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**Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy
Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services
Seventh session**
Paris, 29 April–4 May 2019

**Report of the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy
Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services on the work of
its seventh session****I. Opening of the session**

1. The seventh session of the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) was held at the headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), in Paris, from 29 April to 4 May 2019.
2. Following a dance performance, the session was opened at 10.10 a.m. by the Chair of IPBES, Sir Robert Watson, who welcomed the participants, thanked UNESCO for hosting the session and expressed appreciation to the Government of France for championing the issue of biodiversity.
3. He said that IPBES had made enormous progress in its first seven years, with its first work programme nearing completion and a new work programme to be approved at the current session. Its work was, without doubt, comparable in quality and policy relevance for tackling the issue of biodiversity to that of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change for the issue of human-induced climate change. The challenge for IPBES was to raise the profile of biodiversity and ecosystems to the same level as that of climate change. The IPBES global assessment report on biodiversity and ecosystem services was the first such assessment, and the evidence and key messages contained therein would provide the basis for informed action by Governments, the private sector and the public at large aimed at conserving biodiversity and using it sustainably. The work of IPBES complemented the action being taken to implement other key agreements and goals. It provided evidence that the loss of biodiversity was not only an environmental issue but also a development, economic, security, social, moral and ethical issue that, left unchecked, would undermine the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals. Younger generations were the most vulnerable and were speaking out across the world. He had signed up to the recently launched Voice for the Planet campaign and urged other participants to do the same. The loss of biodiversity must be tackled urgently, by everyone, and in tandem with human-induced climate change.
4. The Plenary had five main issues to address: review and approval of the summary for policymakers of the global assessment, together with acceptance of the underlying chapters; consideration of the report of the external review panel and suggested actions to improve the functioning of IPBES; review and approval of a sustainable budget; approval of the proposed work programme; and the election of a new Bureau and Chair.
5. Following those remarks, opening statements were delivered by the Director General of UNESCO, Ms. Audrey Azoulay; the Executive Secretary of IPBES, Ms. Anne Larigauderie; and the Ambassador and Permanent Delegate of France to UNESCO, Mr. Laurent Stéfani, who spoke on behalf of the Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs of France, Mr. Jean-Yves Le Drian.
6. In her statement, the Director General said that in 2005 the International Conference on Biodiversity: Science and Governance, held at UNESCO, had laid the foundations for a dialogue between science and society that had ultimately given rise to and was being continued by IPBES. Urgent action was needed to preserve biodiversity, on which cultural diversity and human security

depended. The imminent launch of the global assessment would serve as a spur to such action. In order to meet the challenge, science must be placed at the heart of public policy and disseminated more widely to the general public. UNESCO was uniquely placed to support efforts to that end by bringing together scientific experts, civil society, young people and Governments and by promoting education on sustainable development. It also supported sustainability through the establishment of biosphere reserves, World Natural Heritage sites and global geoparks, and the development of scientific knowledge and cooperation. It drew on indigenous and local knowledge in conjunction with IPBES, as reflected in the global assessment.

7. UNESCO had supported IPBES from the beginning, in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The United Nations system was determined to maintain its commitment to meeting the challenge of biodiversity protection. Every minute counted, and the time for action had come. The world was watching, especially its younger generations.

8. The Executive Secretary, in her statement, said that some 800 participants – a record number – were attending the current session, representing more than 130 Governments and also multilateral environmental agreements, civil society and the business sector.

9. The forthcoming global assessment would provide answers, supported by relevant figures, to the fundamental questions of why it was important to protect biodiversity and use it sustainably, and why biodiversity was so crucial to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals. It would also illustrate how biodiversity contributed to the quality of life, identity and cultural heritage of humanity. Hundreds of researchers and experts around the world, including holders of indigenous and local knowledge, had contributed to the report on a voluntary basis, incorporating responses to thousands of comments received from peers. The assessment would serve as a scientific basis for the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, to be held in China in 2020. It was to be hoped that the work of IPBES would help to catalyse global action on biodiversity, alongside that on climate change, before it was too late.

10. In his statement, Mr. Stéfanini, welcoming the work carried out by IPBES since its inception, said that biodiversity and ecosystem services faced an unprecedented crisis, which would have a major impact on the global economy, food security, development and collective security, and on many areas on which human life itself depended, such as agriculture, climate regulation, air and water quality, and pollination. In that context, international cooperation was vital.

11. The global assessment would highlight the urgent need to protect biodiversity and would provide the scientific basis for national and international action. It was coming at a crucial juncture, as fresh commitments at the national and regional levels and among all stakeholders would be crucial to the success of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and to renewed impetus in tackling biodiversity issues. To that end, France was committed to sharing the experience that it had gained in the negotiation of the Paris Agreement. It would soon be hosting a meeting of the Group of Seven environment ministers, followed by the Group of Seven summit meeting, at which biodiversity would be a key issue under discussion. In 2020 it would host the World Conservation Congress of the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

12. Action by States alone would not be sufficient; all stakeholders must be involved, including the research community, local government, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and the public. The industrial and financial sectors were also encouraged to make commitments to protect biodiversity, including through organizations such as FAO, the World Health Organization and the World Trade Organization. Public aid for development was also essential. France had increased and would maintain its financial support for the protection of biodiversity.

13. Following those statements, a film on biodiversity in France was screened.

14. Representatives speaking on behalf of regional groups, the United States of America, the Liaison Group of Biodiversity-related Conventions, the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and the Open-ended Network of IPBES Stakeholders made general statements in which they spoke of the progress of IPBES to date, the activities in support of IPBES of those for whom they spoke, and their expectations for the current session and future work of IPBES.

15. Subsequently, a statement was delivered by the Minister for Ecological and Inclusive Transition of France, Mr. François de Rugy. He recalled that, in 2018, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change had held its forty-seventh session in Paris, and remarked that only two decades earlier it would have been unthinkable for the scourge of climate change to have attained such a prominent

place on the world stage. The global awareness was the fruit of joint efforts by civil society, Governments and international organizations, among others.

16. The time was ripe to bring to the same level the focus on biodiversity, which was facing a crisis that, while stealthier, was just as grave and also closely linked to climate change. The work under IPBES was the cornerstone of efforts to preserve and restore biodiversity, but words had to become deeds. In that regard, his Government wished to create global awareness of and action for biodiversity that was equivalent to that for climate change. Accordingly, the Chair and the Executive Secretary of IPBES would present the global assessment at the forthcoming meeting of the Group of Seven environment ministers in order to make the stakes clear.

17. As a country whose overseas territories afforded it a wealth of biodiversity, France was uniquely positioned, and thus bore a special responsibility, to act. It was already, for example, working under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and had adopted a national plan to combat unsustainable imports known to be key drivers of deforestation. His ministry had put in place a cross-cutting plan on biodiversity, focusing on, among other things, preserving the oceans, changing patterns of consumption and production, protecting the environment, and limiting urban sprawl to protect natural areas. There was a need for all sectors of society to be involved at all levels, acting with determination and in unison, and with speed but also with care, taking a precautionary approach. Without such action, the battle to save biodiversity could end only in failure.

II. Organizational matters

A. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

18. Following the Chair's introduction of the sub-item, the representative of Turkey, asking that his statement be reflected in the present report, said that his country could agree to adopt the agenda only if the erroneous map included as figure 10 of the summary for policymakers of the global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services (IPBES/7/3) were replaced with an accurate map.

19. On that understanding, the Plenary adopted the following agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda (IPBES/7/1/Rev.1):

1. Opening of the session.
2. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work;
 - (b) Status of the membership of the Platform;
 - (c) Election of members of the Bureau;
 - (d) Election of alternate members of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel.
3. Admission of observers to the seventh session of the Plenary of the Platform.
4. Credentials of representatives.
5. Report of the Executive Secretary on the implementation of the first work programme for the period 2014–2018.
6. Global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services.
7. Financial and budgetary arrangements for the Platform.
8. Review of the Platform at the conclusion of its first work programme.
9. Next work programme of the Platform.
10. Organization of the Plenary and dates and venues of future sessions of the Plenary.
11. Institutional arrangements: United Nations collaborative partnership arrangements for the work of the Platform and its secretariat.
12. Adoption of the decisions and report of the session.
13. Closure of the session.
20. The Plenary agreed to follow the organization of work set out in document IPBES/7/1/Add.1.

B. Status of the membership of the Platform

21. The Chair reported that Jordan and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela had joined IPBES since the sixth session of the Plenary. IPBES thus had the following 132 members: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cook Islands, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liberia, Libya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

C. Election of members of the Bureau

22. In accordance with the rules of procedure, the Plenary elected the following members of the Bureau, whose terms would begin upon the closure of the current session:

From African States:

Vice-Chair: Prudence Tangham Galega (Cameroon)

Bureau member: Sebsebe Demissew Woodmatas (Ethiopia)

Alternate: Asia Mohamed (Sudan)

From Asian-Pacific States:

Vice-Chair: Youngbae Suh (Republic of Korea)*

Bureau member: Vinod Mathur (India)

From Eastern European States:

Vice-Chair: Rashad Allahverdiyev (Azerbaijan)*

Bureau member: Hamid Custovic (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

Alternate: Ala Rotaru (Republic of Moldova)

From Latin American and Caribbean States:

Chair: Ana María Hernández (Colombia)*

Bureau member: Floyd Homer (Trinidad and Tobago)

Alternate: Rahanna Juman (Trinidad and Tobago)

From Western European and other States:

Vice-Chair: T. Douglas Beard (United States of America)

Bureau member: Julia Marton Lefèvre (France)

Alternates: Hilde Eggermont (Belgium), Mary Rowen (United States of America)

Names in the list above marked with asterisks are those of serving members of the Bureau who were re-elected.

D. Election of alternate members of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel

23. Introducing the sub-item, the Chair recalled that, at its sixth session, the Plenary had elected 25 members to the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel for a three-year term. Since that session, however, two members had resigned: Ms. Carmen Roldán Chacón (Costa Rica, Latin America and the Caribbean) and Ms. Voahangy Raharimalala (Madagascar, Africa). It was, pursuant to rule 31 of the rules of procedure, for the Plenary to elect two alternate members to serve the remainder of the term of those members.

