legal, institutional and policy environments for lawful, sustainable wild meat use.



Respect for IPLC Rights & Livelihoods

Safeguards for customary use and the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities.

TWO DECADES OF RECOMMENDATIONS & DECISIONS

Evolution of the CBD's Wildlife Mandate



COP16 and the Global Biodiversity Framework

DECISION 16/15 ENCOURAGES:



Full participation of IPLCs, women & youth



Rights-based approaches



Multiple knowledge systems



Equitable benefit-sharing



REQUESTS PREPARATION OF

Global Guidance on Sustainable Wildlife Management

Applicable across multiple species, regions, uses and practices.

Unlike the 2018 wild meat guidance, this will be global and cross-sectoral.

Draft Global Guidance: Three Governance Principles

1

Inclusive & Participatory Decision-Making

- Who participates?
- Who decides?
- How are stakeholders represented?

2

Multiple Knowledge Systems & Rights

- How is Indigenous knowledge used?
- Are customary institutions recognised?
- How are rights protected?

3

Equitable Costs & Benefits

- Who benefits?
- Who bears conservation costs?
- How is fairness ensured?

The guidance deliberately avoids species-specific prescriptions, focusing instead on governance principles applicable across contexts.

What SBSTTA-28 Will Consider

SBSTTA WILL REVIEW:

- Draft global guidance on sustainable wildlife management
- A synthesis of best practices submitted by Parties and organisations

SBSTTA WILL BE ASKED TO RECOMMEND THAT COP17:

- Adopt the global guidance
- Integrate it into NBSAPs and wildlife policies
- Mainstream SWM across sectors
- Support capacity-building and monitoring

“Guidance for a sustainable wild meat sector” → “A global governance framework for sustainable wildlife management”

Key Resources

1

Note by the Secretariat



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Convention on
Biological Diversity

Subsidiary Body on Scientific,
Technical and Technological Advice
Twenty-eighth meeting
Nairobi, 27 July–1 August 2026
Item 6 of the provisional agenda¹
Sustainable wildlife management

Sustainable wildlife management

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. In paragraph 6 of its decision [16/15](#), the Conference of the Parties requested the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, subject to the availability of resources, in collaboration with the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management, in particular the Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals and the Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, and with inputs from Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth and relevant organizations, to prepare draft global guidance on the sustainable management of wildlife applicable to multiple species and multiple practices, with a focus on: (a) inclusive and participatory decision-making; (b) the inclusion of multiple systems of knowledge and the recognition of rights; and (c) the equitable distribution of costs and benefits.

2. Pursuant to that request, the Secretariat of the Convention issued an invitation, through notification No. 2025-014, to Parties, other Governments, indigenous peoples and local communities, and relevant organizations to submit views and information on global guidance for sustainable wildlife management. A total of 14 submissions¹ were received (8 from Parties² and 6 from relevant organizations).³

2

Draft Recommendation

II. Recommendation

10. The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice may wish to recommend that, at its seventeenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopt a decision¹⁰ along the following lines:

The Conference of the Parties,

Recalling its decisions [14/7](#) of 29 November 2018, [15/23](#) of 10 December 2022 and [16/15](#) of 25 October 2024,

Recognizing that sustainable wildlife management contributes to the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity¹¹ and the implementation of relevant targets of the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework¹² and provides important ecological, economic, social and cultural benefits to indigenous peoples and local communities and other people living in close relationship with wildlife,

1. *Adopts the global guidance on the sustainable management of wildlife applicable to multiple species and multiple practices with a focus on: (a) inclusive and participatory decision-making; (b) the inclusion of multiple systems of knowledge and the recognition of rights; and (c) the equitable distribution of costs and benefits, as contained in the annex to the present decision;*

2. *Urges Parties, and invites other Governments and relevant organizations, to integrate and apply the global guidance, as appropriate and in accordance with national circumstances, priorities and legislation, in national biodiversity strategies and action plans, wildlife policies, legal and institutional frameworks and relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, policies, programmes and other instruments;*

3. *Invites Parties to promote the coherent and coordinated implementation of the global guidance across relevant sectors dealing with the management of wildlife;*

4. *Urges Parties, and invites other Governments and relevant actors in a position to do so, to support the dissemination and implementation of the global guidance, including through capacity-building, technical cooperation, the mobilization of financial resources and support for community- and rights-based approaches, as appropriate;*

5. *Invites Parties, indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant stakeholders to monitor and evaluate the use and effectiveness of the global guidance and share information on their experiences relating to its implementation before the nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;*

6. *Requests the Executive Secretary of the Convention, subject to the availability of*

3

Draft Global Guidance

Annex

Global guidance on the sustainable management of wildlife applicable to multiple species and multiple practices

I. Context

1. In decision [14/7](#), the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity¹³ recognized sustainable wildlife management as an integrated approach contributing to the objectives of the Convention, namely, the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources. The present guidance builds on that decision and subsequent decisions of the Conference of the Parties and will contribute to the implementation of the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework adopted at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.¹⁴ In particular, the guidance will contribute to the achievement of Targets 4 to 6, 9, 10, 22 and 23 of the Framework, which provide a basis for advancing species conservation and recovery, ensuring that the use of and trade in wild species are sustainable, safe and legal and enhancing benefits for people.

2. The present guidance uses the definition of the term “sustainable wildlife management” provided in decision [14/7](#) as a basis, that is, the sound management of wildlife species to sustain their populations and habitat over time, considering the socioeconomic needs of human populations.

3. Sustainable wildlife management is supported by a broad international normative framework created, *inter alia*, by the Convention on Biological Diversity (in particular Articles 6 to 8 and 10), the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Union for Conservation of Nature. Also relevant in that regard are the Addis Ababa Principles and Guidelines for the Sustainable Use of Biodiversity¹⁵ and other decisions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, including decisions [14/7](#), [15/23](#) and [16/15](#), on sustainable wildlife management. The Framework further reinforces commitments related to halting species extinction, ensuring the sustainable and legal use of wild species, restoring ecosystems and enhancing benefit-sharing.¹⁷

4. Wildlife continues to provide essential ecological, economic, cultural and social benefits, especially in rural and biodiversity-rich regions, where it supports livelihoods, food systems and cultural continuity. While many wild species are used at unsustainable levels, others are effectively conserved and managed, demonstrating the importance of context-specific approaches. Those dynamics underscore the need for coordinated, risk-informed, transparent, accountable and adaptive management that addresses cumulative pressures and cumulative values, integrates scientific and

Key Take-Away Messages

- 1 SWM began within the CBD as a response to unsustainable wildmeat hunting.
- 2 The agenda broadened through the Bushmeat Liaison Group and the Collaborative Partnership on Sustainable Wildlife Management (CPW).
- 3 Decision 14/7 (2018) produced guidance for a sustainable wild meat sector.
- 4 Decision 16/15 (2024) expanded the mandate to comprehensive global guidance for multiple species, regions and practices.
- 5 SBSTTA-28 is a critical step toward adopting the first CBD-wide global guidance on sustainable wildlife management at COP17.



Discussion: How has the EU engaged with the Sustainable Wildlife Management agenda?

Questions?

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