24. One representative stressed the importance of ensuring gender balance when making nominations to the organs of IPBES.
25. Subsequently, the Plenary elected the following alternate members to serve the remainder of the term of the resigning members:
- From African States:*
- Dorothy Wanja Nyingi (Kenya)
- From Latin American and Caribbean States:*
- Adriana Flores-Díaz (Mexico)
26. In addition, the Plenary elected the following as alternate members from Latin American and Caribbean States:
- Andrés Ghul (Colombia)
- James Arlington Finlay (Grenada)
- Marina Rosales (Peru)

III. Admission of observers to the seventh session of the Plenary of the Platform

27. Introducing the item, the Chair recalled that, at its sixth session, the Plenary had decided that the interim procedure for the admission of observers to sessions of the Plenary, as described in paragraph 22 of the report of the first session of the Plenary (IPBES/1/12) and applied at its second to sixth sessions would be applied at its seventh session.
28. In accordance with its decisions at its previous sessions, the Plenary agreed that those organizations set out in section II of document IPBES/7/INF/4 would be admitted as observers at the current session in addition to those States, conventions, multilateral organizations, United Nations bodies and specialized agencies and other organizations that had been approved as observers at the previous sessions.
29. The Chair drew attention to the note by the secretariat containing the draft policy and procedures for the admission of observers (IPBES/7/9), which, he noted, had been the subject of disagreement at the Plenary's previous sessions. He asked whether any member had changed its position on the matter. No requests for the floor were made, and the Plenary accordingly decided that the interim procedure for the admission of observers to sessions of the Plenary, as described in paragraph 22 of the report of the first session of the Plenary (IPBES/1/12) and applied at its second to seventh sessions, would be applied at its eighth session on the understanding that observers admitted to its first to seventh sessions would be among those admitted to its eighth session. It also decided that at its eighth session it would again consider the draft policy and procedures for the admission of observers.

IV. Credentials of representatives

30. In accordance with rule 13 of the rules of procedure, the Bureau, with the assistance of the secretariat, examined the credentials of the representatives of the 105 members of IPBES participating in the current session. The Bureau found that the following 84 members had submitted credentials of their representatives issued by or on behalf of a Head of State or Government or minister for foreign affairs, as required by rule 12, and that those credentials were in good order: Afghanistan, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, China, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Japan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Sudan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zambia.
31. In accordance with rule 14 of the rules of procedure, the Plenary allowed the representatives of members whose communications did not meet the requirements as set out in paragraph 2 of rule 12 of

the rules of procedure to participate provisionally in the session pending the receipt of their proper credentials and a decision by the Plenary to accept their credentials. In accordance with rule 14, those representatives did not have the right to make decisions until their credentials were accepted.

32. The Plenary approved the report of the Bureau on credentials.

V. Report of the Executive Secretary on the implementation of the first work programme for the period 2014–2018

33. Introducing the item, the Executive Secretary reported on the progress made in implementing the first work programme since the previous session, outlining the information presented in her report on the matter (IPBES/7/2) and the related information documents indicated therein. Turning to objective 1, she described the most significant achievements, including the convening of the third capacity-building forum, held at UNESCO in September 2018; the selection of 74 fellows for the fellowship programme following 1,116 applications; and the holding of workshops, events and webinars under all three strategies of the capacity-building rolling plan, including workshops for drafting the summary for policymakers of the global assessment and for strengthening the review by IPBES national focal points of drafts of assessments. Going forward, lessons learned and recommendations had been included in the next work programme, not least the idea of regularly convening the capacity-building forum and further developing the capacity-building web portal.

34. Looking to the Platform's work on recognizing and working with indigenous and local knowledge systems, she reported that, in line with the IPBES approach to indigenous and local knowledge approved in decision IPBES-5/1, the bulk of the work had been devoted to providing support for the global assessment process, with activities also undertaken on the assessment regarding the diverse conceptualization of multiple values of nature and its benefits and the assessment of the sustainable use of wild species. In addition, indigenous peoples had been consulted on the participatory mechanism, in line with decision IPBES-6/1. In the next work programme, work would continue to implement the approach and to strengthen the participatory mechanism further.

35. On knowledge and data, she noted that work on core, highlighted and other complementary indicators had proceeded apace in the context of the global assessment. The secretariat had been developing new tools to allow stakeholders to interact and put in place a forum for web conferences. A pilot web conference had been held on gaps identified in the land degradation and restoration assessment. The task force on knowledge and data had met in March 2019 and produced recommendations, including that there be a liaison group on data and indicators within each assessment, that a data management policy be developed to ensure traceability, accessibility and reproducibility and that the web conference on gaps become a recurrent one-day event, by invitation only, that would feature the participation of research funding agencies and research programme developers.

36. Turning to objective 2, she described the significant progress made on the guide on the production of assessments, while also noting that the regional assessments of biodiversity and ecosystem services had been released and that the global assessment was before the Plenary at its current session.

37. On objective 3, she recalled that, at its sixth session, the Plenary had decided to proceed with a thematic assessment of alien invasive species after the seventh session. The secretariat had used the intersessional period to establish a technical support unit and begin the process of selecting experts. With regard to scenarios and models, there had been two main strands of activity: one to support their use in IPBES assessments and the other to catalyse their development by the broader scientific community. The latter strand pertained to new scenarios, including defining a set of visions for nature's future through participatory dialogues and developing quantitative scenarios from those visions, and to working with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on the use of shared socioeconomic pathways. In the next work programme, it was anticipated that the use of scenarios and models for ongoing and any future assessments would continue to be supported and that scenarios would continue to be developed from those visions, with a view to mobilizing the scientific community to model their impact on biodiversity and ecosystem services.

38. Regarding objective 4, she noted that the expert group on policy support tools and methodologies had met for the first time and proposed that the online catalogue of those tools and methodologies be renamed the "policy support gateway", to better reflect its status as a web-based interface. Work was being undertaken to implement structural, functional and visual changes to the gateway, in which content from the regional and land degradation assessments was being included. A strong recommendation had been made for resources to be provided for its future development.

39. On the implementation of the policy on conflicts of interest, she said that the committee on conflicts of interest had reviewed all forms received and determined that no such conflicts existed. Regarding technical support units, nine were currently in operation, with five having closed and three opened in 2018. Two positions in the secretariat were under recruitment.

40. The head of communications at the secretariat reported that, in the light of feedback from IPBES members, work had focused on video material, with six videos being produced since the previous session, each with subtitles in the six official languages of the United Nations to improve their accessibility. There had been significant growth on social media, while efforts had also been made to expand relationships with traditional media outlets. In addition, the secretariat had launched an impact tracking database as a communications tool. With regard to stakeholder engagement, the stakeholder day held immediately before the current session had proved the most successful thus far, reinforcing the interest shown in IPBES through the more than 100 uptake events held over the past year. In the future, the secretariat intended to focus on supporting the expansion of national platforms for IPBES.

41. The co-chair of the assessment of the sustainable use of wild species, Mr. Jean-Marc Fromentin, gave a presentation outlining the progress made to date, pointing out that 77 experts had been selected using the gap-filling procedure; that a first author meeting had been held and a zero-order draft had undergone an initial internal review; and that work was under way to develop the first-order draft by 15 July 2019. Interaction with the experts working on the methodological assessment on the diverse conceptualization of multiple values of nature and its benefits had been key and would hopefully continue for the next steps, which included a dialogue on indigenous and local knowledge and a second author meeting to be held in November. Among the challenges to be addressed, he drew attention to the fact that, to reflect the complexities of the interrelationship between the sustainable use of wild species and human practices, it was important also to cover the social sciences and indigenous and local knowledge. Another challenge, he said, was to harmonize the categories and definitions used in the chapters in order to produce a coherent and reader-friendly document for decision makers.

42. The Chair, expressing thanks to Mr. Fromentin for the significant amount of work undertaken in such a brief period, stressed that his reference to the gap-filling procedure underlined the need for every Government to nominate a diverse set of experts at the outset, so as to avoid having to spend time on identifying experts to fill any gaps.

43. One representative suggested that emphasis be placed on promoting the sustainable use of wild species as a means of habitat conservation and rural development as an alternative to livestock rearing.

44. The co-chair of the methodological assessment regarding the diverse conceptualization of multiple values of nature and its benefits, Ms. Brigitte Baptiste, reported that the team of selected experts had a very good gender and geographical balance and that an external review was due to begin in July 2019 so as to ensure that the results were ready in time for the second author meeting, to be held in October. Dialogue with indigenous peoples and local communities had been key to the significant progress made to date and the aim, she said, was to introduce a comprehensive process to produce a consistent first-order draft that reflected the viewpoints of all stakeholders. To that end, the participants had unanimously requested the participation of those communities' representatives and experts throughout that process. Currently, the discussions were focused on the development of, among other things, a conceptualized definition of nature, its multiple values and benefits, taking into account the wide-ranging views of the stakeholders and interest groups on the relationship between nature and society; a typology of the interest groups; and a clear approach to capacity-building based primarily on the views of indigenous peoples and local communities and to avoid any imposition of a top-down process of knowledge transfer.

45. The Plenary took note of the information provided and welcomed with appreciation the work undertaken. It decided to review any experience and lessons learned during the meetings of the working group to be established to consider agenda items 8 (Review of the Platform at the conclusion of its first work programme) and 9 (Next work programme of the Platform).

VI. Global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services

46. Introducing the item, the Chair drew attention to the summary for policymakers of the global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services (IPBES/7/3), the chapters of the global assessment (IPBES/7/INF/1) and the overview of the process followed for the production of the assessment (IPBES/7/INF/2). He expressed deep appreciation to the co-chairs of the global assessment for their time and dedication over the previous three years and, through them, to the many experts that had also contributed a significant amount of time and effort, free of charge.

47. The Plenary agreed to establish a working group to finalize the summary for policymakers for approval by the Plenary. The group would be co-chaired initially by the Chair and Mr. Asghar Fazel (Islamic Republic of Iran) and subsequently by the Chair and Mr. Youngbae Suh (Republic of Korea).
48. Subsequently, the Chair introduced the outcomes of the work of the working group: the key messages of the summary for policymakers (IPBES/7/L.4), the background information supporting those messages (IPBES/7/L.4/Add.1), the relevant figures (IPBES/7/L.4/Add.2) and a table showing the knowledge gaps (IPBES/7/L.4/Add.3).
49. The representative of Turkey said that his Government would approve the summary for policymakers and accept its individual chapters and their executive summaries on the understanding that its decision to do so was not construed as a change in its legal position with regard to international agreements, conventions and tools. The global assessment, he stressed, should serve to provide evidence-based policy advice and should not be considered policy prescriptive.
50. The Plenary approved the summary for policymakers of the global assessment and accepted its individual chapters and their executive summaries on the understanding that the secretariat would subsequently revise the chapters to ensure their consistency with the summary for policymakers as approved.
51. Following that decision, the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Ms. Cristiana Paşca Palmer, delivered a statement.

VII. Financial and budgetary arrangements for the Platform

52. Introducing the item, the Executive Secretary outlined the information presented in the note by the secretariat on financial and budgetary arrangements for the Platform (IPBES/7/4).
53. The Chair expressed appreciation to those countries that had contributed to the trust fund and provided in-kind or other support to IPBES, and to the many experts around the world who had devoted their time, free of charge, to the work of the Platform, and invited additional pledges to the trust fund.
54. A number of representatives provided information on their countries' contributions. The representative of the European Union said that the European Union would contribute, within the framework of Horizon 2020, some €4 million to the trust fund, which would cover the four functions of IPBES for four years. While the high value of IPBES assessments needed to be recognized, the other functions of the Platform – capacity-building, knowledge generation catalysis and policy support – needed to be substantially developed to ensure that the outcomes of those assessments resulted in policies and informed action on the ground. The representative of Norway said that her Government would make a financial contribution in 2019 to the trust fund and provide support for experts from Norwegian knowledge institutions to participate in meetings of IPBES expert groups. It would also renew its offer to host and finance a technical support unit on capacity-building in Trondheim. The representative of Belgium announced that her Government would renew its annual pledge of €66,000 for 2019.
55. The Plenary decided to establish a contact group, co-chaired by Mr. Spencer Thomas (Grenada) and Mr. Fundisile Goodman Mketeni (South Africa), to consider the financial and budgetary arrangements and prepare a draft decision for consideration by the Plenary.
56. Subsequently, the Plenary adopted decision IPBES-7/4 on financial and budgetary arrangements, on the basis of the draft decision set out in document IPBES/7/L.6, as orally amended.

VIII. Review of the Platform at the conclusion of its first work programme

57. Introducing the item, the Chair drew attention to the executive summary, findings and recommendations of the review panel on the effectiveness of the administrative and scientific functions of IPBES (IPBES/7/5), the full report of the panel (IPBES/7/INF/18) and the responses of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau (IPBES/7/INF/19) and the Executive Secretary (IPBES/7/INF/20).
58. The co-chair of the review panel, Mr. Peter Bridgewater, gave a presentation on the panel's report, outlining the timeline of the review, which had been conducted in close collaboration with the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau; the framing of the review, which had been designed to test and determine the extent to which IPBES had been conceptualized, positioned, structured and implemented; and the data-gathering methods. That work, he stressed, had been supported by the

International Council on Science, in accordance with the process previously agreed upon by the Plenary.

59. On the main findings, he said that the panel had confirmed that IPBES had established its scientific credibility and significantly contributed to advancing knowledge on biodiversity and ecosystem services; that it had fully operational governance structures and rules of procedure in place to develop its work programme; and that it had delivered successfully on that programme in the face of budgetary constraints. Given that many similar assessments had been launched recently by a growing number of other bodies, the Platform must maintain a sharp focus in order to be able to inform an overcrowded field. It was also important to continue to manage the science-policy interface to achieve impact through knowledge, which relied on options for policy development, while maintaining its scientific independence, credibility and legitimacy.

60. He highlighted five key messages to draw from the report. First, IPBES needed to define its vision and mission as a science-policy interface in order to ensure its transformative impact, which relied on a significant strengthening of its four functions. Second, IPBES must strengthen the policy aspects of its work to fulfil its mandate as such an interface, building on its success to date in bringing indigenous and local knowledge to the fore in the development of IPBES products, which, he stressed, called for continual support and assistance. Third, IPBES needed to maintain its scientific independence, while allowing for the co-design and co-production of assessments, through stronger engagement with all actors, especially in the early phase of pre-scoping; further thought, he added, must be given to the overlapping roles of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau. Fourth, IPBES had to develop a more strategic and collaborative approach to the wide range of stakeholders, each of which had an equal standing and ability to contribute to the Platform, so as to ensure that strategic partners fully and effectively completed their work. Lastly, IPBES must secure its long-term financial sustainability in order to ensure its long-term effectiveness in the face of the threat posed by what he termed financial predators.

61. In conclusion, he suggested that the Plenary consider establishing a small, time-bound, task force to work with the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau on testing and monitoring the implementation of the conclusions of the review so as to determine how best they could help to shape the future development of IPBES.

62. The Chair, responding on behalf of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau, expressed agreement with the recommendations. With regard to the first, he suggested that the Panel and the Bureau work with the secretariat on a strategy to develop a clear vision and mission for IPBES and that they report back at the eighth session. On the second, he said that the internal review had already confirmed the need to render all IPBES assessments more policy-relevant, which called for all Governments to nominate policy experts to work closely with the Panel and the Bureau on the scoping and preparation of the reports to avoid the risk of prescriptive recommendations. On the third, he said that IPBES was indeed independent and credible; that its processes were fully transparent; and that while the roles of the Panel and the Bureau might overlap, they nevertheless had separate terms of reference and mandates and were required to work together. On the fourth, he said that IPBES welcomed the participation of more observers and would continue to build on the significant progress made in differentiating and working with stakeholders. As to the final point, which was critical, he said that the Plenary must work to find ways to ensure the Platform's long-term financial security, with a particular focus on balancing the work programme with a sustainable budget through, among other things, the diversification of funding, which could include increased contributions from Governments, the private sector and foundations.

63. The Executive Secretary, in her response, highlighted three key areas in which the external review had underscored the conclusions of the internal review. First, on the nomination and selection of experts, she said that the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau continued to strive to address the observed imbalance between scientific disciplines by, among other things, specifically targeting social scientists in calls for assessment input. Those efforts had resulted in some improvement.

64. Second, on the impact of IPBES assessments to date, she said that assessments continued to be regarded as end products rather than part of a wider, more complex, process to influence policymaking, but that the secretariat, the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau and their partners had striven to facilitate the use and strengthen the impact of assessment reports, such as through initiatives launched in collaboration with the Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Network and the secretariats of multilateral environmental agreements, in particular the Convention on Biological Diversity.

65. Lastly, on the limited results of the fundraising strategy in engaging with the private sector to date, she pointed out that efforts in that regard had been under way for only a year, following a contribution from the Government of France, and that it would take time to establish a solid network. IPBES would need to consider investing in such efforts if it were serious about capitalizing on the promising early successes.

66. The Plenary agreed to establish a working group, co-chaired by Mr. Mketeni and Ms. Senka Barudanovic (Bosnia and Herzegovina), to examine the review panel's report and to prepare a draft decision for consideration by the Plenary, based on the proposed draft decision set out in paragraph 2 of document IPBES/7/1/Add.2 and taking into account the informal note on the matter prepared by the Chair.

67. Subsequently, the Plenary adopted the draft decision prepared by the working group. Decision IPBES-7/2 is set out in the annex to the present report.

IX. Next work programme of the Platform

68. Introducing the item, the Chair drew attention to the relevant documents (IPBES/7/6, IPBES/7/6/Add.1, IPBES/7/6/Add.2 and various information documents). He recalled that in its decision IPBES-6/2 the Plenary had requested the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau, with support from the secretariat, to finalize, following the process set out in the decision, a draft strategic framework up to 2030 and elements of the work programme for consideration and approval by the Plenary at its seventh session.

69. The Executive Secretary provided information on the development of the draft strategic framework and elements of the rolling work programme; the call for requests, inputs and suggestions on short-term priorities and longer-term strategic needs for the next work programme; and the grouping and prioritization of such requests.

70. The co-chair of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, Mr. Luthando Dziba, speaking on behalf of the Panel and the Bureau, explained some key considerations that had guided the development of the draft work programme. On the basis of the call for requests, inputs and suggestions on short-term priorities and longer-term strategic needs, the following three topics had been prioritized: promoting biodiversity to achieve the 2030 Agenda; understanding the underlying causes of biodiversity loss and determinants of transformative change to achieve the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity; and measuring business impact and dependency on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people. The draft work programme, which was structured on the basis of six objectives and 15 deliverables, would include five task forces, each dedicated to one of the following areas: capacity-building; knowledge and data; indigenous and local knowledge; scenarios and models; and policy tools and methodologies.

71. The Plenary agreed that the working group established under agenda item 8 (Review of the Platform at the conclusion of its first work programme) would also take up the current item. It was tasked to consider the draft work programme set out in the annex to document IPBES/7/6 and the related draft decision set out in document IPBES/7/1/Add.2 and to prepare a draft decision for consideration by the Plenary. The Plenary also agreed that, once the working group had finished its work on agenda item 8, it would be co-chaired by Ms. Ana María Hernández (Colombia) and Mr. Ivar Baste (Norway).

72. Subsequently, following the work of the working group, the Plenary adopted decision IPBES-7/1 on the rolling work programme of IPBES for the period up to 2030, on the basis of the draft decision set out in document IPBES/7/L.5, as orally amended.

73. Following the adoption of the decision, the representative of Norway reiterated her country's offer to continue to host the technical support unit for the task force on capacity-building, and the representative of UNESCO did likewise with regard to its continued support for the technical support unit for the task force on indigenous and local knowledge.

X. Organization of the Plenary and dates and venues of future sessions of the Plenary

74. Introducing the item, the Chair said that a draft preliminary agenda and organization of work for the eighth session of the Plenary was available in a note by the secretariat (IPBES/7/7). The Plenary would be invited to consider the summaries for policymakers of the ongoing assessments on values and of the sustainable use of wild species only at its ninth session.

75. The representative of the secretariat said that the agenda of the eighth session, scheduled to be a five-day meeting, would depend on the outcomes of the current session and might include consideration of the scoping reports, matters relating to task forces or any remaining decisions pertaining to the work programme. Members intending to offer to host the eighth or ninth session were invited to submit a formal offer to do so.

76. Subsequently, following the announcement that the eighth session of the Plenary would be held in January or February 2021 and the ninth session in 2022, the representative of Morocco conveyed an offer by his Government to host the eighth session, which the Plenary welcomed.

77. The Plenary adopted decision IPBES-7/3 on the organization of the Plenary and dates and venues of future sessions of the Plenary, on the basis of the draft decision set out in document IPBES/7/L.3, as orally amended.

XI. Institutional arrangements: United Nations collaborative partnership arrangements for the work of the Platform and its secretariat

78. Introducing the item, the Chair recalled that by its decision IPBES-2/8 the Plenary had approved the collaborative partnership arrangement to establish an institutional link between the Plenary and UNEP, UNESCO, FAO and UNDP. He drew attention to a note by the secretariat providing a progress report on the arrangement (IPBES/7/INF/12).

79. The representative of FAO delivered a statement on behalf of the four United Nations partner organizations supporting IPBES. He said that those organizations provided both direct and indirect support to the secretariat, including for the implementation of the four objectives of the current work programme, and for convening meetings of the task forces, expert groups and technical support units. The work of IPBES remained highly relevant to the work of the organizations. However, the organizations agreed to varying degrees with finding 8 of the review of the first work programme of IPBES (IPBES/7/INF/18), which was that their potential value was significantly underutilized, or even poorly understood, by all parties. The organizations could strengthen their engagement with IPBES and make more proactive use of the important work that it carried out towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. The launch of the global assessment and the summary for policymakers offered an important opportunity to demonstrate the relevance of IPBES to the organizations and their constituencies.

80. He said that the organizations acknowledged the financial support provided by donors for specific collaborative activities between IPBES and the organizations and encouraged other donors to follow their example. They stood ready to act upon requests from IPBES for technical assistance relating to the implementation of the next work programme of IPBES and would continue to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of IPBES through their own policies and work programmes.

81. On behalf of the Plenary, the Chair expressed thanks to UNEP, UNESCO, FAO and UNDP for their support for IPBES in the implementation of its first work programme and requested them to continue that support during the next work programme.

XII. Adoption of the decisions and report of the session

82. The Plenary adopted decisions IPBES-7/1–IPBES-7/4, as set out in the annex to the present report.

83. The Plenary adopted the present report on the basis of the draft report set out in document IPBES/7/L.1, on the understanding that the report would be finalized by the secretariat under the supervision of the Bureau.

XIII. Closure of the session

84. Following the customary exchange of courtesies and a number of tributes to the outgoing Bureau and to the Chair for his dedicated service to IPBES and science in general, the Chair declared the session closed at 3 p.m. on Saturday, 4 May 2019.

Annex

Decisions adopted by the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services at its seventh session

- IPBES-7/1: Rolling work programme of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services up to 2030
- IPBES-7/2: Review of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services at the conclusion of its first work programme
- IPBES-7/3: Organization of the Plenary and dates and venues of future sessions of the Plenary
- IPBES-7/4: Financial and budgetary arrangements

ADVANCE

Decision IPBES-7/1: Rolling work programme of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services up to 2030

The Plenary,

Recalling its decisions IPBES-5/3 and IPBES-6/2,

Acknowledging with appreciation the efforts of the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the contributions by members and stakeholders of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in the development of the rolling work programme of the Platform up to 2030,

Welcoming the requests, inputs and suggestions on short-term priorities and longer-term strategic needs, including those submitted by the relevant bodies of multilateral environmental agreements related to biodiversity and ecosystem services,

Taking note of the report by the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau¹ containing a prioritized list of requests, inputs and suggestions prepared in line with decision IPBES-6/2 and the procedure for receiving and prioritizing requests put to the Platform set out in decision IPBES-1/3,

1. *Adopts* the rolling work programme of the Platform for the period up to 2030 set out in annex I to the present decision;

2. *Decides* to launch a call for further requests, inputs and suggestions regarding the work programme, in time for consideration by the Plenary at its tenth session, and to consider at the same session the need for and timing of further calls;

I

Implementation of the rolling work programme of the Platform up to 2030

1. *Decides* to proceed with the implementation of the rolling work programme up to 2030 in accordance with the approved budget set out in decision IPBES-7/4 and within available resources;

2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to provide a report on progress in the implementation of the work programme, in line with the present decision, to the Plenary at its eighth session;

II

Assessing knowledge

1. *Approves* the summary for policymakers of the global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services,² and accepts the chapters of the assessment, including their executive summaries;³

2. *Also approves* the following two scoping processes, for consideration by the Plenary at its eighth session:

(a) A thematic assessment of the interlinkages among biodiversity, water, food and health, in accordance with the procedures for the preparation of Platform deliverables⁴ and based on the initial scoping report for the assessment;⁵

(b) A thematic assessment of the underlying causes of biodiversity loss and the determinants of transformative change and options for achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity, in accordance with the procedures for the preparation of Platform deliverables⁴ and based on the initial scoping report for the assessment;⁶

3. *Requests* the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, the Bureau and the Executive Secretary to facilitate discussions between the two scoping processes with a view to maximizing the synergies between the assessments and avoiding duplication of scope;

¹ IPBES/7/6/Add.1.

² IPBES/7/10/Add.1.

³ IPBES/7/INF/1/Rev.1.

⁴ See decision IPBES-3/3, annex I, sect. 3.4.

⁵ IPBES/7/6, appendix II, sect. I.

⁶ Ibid., sect. III.

4. *Approves* a scoping process for a methodological assessment of the impact and dependence of business on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people, for consideration by the Plenary at its ninth session, in accordance with the procedures for the preparation of Platform deliverables⁴ and based on the initial scoping report for the assessment,⁷ and decides to consider conducting the assessment over a period of two years following a fast-track approach;⁸
5. *Decides*, as part of the scoping process for the assessments mentioned in paragraph 2 of the present section, to consider how the Platform's functions of capacity-building, strengthening knowledge foundations and supporting policy, and the respective task forces, can be used to support the preparation, delivery and policy uptake of the assessments in an integrated manner;
6. *Agrees* to the preparation of a technical paper on biodiversity and climate change, based on the material referenced or contained in the assessment reports of the Platform and, on an exceptional basis, assessment reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, with a view to informing, inter alia, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its fifteenth meeting and the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its twenty-sixth session, with the technical paper to be produced in accordance with the clearance processes for technical papers set out in the procedures for the preparation of Platform deliverables⁹ and based on the concept note for the technical paper;¹⁰
7. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, to this end, to explore, with the secretariat of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, possible joint activities on biodiversity and climate change, including the possibility of jointly preparing the technical paper mentioned above, and to report on the discussions on further options for potential joint activities and deliverables related to biodiversity and ecosystem services and climate change, with reference to the time and resource implications thereof, to the Plenary at its eighth session, and also requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the present decision to the secretariat of the Panel in a timely manner;
8. *Decides* to reconsider, at its ninth session, the requests, inputs and suggestions received in time for consideration at that session, including for a second global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services and for an assessment on ecological connectivity, and requests the Executive Secretary to place the matter on the agenda of the ninth session;
9. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to regularly update the guide on the production of assessments,¹¹ taking into account the work of the task forces and expert groups of the Platform and any other relevant material;
10. *Requests* the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau to review the Platform's conceptual framework in line with objective 6 (b) of the work programme;
11. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to facilitate the exchange of lessons learned and advice from the authors and other contributors of the completed assessments to those undertaking future assessments;
12. *Recognizes* the need for ongoing adaptive management of the Platform, according to the needs and priorities of the Platform, and decides to consider any adjustments to the schedule and list of assessments as necessary;

III

Building capacity

1. *Recalls* the establishment of the task force on capacity-building in section I, paragraph 1, of decision IPBES-2/5, extends the mandate of the task force for the implementation of objectives 2 (a), 2 (b) and 2 (c) of the rolling work programme of the Platform up to 2030 in accordance with the revised terms of reference set out in sections I and II of annex II to the present decision, and requests the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, through the Platform's secretariat, to constitute the task force in accordance with the terms of reference;
2. *Decides* to review the mandate and terms of reference of the task force at its tenth session;

⁷ Ibid., sect. IV.

⁸ See decision IPBES-3/3, annex I, sect. 3.2.

⁹ Ibid., sect. 4.

¹⁰ IPBES/7/6, appendix II, sect. II.

¹¹ Available at www.ipbes.net/guide-production-assessments.

3. *Takes note* of the next steps for the task force for 2019 and 2020;¹²
4. *Requests* the task force to develop specific deliverables for each of the priority topics set out in paragraph 8 of the rolling work programme up to 2030 set out in annex I to the present decision, for consideration by the Plenary at its eighth session;

IV

Strengthening the knowledge foundations

1. *Recalls* the establishment of the task force on knowledge and data in section II, paragraph 2, of decision IPBES-2/5, extends the mandate of the task force for the implementation of objective 3 (a) of the rolling work programme of the Platform up to 2030 in accordance with the revised terms of reference set out in sections I and III of annex II to the present decision, and requests the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, through the Platform's secretariat, to constitute the task force in accordance with the terms of reference;
2. *Also recalls* the establishment of the task force on indigenous and local knowledge systems in section II, paragraph 1, of decision IPBES-2/5, extends the mandate of the task force for the implementation of objective 3 (b) of the rolling work programme of the Platform up to 2030 in accordance with the revised terms of reference set out in sections I and IV of annex II to the present decision, and requests the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, through the Platform's secretariat, to constitute the task force in accordance with the terms of reference;
3. *Decides* to review the mandates and terms of reference of the task forces at its tenth session;
4. *Takes note* of the next steps for the task force on knowledge and data¹³ and the task force on indigenous and local knowledge¹⁴ for 2019 and 2020;
5. *Requests* the task forces to develop specific deliverables for each of the priority topics set out in paragraph 8 of the rolling work programme up to 2030 set out in annex I to the present decision, for consideration by the Plenary at its eighth session;

V

Supporting policy

1. *Establishes* a task force on policy tools and methodologies for the implementation of objective 4 (a) of the rolling work programme of the Platform up to 2030 in accordance with the terms of reference set out in sections I and VI of annex II to the present decision, and requests the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, through the Platform's secretariat, to constitute the task force in accordance with the terms of reference;
2. *Also establishes* a task force on scenarios and models for the implementation of objective 4 (b) of the rolling work programme of the Platform up to 2030 in accordance with the terms of reference set out in sections I and V of annex II to the present decision, and requests the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel, through the Platform's secretariat, to constitute the task force in accordance with the terms of reference;
3. *Decides* to review the mandates and terms of reference of the task forces at its tenth session;
4. *Takes note* of the next steps for the task force on policy tools and methodologies¹⁵ and the task force on scenarios and models¹⁶ for 2019 and 2020;
5. *Requests* the task forces to develop specific deliverables for each of the priority topics set out in paragraph 8 of the rolling work programme up to 2030 set out in annex I to the present decision, for consideration by the Plenary at its eighth session;

¹² IPBES/7/INF/7, annex, sect. IV.

¹³ IPBES/7/INF/9, annex, sect. VI.

¹⁴ IPBES/7/INF/8, annex, sect. IV.

¹⁵ IPBES/7/INF/13, annex, sect. V.

¹⁶ IPBES/7/INF/11, annex, sect. IV.

VI

Reviewing effectiveness

1. *Recalls* that one of the operating principles of the Platform states that the Platform's efficiency and effectiveness will be independently reviewed and evaluated on a periodic basis as decided by the Plenary, with adjustments to be made as necessary;¹⁷
2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to seek the views of members of the Platform and stakeholders on the process of reviewing the Platform at the closure of its first work programme;
3. *Requests* the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel to review the process of reviewing the Platform at the closure of its first work programme, taking into account the views expressed by members *and* stakeholders in response to the process referred to in paragraph 1 of the present section;
4. *Also requests* the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel to prepare draft terms of reference for a midterm review of the Platform, for consideration by the Plenary at its ninth session;

VII

Technical support for the rolling work programme up to 2030

Requests the secretariat, in consultation with the Bureau and in accordance with the approved budget set out in the annex to decision IPBES-7/4, to establish the institutional arrangements necessary to operationalize the technical support required for the rolling work programme up to 2030.

¹⁷ See UNEP/IPBES.MI/2/9, annex I, appendix I, sect. II.

Annex I to decision IPBES-7/1

Rolling work programme up to 2030 of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

I. Introduction

1. The rolling work programme up to 2030 of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) aims to advance the achievement of the overall objective of IPBES,¹ which is to strengthen the science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, long-term human well-being and sustainable development.
2. In line with the overall objective and with decision IPBES-5/3, the policy framework for the rolling work programme up to 2030 corresponds to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals, the biodiversity-related conventions and other biodiversity and ecosystem service processes.
3. The rolling work programme up to 2030 is entirely demand-driven, based on requests received from relevant bodies under multilateral environmental agreements and Governments and inputs and suggestions received from other stakeholders. It is expected to inform all stakeholders in the implementation of their activities to support the achievement of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity, as well as other work under multilateral environmental agreements related to biodiversity. The work programme may also inform the implementation of the Paris Agreement with respect to matters related to the links between biodiversity and climate change.
4. The goal of the work programme is the performance of the four functions of IPBES, which are:
 - (a) To identify and prioritize key scientific information needed for policymakers at appropriate scales and to catalyse efforts to generate new knowledge by engaging in dialogue with key scientific organizations, policymakers and funding organizations, but not to directly undertake new research;
 - (b) To perform regular and timely assessments of knowledge on biodiversity and ecosystem services and their interlinkages, which should include comprehensive global, regional and, as necessary, subregional assessments and thematic issues at appropriate scales and new topics identified by science and as decided upon by the Plenary;
 - (c) To support policy formulation and implementation by identifying policy-relevant tools and methodologies, such as those arising from assessments, to enable decision makers to gain access to those tools and methodologies and, where necessary, to promote and catalyse their further development;
 - (d) To prioritize key capacity-building needs to improve the science-policy interface at appropriate levels and then provide and call for financial and other support for the highest-priority needs related directly to its activities, as decided by the Plenary, and to catalyse financing for such capacity-building activities by providing a forum with conventional and potential sources of funding.
5. The rolling work programme up to 2030 places strong emphasis on promoting collaboration among science, policy and practice; scientific disciplines; different types of knowledge; and the four functions of IPBES.
6. The rolling work programme up to 2030 is guided by the operating principles of IPBES,² which are to collaborate with existing initiatives on biodiversity and ecosystem services; to be scientifically independent and ensure credibility, relevance and legitimacy through peer review of its work and transparency in its decision-making process; to use clear, transparent and scientifically credible processes for the exchange, sharing and using of data, information and technologies; to recognize and respect the contribution of indigenous and local knowledge to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and ecosystems; to provide policy-relevant information, but not policy-prescriptive advice; to integrate capacity-building into all relevant aspects of its work; to

¹ UNEP/IPBES.MI/2/9, annex I, appendix I, sect. I.

² Ibid., sect. II.

recognize the unique biodiversity and scientific knowledge thereof within and among regions and the need for the full and effective participation of developing countries and balanced regional representation and participation in its structure and work; to take an interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approach; to recognize the need for gender equity in all relevant aspects of its work; to address terrestrial, marine and inland water biodiversity and ecosystem services and their interactions; and to ensure the full use of national, subregional and regional knowledge, as appropriate, including by ensuring a bottom-up approach.

7. The work programme up to 2030 is a rolling work programme, the timing of which should be strategic and predictable, so as to allow research and other programming entities and strategic partners to support identified deliverables effectively. The Plenary will launch additional calls for requests, inputs and suggestions during the course of the work programme, in line with the process set out in decision IPBES-1/3, which allows for requests, inputs and suggestions to be submitted no later than six months prior to a session of the Plenary.

II. Elements of the rolling work programme up to 2030

A. Prioritized topics

8. The rolling work programme up to 2030 initially focuses on three topics arising from the prioritization of the responses to the first call for requests, inputs and suggestions. Those three topics, which are all aligned with the overall objective of IPBES and its policy framework, are:

(a) *Understanding the importance of biodiversity in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development:* Addressing the nature of the interlinkages between biodiversity and other relevant issues reflected in the 2030 Agenda may advance the understanding of biodiversity-related impacts, dependencies, synergies and trade-offs across the Sustainable Development Goals and of options for integrated and cross-sectoral approaches to achieving the 2030 Agenda. To address this challenge, the deliverables under this topic will look, in particular, at the interlinkages among biodiversity, water, food and health and between biodiversity and climate change, with a view to informing the development of policies and actions. Other aspects may include the role of connectivity in ensuring integrity and resilience in socioecological systems;

(b) *Understanding the underlying causes of biodiversity loss and determinants of transformative change³ and options for achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity:* Achieving the 2050 Vision in conjunction with the Sustainable Development Goals can be informed by an improved understanding of fundamental changes at many levels, from individuals through communities and businesses to society at large. The deliverables related to this topic are aimed at understanding and identifying factors in human society at both the individual and collective levels, including behavioural, social, cultural, economic, institutional, technical and technological dimensions, that may be leveraged to bring about transformative change for the conservation, restoration and wise use of biodiversity, while taking into account broader social and economic goals in the context of sustainable development;

(c) *Measuring business impact and dependence on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people:* Appropriate tools for measuring, assessing and monitoring the dependence and impact of the business sector on biodiversity are important for reducing adverse effects. Such tools are also important for promoting business actions contributing to the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of biodiversity and to developing the business case for long-term sustainability. They are also important for promoting public accountability, informing regulatory agencies and guiding financial investments and in influencing consumer behaviour. Deliverables under this topic include categorization of the ways in which businesses depend on, and impact, biodiversity and nature's contributions to people, and work related to criteria and indicators for measuring this dependence and impact, taking into consideration how such metrics can be integrated into other aspects of sustainability.

B. Objectives and deliverables of the rolling work programme up to 2030

9. The rolling work programme up to 2030 includes six objectives, with one objective related to each of the four functions of IPBES, one to communications and engagement of Governments and stakeholders and one to the review of the effectiveness of IPBES. All deliverables build on knowledge gained and lessons learned in the implementation of the first work programme. The objectives are

³ Transformative change refers to a fundamental, system-wide change that includes consideration of technological, economic and social factors, including in terms of paradigms, goals and values.

supported by deliverables addressing the three initial priority topics set out in section A, as well as the overall objective of IPBES (figure A.1).

Figure A.1

Structure of the rolling work programme up to 2030

Overall objective of IPBES					
To strengthen the science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, long-term human well-being and sustainable development					
Policy framework of the rolling work programme up to 2030					
The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals, the biodiversity-related conventions and other biodiversity and ecosystem services processes					
OBJECTIVES of the work programme	INITIAL PRIORITY TOPICS of the work programme				
	TOPIC 1	TOPIC 2	TOPIC 3	Supporting the achievement of the overall objective of IPBES	
OBJECTIVE 1 Assessing knowledge	Deliverable 1 (a): Assessing interlinkages among biodiversity, water, food and health (thematic assessment)	Deliverable 1 (c): Assessing the underlying causes of biodiversity loss and the determinants of transformative change and options for achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity (thematic assessment)	Deliverable 1 (d): Assessing the impact and dependence of business on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people (fast-track methodological assessment)		
	Deliverable 1 (b): Assessing the interlinkages between biodiversity and climate change (technical paper)				
OBJECTIVE 2 Building capacity	(a) Enhanced learning and engagement	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)
	(b) Facilitated access to expertise and information	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)
	(c) Strengthened national and regional capacities	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)
OBJECTIVE 3 Strengthening the knowledge foundations	(a) Advanced work on knowledge and data	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)
	(b) Enhanced recognition of and work with indigenous and local knowledge systems	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)
OBJECTIVE 4 Supporting policy	(a) Advanced work on policy instruments, policy support tools and methodologies	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)
	(b) Advanced work on scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)
	(c) Advanced work on multiple values	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)
OBJECTIVE 5 Communicating and engaging	(a) Strengthened communication				
	(b) Strengthened engagement of Governments				
	(c) Strengthened engagement of stakeholders				
OBJECTIVE 6 Improving the effectiveness of the Platform	(a) Periodic review of the effectiveness of IPBES				
	(b) Review of the IPBES conceptual framework				
	(c) Improving the effectiveness of the assessment process				
		(*) Specific deliverables to be developed by task forces			

10. The work programme will be implemented in a manner whereby the objectives are mutually supportive. For example, the capacity-building activities will support the assessment process by enhancing the capacity of scientists and other knowledge holders to produce assessments (for example via the fellowship programme) and the capacity of Governments to review and use the assessment findings. Likewise, activities under objectives 2 to 5 related to capacity-building, knowledge foundation, policy support and communication and engagement will support one another.

11. **Objective 1: assessing knowledge:** *To assess the state of knowledge on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people in support of sustainable development.*⁴ This objective will be achieved through the following initial deliverables, corresponding to the three priority topics set out in section II.A:

(a) *Deliverable 1 (a): A thematic assessment of the interlinkages among biodiversity, water, food and health.* In support of topic 1, understanding the importance of biodiversity in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, this assessment will use a nexus approach to examine interlinkages between biodiversity and the above-mentioned issues, such as agricultural productivity, nutrition, pest control, water quality, infectious diseases, mental and physical health and climate mitigation and adaptation, with a view to providing policy-relevant and useful information to users and managers regarding the development of policies and actions in relevant sectors;

(b) *Deliverable 1 (b): A technical paper on the interlinkage between biodiversity and climate change.* The technical paper will address potential synergies such as nature-based solutions and trade-offs between efforts that aim to conserve, restore and sustainably use biodiversity and efforts that support climate change adaptation and mitigation. It will draw on the material contained in the assessment reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and IPBES;

(c) *Deliverable 1 (c): A thematic assessment of the underlying causes of biodiversity loss and the determinants of transformative change and options for achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity.* This assessment is aimed at understanding and identifying factors in human society at both the individual and collective levels, including behavioural, social, cultural, economic, institutional, technical and technological dimensions, that can be leveraged to bring about transformative change for the conservation, restoration and wise use of biodiversity, while taking into account broader social and economic goals in the context of sustainable development. It explores the drivers of and motives behind broad societal changes and transitions to inform the design of relevant policies, communication and engagement campaigns and other actions;

(d) *Deliverable 1 (d): A methodological assessment of the impact and dependence of business on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people.* This methodological assessment is aimed at categorizing how businesses depend on, and impact, biodiversity and nature's contributions to people and identifying criteria and indicators for measuring that dependence and impact, taking into consideration how such metrics can be integrated into other aspects of sustainability.

12. **Objective 2: building capacity:** *To build capacities of individuals and institutions for a strengthened science-policy interface for biodiversity and ecosystem services.* The achievement of this objective is supported by the three components of the capacity-building rolling plan, which applies to ongoing and future activities of the work programme:⁵

(a) *Enhanced learning and engagement.* The objective includes the continuation of the fellowship programme and of the training and familiarization programme, including through webinars and other online resources, guides, learning materials, workshops, training and dialogues for actors in the science-policy interface facilitated by IPBES. The objective will be implemented by IPBES, in collaboration with other actors where relevant;

(b) *Facilitated access to expertise and information.* The objective will further promote the uptake of the work programme objectives and deliverables and develop communities of practice around them. Efforts will focus on approved assessments and objectives and deliverables related to policy support tools and methodologies, knowledge and data, and indigenous and local knowledge. This objective will largely be implemented by strategic partners and collaborative supporters;

⁴ Work under objective 1 will be carried out in accordance with the procedures for the preparation of thematic or methodological assessments and regional, subregional or global assessments and the clearance process for technical papers, as set out in annex I to decision IPBES-3/3.

⁵ Activities under the objective will be implemented in accordance with the priority capacity-building needs approved by the Plenary in decision IPBES-3/1 and the capacity-building rolling plan welcomed by the Plenary in decision IPBES-5/1. The plan comprises three strategies: learning and engagement, facilitating access to expertise and information and strengthening national and regional capacities.

(c) *Strengthened national and regional capacities.* This objective includes efforts to encourage the development of science-policy platforms, networks and assessments for biodiversity and ecosystem services at the national and (sub)regional levels, such as facilitation of the development of guidance for such initiatives. Strengthening the role of national focal points is also key to enhancing national capacities in the science-policy interface. IPBES will draw strongly on the experience of strategic partners and collaborative supporters to implement this objective. Direct technical and financial support for the enhancement of national and regional capacities will be sought from strategic and relevant partners other than IPBES.

13. **Objective 3: strengthening the knowledge foundations:** *To promote the generation of knowledge and management of data on biodiversity and ecosystem services as a foundation for the work of IPBES.* This objective will be achieved through ongoing and future activities across the work programme, as follows:

(a) *Advanced work on knowledge and data.* This objective focuses on: identifying, prioritizing, mobilizing and facilitating access to existing knowledge, information and data, including indicators and metrics to be used in assessments; further developing a web-based infrastructure in support of open data sharing and information management; identifying gaps in knowledge and data arising from the completed deliverables of IPBES work programmes; a systematic cataloguing of knowledge and data gaps identified in the work programme; and catalysing the generation of new knowledge by making those gaps known, including to research funding agencies, research programme developers and institutions involved in prioritizing and funding data mobilization and considering them for further prioritization of deliverables in the work programme;

(b) *Enhanced recognition of and work with indigenous and local knowledge systems.* This objective focuses on implementing the approach to recognizing and working with indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES,⁶ taking into account the special needs of indigenous and local knowledge holders through the implementation of the participatory mechanism established under the approach, as well as taking into consideration the recommendations and findings set out in document IPBES/7/INF/8 and other relevant future IPBES processes.

14. **Objective 4: supporting policy:** *To identify and promote the development and use of policy instruments, policy support tools and methodologies in the field of biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services.* This objective will be achieved through ongoing and future activities across the work programme, as follows:

(a) *Advanced work on policy instruments, policy support tools and methodologies.* This objective focuses on supporting the use of policy instruments, policy support tools and methodologies in the implementation of the programme of work relevant for biodiversity conservation, restoration and sustainable use, as well as provision of ecosystem functions and services in the conduct of the assessments, and in enabling the uptake of the findings of the assessments in decision-making. This objective further focuses on developing the IPBES policy support web portal and promoting and catalysing the further development of policy instruments and policy support tools to fill gaps identified in assessments and related capacity-building activities;

(b) *Advanced work on scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services.* This objective consists of providing advice to expert groups assessing the use of existing models and scenarios, and catalysing the development of new scenarios and associated models for the future work of IPBES and the application in policy development, while also promoting coherence with similar work carried out by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and other bodies, as appropriate;

(c) *Advanced work on multiple values.* This objective consists of providing advice on the integration of multiple conceptualizations of values into other deliverables of the work programme, in particular under the objectives on assessments and policy instruments, policy support tools and methodologies, and through further work building on the methodological assessment regarding the diverse conceptualization of multiple values of nature and its contributions, including biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services.

⁶ Decision IPBES-5/1, annex II.

15. **Objective 5: communicating and engaging:** *To strengthen the involvement of the members and stakeholders and to increase the visibility of IPBES and the use of IPBES products.* This objective will be achieved through the following:

- (a) *Strengthened communication.* This objective builds on the work initiated and lessons learned during the first IPBES work programme and includes the continuation of the implementation of the IPBES communication and outreach strategy⁷ with a view to increasing the visibility of IPBES and its products and the use of IPBES products by Governments and stakeholders;
- (b) *Strengthened engagement of Governments.* This objective builds on the work initiated and lessons learned during the work programme to date. IPBES will continue to engage Governments, in particular by supporting IPBES national focal points in the uptake of IPBES deliverables and the implementation of the work programme;
- (c) *Strengthen engagement of stakeholders.* This objective builds on the work initiated and lessons learned during the first work programme and includes the developing and strengthening of the implementation of the IPBES stakeholder engagement strategy. IPBES will continue to engage with strategic partners and other stakeholders, inter alia:
 - (i) The United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in the context of the collaborative partnership arrangement between the Plenary and those entities;⁸
 - (ii) The Convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, in the context of the memorandums of understanding between the IPBES secretariat and the secretariats of those agreements, and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change;
 - (iii) Self-organized stakeholder networks of IPBES;⁹
 - (iv) A limited number of strategic partners, in line with the guidance on the development of strategic partnerships and other collaborative arrangements as set out in annex III to decision IPBES-3/4 and recognized on the IPBES website;
 - (v) A larger set of collaborative supporters, selected by the Bureau, and recognized on the IPBES website for their own work supporting the overall objective of IPBES and the implementation of the rolling work programme up to 2030.

16. **Objective 6: Improving the effectiveness of the Platform:** *To ensure the regular internal and external review of the effectiveness of IPBES.* This objective will be achieved through the following:

- (a) *Periodic review of the effectiveness of IPBES:* This objective is aimed at ensuring that the outcome of the review of the first work programme informs the implementation of the rolling work programme up to 2030 and that a procedure is developed for a midterm and a final review of the rolling work programme up to 2030;
- (b) *Review of the IPBES conceptual framework:* This objective aims to ensure that the use and impact of the IPBES conceptual framework are reviewed to inform the evolution of the rolling work programme;
- (c) *Improving the effectiveness of the assessment process:* This objective aims to provide lessons learned and advice from the authors and other contributors of completed assessments to those undertaking future assessments.

⁷ Decision IPBES-3/4, annex I.

⁸ Decision IPBES-2/8.

⁹ In line with section II of decision IPBES-4/4. The self-organized networks are, to date, the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and the Open-ended Network of IPBES Stakeholders.

C. Deliverables continuing from the first work programme (2014–2018)

17. The reports on the thematic assessment of the sustainable use of wild species and the methodological assessment regarding the diverse conceptualization of multiple values of nature and its benefits, including biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, having integrated activities across all functions of the Platform, as initiated by the Plenary in its decision IPBES-6/1 as part of the first work programme, will be prepared for consideration by the Plenary at its ninth session.

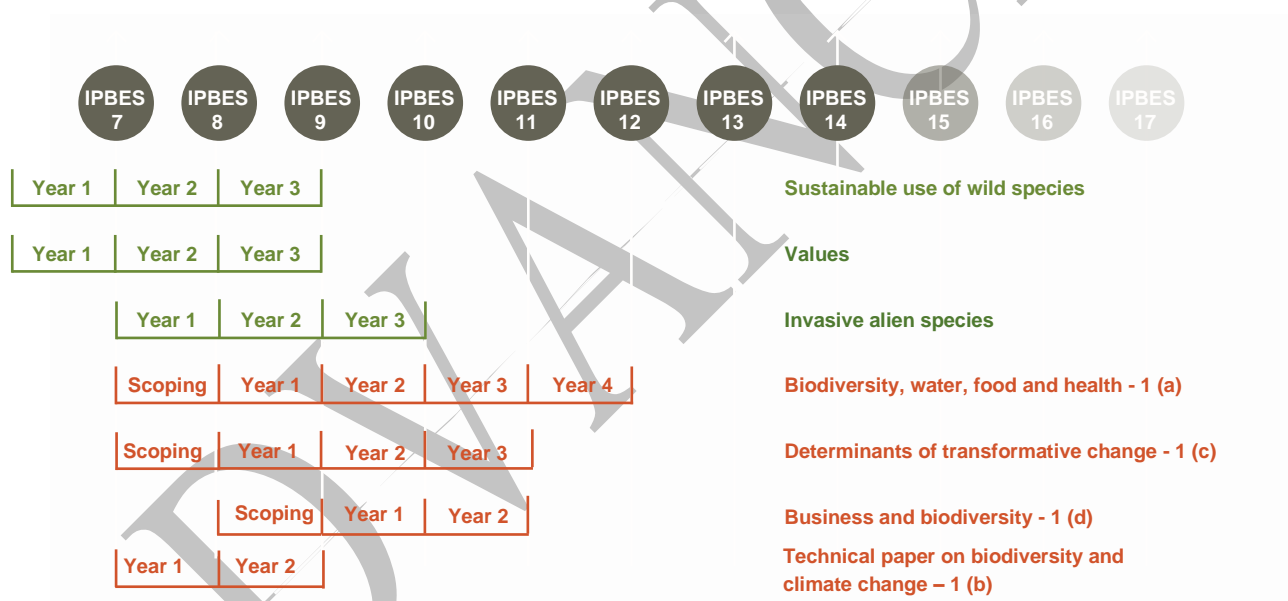
18. The report on the thematic assessment of invasive alien species, having integrated activities across all functions of the Platform, as also initiated by the Plenary in its decision IPBES-6/1 as part of the first work programme, will be prepared for consideration by the Plenary at its tenth session.

D. Timeline of deliverables and future calls for requests, inputs and suggestions

19. New assessments under objective 1 will be conducted in accordance with decisions by the Plenary, taking into account the indicative timeline in figure A.2. The Plenary will periodically review the work programme and requests, inputs and suggestions prioritized in line with decision IPBES-1/3.

Figure A.2

Indicative timeline of initial assessments for the period up to 2030



Note: The timeline for the three assessments initiated under the first work programme is shown in green; the indicative timeline for deliverables 1 (a) to 1 (d) of the rolling work programme up to 2030 in orange.

III. Institutional arrangements for the implementation of the work programme

A. Existing bodies

20. The Plenary, the Bureau, the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the secretariat play important roles in the implementation of the rolling work programme up to 2030. Their respective roles are defined in the founding resolution of IPBES,¹⁰ the rules of procedure for sessions of the Plenary¹¹ and the procedures for the preparation of IPBES deliverables.¹² Sessions of the Plenary will continue to be organized with a frequency varying between 12 and 24 months, depending on the agenda for a particular session (reflecting the needs of the work programme) and available funding.

¹⁰ UNEP/IPBES.MI/2/9, annex I, appendix I.

¹¹ As adopted in decision IPBES-1/1 and amended in decision IPBES-2/1.

¹² As set out in annex I to decision IPBES-3/3.

B. Forum, expert groups, task forces and technical support units

21. Like the first work programme, the rolling work programme up to 2030 will be implemented with the support of the IPBES forum on capacity-building, time-bound and task-specific expert groups, task forces and technical support from the secretariat and technical support units.

22. The IPBES capacity-building forum is a vehicle for increasing engagement and facilitating cooperation among partners for the implementation and further development of the capacity-building rolling plan. Work under the forum is aimed at advancing the common agendas of partners and facilitating longer-term strategic alignment of relevant ongoing programmes and activities among partners.

23. Time-bound, task-specific expert groups will be established for the preparation of assessments or technical papers, in line with the procedures for the preparation of deliverables as set out in annex I to decision IPBES-3/3, and will include:

(a) Expert groups to deliver a scoping report. These groups will include scientists from all relevant disciplines, indigenous and local knowledge experts and experts on indigenous and local knowledge,¹³ policy practitioners to increase relevance and credibility and experts from all relevant stakeholder groups (for example, the private sector and civil society). Electronic conferences may be used as part of the scoping process to increase the amount and type of input into the process. Governments and relevant stakeholders will continue to be encouraged to nominate experts with practical experience in policymaking, research programming and capacity-building to increase the policy relevance of the scoping report;

(b) Expert groups to deliver an assessment report. Governments and relevant stakeholders will continue to be encouraged to ensure that their nominees include sufficient numbers of experts from all regions, genders and relevant disciplines, in particular social scientists and scholars from the humanities, policymakers, on the ground managers, indigenous and local knowledge experts and experts on indigenous and local knowledge;

(c) Expert groups to deliver technical papers.

24. The Plenary will establish time-bound, task-specific task forces in support of the objectives and deliverables other than assessments, as appropriate, and will decide on their specific terms of reference.

25. Technical support for the implementation of the work programme will be provided by the secretariat, which for some of the objectives will be complemented by a technical support unit, as appropriate. The secretariat will issue open calls for expressions of interest in providing technical support, including in-kind support from Governments and other stakeholders, for the establishment of these units. The most suitable institutions will be selected by the Bureau and will work under the authority of the Executive Secretary.

IV. Work programme budget

26. The rolling work programme up to 2030 will continue the implementation of the fundraising strategy for IPBES, which relies on three types of resources:

(a) Cash contributions to the IPBES trust fund;

(b) In-kind contributions covering elements otherwise charged to the trust fund, as well as other activities in support of the work programme, including the time and expertise provided pro bono by selected experts;

(c) Catalysed activities that contribute to the objective of IPBES.

27. The budget will continue to be structured according to three main categories: (a) meetings of IPBES bodies; (b) the work programme, in line with figure A.1 above; and (c) the secretariat. The average annual cost of IPBES over the next five years of the work programme is estimated to be \$8.7 million, similar to that for the period 2014–2018.

¹³ As defined in the approach to recognizing and working with indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES set out in annex II to decision IPBES-5/1.

Annex II to decision IPBES-7/1

Terms of reference for task forces for the rolling work programme up to 2030

I. General terms of reference

1. In carrying out its work, each task force will:
 - (a) Ensure that all its activities draw on, build on and complement existing experience;
 - (b) Perform activities that specifically address the relevant prioritized topics and objectives set out in the rolling work programme up to 2030, in support of the overall objective and four functions of IPBES;
 - (c) Provide a regular progress report and, in consultation with the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau, develop and update a workplan that sets out clear milestones and deliverables with regard to the relevant topics and objectives of the rolling work programme up to 2030 for periodic consideration by the Plenary;
 - (d) Advise the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel on issues pertaining to its mandate across the rolling work programme up to 2030;
 - (e) Advise the Bureau on the identification of new strategic partners and collaborative supporters;¹
 - (f) Encourage the direct involvement of its members, as appropriate, in activities of other IPBES task forces and expert groups to foster the coherent implementation of the rolling work programme up to 2030 through the four functions of IPBES.

II. Terms of reference for the task force on capacity-building

A. Responsibilities

2. The task force on capacity-building will oversee and take part in the implementation of the three deliverables under objective 2 of the rolling work programme up to 2030 and act in accordance with relevant decisions by the Plenary and its subsidiary bodies, including by: building on lessons learned in the implementation of deliverables 1 (a) and 1 (b) of the first work programme; and guiding the secretariat, including the dedicated technical support unit, in implementing the capacity-building rolling plan,² which frames the work under objective 2, and in reporting to Plenary on progress made.

B. Membership

3. The task force will comprise up to 14 members covering the five United Nations regions, including: (a) up to 4 members of the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel; (b) representatives of qualified national, regional and international scientific organizations, centres of excellence and institutions, including experts on indigenous and local knowledge, which are known for their work and expertise on issues related to the mandate of the task force and are existing or prospective partners or collaborative supporters in the capacity-building activities of IPBES; and (c) recognized individual experts, including indigenous and local knowledge experts, on matters related to the mandate of the task force.
4. Members other than those from the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel will be selected in accordance with the procedures for the preparation of IPBES deliverables.³ The term of office of these members will expire at the end of the third session following their selection, with the

¹ At its twelfth meeting, the Bureau approved a general approach to recognizing the work of organizations that support the implementation of the IPBES work programme. At regular intervals, the Bureau reviews, for endorsement, recommendations by IPBES task forces for the recognition of organizations undertaking activities that significantly support the implementation of the IPBES work programme on the IPBES website. Organizations endorsed by the Bureau are listed on the IPBES website as “collaborative supporters”, and the Bureau reviews the list at regular intervals, supported by the relevant task forces.

² Set out in annex I to decision IPBES-5/1.

³ Set out in annex I to decision IPBES-3/3, sect. 7.

possibility of re-election. The selection of members should reflect the need for continuity in the work of the task force.

5. At the discretion of the co-chairs of the task force and following consultation with the Bureau, a limited number of additional experts on capacity-building may also be invited to participate in the task force as resource persons.

C. Modus operandi

6. The task force will be co-chaired by members of the Bureau and/or the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel. The task force will work through face-to-face meetings, web-based meetings and other electronic interaction. Products of the task force will be reviewed by the Bureau and the Panel and forwarded to the Plenary for its information and consideration, as appropriate. The task force will foster collaboration with strategic partners and collaborative supporters under the guidance of the Bureau.

7. The task force will be supported by the secretariat, including a dedicated technical support unit.

III. Terms of reference for the task force on knowledge and data

A. Responsibilities

8. The task force on knowledge and data will oversee and take part in the implementation of objective 3 (a) of the rolling work programme up to 2030, “Advanced work on knowledge and data”, and act in accordance with relevant decisions by the Plenary and its subsidiary bodies, including by building on lessons learned in the implementation of deliverable 1 (d) of the first work programme and by:

(a) Supporting assessment experts in identifying, prioritizing and mobilizing existing knowledge and data needed for IPBES assessments;

(b) Guiding the secretariat, including the dedicated technical support unit, in the management of the data, information and knowledge used in IPBES products, including the development of the web-based infrastructure, to ensure their long-term availability and data interoperability;

(c) Supporting the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel in reviewing the knowledge needs and gaps identified through IPBES assessments and other IPBES deliverables and in catalysing the generation of new knowledge and data.

B. Membership

9. The task force will comprise up to 14 members covering the five United Nations regions, including: (a) up to 4 members of the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel; (b) members of expert groups for ongoing IPBES assessments and of other relevant task forces; (c) representatives of qualified national, regional and international scientific organizations, centres of excellence and institutions, including experts on indigenous and local knowledge, known for their work and expertise on issues related to the mandate of the task force; and (d) recognized individual experts on matters related to the mandate of the task force, including experts from the natural sciences, social sciences and humanities and indigenous and local knowledge experts.

10. Members other than those from the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel will be selected according to the procedures for the preparation of IPBES deliverables. The term of office of these members will expire at the end of the third session following their selection, with the possibility of re-election. The selection of members should reflect the need for continuity in the work of the task force.

11. At the discretion of the co-chairs of the task force and following consultation with the Bureau, a limited number of individual experts on knowledge and data management may be invited to participate in the task force as resource persons.

C. Modus operandi

12. The task force will be co-chaired by members of the Bureau and/or the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel. The task force will work through face-to-face meetings, web-based meetings and other electronic interactions. Products of the task force will be reviewed by the Bureau and the Panel and forwarded to the Plenary for its information and consideration, as appropriate. The task force will

foster collaboration with strategic partners and collaborative supporters under the guidance of the Bureau.

13. The task force will be supported by the secretariat, including a dedicated technical support unit.

IV. Terms of reference for the task force on indigenous and local knowledge

A. Responsibilities

14. The task force on indigenous and local knowledge will oversee and take part in the implementation of objective 3 (b) of the rolling work programme up to 2030, “Enhanced recognition of and work with indigenous and local knowledge systems”, and act in accordance with relevant decisions by the Plenary and its subsidiary bodies, including by: building on lessons learned in the implementation of deliverable 1 (c) of the first work programme; supporting the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel in implementing the approach to recognizing and working with indigenous and local knowledge in IPBES;⁴ and guiding the secretariat, including the dedicated technical support unit, in supporting the Panel in implementing the approach.

B. Membership

15. The task force will comprise up to 14 members covering the five United Nations regions, including: (a) up to 4 members of the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel; (b) members of expert groups of ongoing IPBES assessments and of other relevant task forces; (c) representatives of indigenous peoples and local communities; (d) representatives of qualified national, regional and international scientific organizations, centres of excellence and institutions, including experts on indigenous and local knowledge, known for their work and expertise on issues related to the mandate of the task force; and (e) recognized individual experts on matters related to the mandate of the task force.

16. Members other than those from the Bureau and the Panel will be selected according to the procedures for the preparation of IPBES deliverables. The term of office of these members will expire at the end of the third session following their selection, with the possibility of re-election. The selection of members should reflect the need for continuity in the work of the task force.

17. At the discretion of the co-chairs of the task force and following consultation with the Bureau, a limited number of additional experts on indigenous and local knowledge systems and representatives of indigenous and local organizations may be invited to participate in the task force as resource persons.

C. Modus operandi

18. The task force will be co-chaired by members of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and/or the Bureau. The task force will work through face-to-face meetings, web-based meetings and other electronic interactions. Products of the task force will be reviewed by the Panel and the Bureau and forwarded to the Plenary for its information and consideration, as appropriate. The task force will foster collaboration with strategic partners and collaborative supporters under the guidance of the Bureau.

19. The task force will be supported by the secretariat, including a dedicated technical support unit.

V. Terms of reference for the task force on scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem services

A. Responsibilities

20. The task force on scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem services will oversee and take part in the implementation of objective 4 (b) of the rolling work programme up to 2030, “Advanced work on scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services”, and act in accordance with relevant decisions by the Plenary and its subsidiary bodies, including by building on lessons learned in the implementation of deliverable 3 (c) of the first work programme.

⁴ Decision IPBES-5/1, annex II.

The task force will implement the work on scenarios and models based on the terms of reference for the further development of tools and methodologies regarding scenarios and models⁵ to facilitate the provision of advice to all the expert teams, in particular those working on assessments on the use of scenarios, and to catalyse the further development of scenarios and models for future IPBES assessments, as well as to guide the secretariat, including the dedicated technical support unit, in the provision of support. The task force will exchange information and collaborate with other bodies developing relevant scenarios and models under the guidance of the Bureau.

B. Membership

21. The task force will comprise up to 24 members covering the five United Nations regions, including up to 4 members from the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and experts on scenarios and models from the natural sciences, social sciences, the humanities and indigenous and local knowledge systems.

22. Members other than those from the Bureau and the Panel will be selected according to the procedures for the preparation of IPBES deliverables. The term of office of these members will expire at the end of the third session following their selection, with the possibility of re-election. The selection of members should reflect the need for continuity in the work of the task force.

23. At the discretion of the co-chairs of the task force and following consultation with the Bureau, a limited number of additional experts on scenarios and models and representatives of indigenous and local organizations may be invited to participate in the task force as resource persons.

C. Modus operandi

24. The task force will be co-chaired by a member of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel or the Bureau and an expert member. The task force will work through face-to-face meetings, web-based meetings and other electronic interactions. Products of the task force will be reviewed by the Panel and the Bureau and forwarded to the Plenary for its information and consideration, as appropriate. The task force will foster collaboration with strategic partners and collaborative supporters under the guidance of the Bureau.

25. The task force will be supported by the secretariat, including a dedicated technical support unit.

VI. Terms of reference for the task force on policy tools and methodologies

A. Responsibilities

26. The task force on policy instruments, policy support tools and methodologies will oversee and take part in the implementation of objective 4 (a) of the rolling work programme up to 2030, “Advanced work on policy instruments, policy support tools and methodologies”, and act in accordance with relevant decisions by the Plenary and its subsidiary bodies, including by building on lessons learned in the implementation of deliverable 4 (c) of the first work programme and by:

(a) Overseeing the development of content for the IPBES policy support gateway and support to the use of the gateway by Governments and stakeholders and ensuring that policy instruments, policy support tools and methodologies identified in IPBES assessments are featured on the gateway and accessible to decision makers;

(b) Catalysing the further development of policy instruments, support tools and good practices to fill gaps identified in IPBES assessments;

(c) Supporting the use of policy instruments, policy support tools and methodologies in the implementation of the work programme relevant for biodiversity conservation, restoration and sustainable use, as well as provision of ecosystem functions and services in the conduct of the assessments, and in enabling the uptake of the findings of the assessments in decision-making.

B. Membership

27. The task force will comprise up to 14 members covering the five United Nations regions, including: (a) up to 4 members of the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel; (b) members of expert groups of ongoing IPBES assessments and of other relevant task forces; (c) representatives of

⁵ Decision IPBES-4/1, annex V.

qualified national, regional and international scientific organizations, centres of excellence and scientific and policy institutions, including experts on indigenous and local knowledge and indigenous and local knowledge experts, known for their work and expertise on issues related to the mandate of the task force; (d) individual experts with practical experience in policy formulation and implementation; and (e) recognized individual experts on matters related to the mandate of the task force.

28. Members other than those from the Bureau and the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel will be selected according to the procedures for the preparation of IPBES deliverables. The term of office of these members will expire at the end of the third session following their selection, with the possibility of re-election. The selection of members should reflect the need for continuity in the work of the task force.

29. At the discretion of the co-chairs of the task force and following consultation with the Bureau, a limited number of additional experts on policy instruments, policy support tools and methodologies and representatives of indigenous and local organizations may be invited to participate in the task force as resource persons.

C. Modus operandi

30. The task force will be co-chaired by members of the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and/or the Bureau. The task force will work through face-to-face meetings, web-based meetings and other electronic interactions. Products of the task force will be reviewed by the Panel and the Bureau and forwarded to the Plenary for its information and consideration, as appropriate. The task force will foster collaboration with strategic partners and collaborative supporters under the guidance of the Bureau.

31. The task force will be supported by the secretariat, including a dedicated technical support unit.

Decision IPBES-7/2: Review of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services at the conclusion of its first work programme

The Plenary,

Welcoming the report of the Executive Secretary on the implementation of the first work programme of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services,¹

Acknowledging with appreciation the outstanding contributions made by all experts involved in the implementation of the first work programme, and thanking them and their institutions for their unwavering commitment thereto,

Recalling its decision IPBES-5/2, in which it approved the terms of reference for the review of the Platform at the conclusion of its first work programme,

Recalling also section VIII of its decision IPBES-6/1, in which it took note of the report prepared by the internal review team,²

1. *Takes note* of the activities undertaken to implement the recommendations from the report prepared by the internal review team;³

2. *Welcomes* the report on the review of the Platform at the conclusion of its first work programme by the review panel;⁴

3. *Also welcomes* the response by the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Bureau⁵ and the response by the Executive Secretary⁶ to the report referred to in paragraph 2 of the present decision;

4. *Requests* the Bureau, the Multidisciplinary Expert Panel and the Executive Secretary, in accordance with their respective mandates, to take the recommendations made by the review panel⁷ into account in the implementation of the rolling work programme of the Platform up to 2030 and to identify solutions and/or issues for the Plenary to consider at its eighth session;

5. *Encourages* members and observers that are allowed enhanced participation in accordance with decision IPBES-5/4 to use the findings and recommendations contained in the report on the review to inform their decisions and other interactions with the Platform and to support the implementation of the work programme of the Platform.

¹ IPBES/7/2.

² IPBES/6/INF/32.

³ IPBES/7/INF/17.

⁴ IPBES/7/INF/18.

⁵ IPBES/7/INF/19.

⁶ IPBES/7/INF/20.

⁷ See IPBES/7/5.

Decision IPBES-7/3: Organization of the Plenary and dates and venues of future sessions of the Plenary

The Plenary

1. *Decides* that the eighth session of the Plenary shall be held in January or February 2021;
2. *Also decides* to accept with appreciation the offer by the Government of Morocco to host the eighth session of the Plenary in Marrakech, subject to the successful conclusion of a host country agreement;
3. *Requests* the Bureau to finalize the dates for the session in consultation with the host country;
4. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to hold consultations with the Government of Morocco to negotiate a host country agreement, in conformity with General Assembly resolution 40/243 and in compliance with the provisions of United Nations administrative instruction ST/AI/342, with a view to concluding and signing the host country agreement as soon as possible, to organize the eighth session of the Plenary in close collaboration with the host country and to invite the members and observers of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services to participate in the session;
5. *Invites* members in a position to do so to consider hosting the ninth session of the Plenary, which is scheduled to be held in 2022;
6. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, under the guidance of the Bureau, to consult members of the Platform that may, during the period leading up to the eighth session of the Plenary, offer to host the ninth session of the Plenary;
7. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to report to the Plenary at its eighth session on progress made in the consultations referred to in paragraph 6 of the present decision, with a view to the adoption by the Plenary at that session of a decision on the date and venue of its ninth session;
8. *Takes note* of the draft provisional agenda of the eighth session of the Plenary set out in the annex to the present decision;
9. *Requests* the Executive Secretary to invite members and observers that are allowed enhanced participation in accordance with decision IPBES-5/4 to provide, by 1 July 2019, written comments on the proposed organization of work of the eighth session of the Plenary;
10. *Also requests* the Executive Secretary to finalize the proposed organization of work for the eighth session of the Plenary in line with comments received at the seventh session of the Plenary and written comments received in response to the invitation referred to in paragraph 9 of the present decision.

Annex to decision IPBES-7/3

Draft provisional agenda of the eighth session of the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

1. Opening of the session.
2. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work;
 - (b) Status of the membership.
3. Admission of observers.
4. Credentials of representatives.
5. Report of the Executive Secretary on the implementation of the work programme.
6. Financial and budgetary arrangements for the Platform.

7. Matters related to the implementation of the work programme:
 - (a) Scoping report for a thematic assessment of the interlinkages among biodiversity, water, food and health;
 - (b) Scoping report for a thematic assessment of the underlying causes of biodiversity loss and the determinants of transformative change and options for achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity;
 - (c) Task forces and expert groups.
8. Organization of the Plenary and dates and venues of future sessions.
9. Institutional arrangements: United Nations collaborative partnership arrangement for the work of the Platform and its secretariat.
10. Adoption of the report.
11. Closure of the session.

ADVANCE

Decision IPBES-7/4: Financial and budgetary arrangements

The Plenary,

Welcoming the cash and in-kind contributions received since its sixth session,

Taking note of the status of cash and in-kind contributions received to date, as set out in tables 1, 2 and 3 of the annex to the present decision,

Taking note also of the pledges made for the period beyond 2018,

Recalling the importance of the fundraising strategy in order to ensure adequate financing of Platform activities,

Taking note of the status of expenditures in the biennium 2017–2018, as set out in tables 5 and 6 of the annex to the present decision, as well as the level of savings achieved during the biennium,

1. *Invites* pledges and contributions to the trust fund of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, as well as in-kind contributions, from Governments, United Nations bodies, the Global Environment Facility, other intergovernmental organizations, stakeholders and others in a position to do so, including regional economic integration organizations, the private sector and foundations, to support the work of the Platform;
2. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, working under the guidance of the Bureau, to report to the Plenary at its eighth session on expenditures for the triennium 2018–2020 and on activities related to fundraising;
3. *Adopts* the revised budgets for 2019 and 2020, amounting to \$8,269,605 and \$7,146,360, respectively, as set out in table 7 of the annex to the present decision;
4. *Also adopts* the provisional budget for 2021, amounting to \$8,721,810, as set out in table 8 of the annex to the present decision;
5. *Recalls*, with regard to the receipt of contributions from private-sector and non-governmental stakeholders, the operational principles as adopted by the Plenary at the second session of the meeting to determine the modalities and institutional arrangements for an intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services, held in Panama City in 2012, and the financial procedures for the Platform as adopted in decisions IPBES-2/7 and IPBES-3/2, and in that regard:
 - (a) *Requests* the Executive Secretary to prepare draft guidelines that regulate contributions to the work of the Platform from the private sector and non-governmental stakeholders and submit them for approval to the Plenary at its eighth session;
 - (b) *Decides* that, in addition to the regulations, rules, policies and procedures already in place for the acceptance of contributions and pledges, the following provisional guidance for private-sector and non-governmental stakeholders shall apply: neither logos nor names of donors shall be mentioned on the reports of the Platform;¹
6. *Decides* to reclassify the post of Head of the Platform Secretariat/Executive Secretary from the D-1 to the D-2 level and also decides that, when the post becomes vacant, it should be offered at the D-1/D-2 level in order to attract a wider pool of well-qualified candidates.

¹ As defined in decision IPBES-3/3.

Annex to decision IPBES-7/4

Financial and budget tables

I. Status of cash and in-kind contributions to the Platform

Table 1

Status of cash contributions received and pledges made since the establishment of the Platform in April 2012 (1 May 2012 to 2 May 2019)

(United States dollars)

	Contributions									Pledges				Total
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total	2018	2019	2020–2022	Total	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13 = (10+11+12)	14 = (9+13)
1. Governments														
Australia		97 860			68 706				166 566					166 566
Austria							16 854		16 854					16 854
Belgium					118 243	78 199	80 982		277 424		73 579		73 579	351 002
Bulgaria							2 415		2 415					2 415
Canada ^a		38 914	36 496	30 098	30 616	52 619	25 547		214 291		30 793		30 793	245 084
Chile				23 136	14 966	13 710	13 000		64 812		13 491		13 491	78 303
China			160 000	60 000	2 005	398 000	200 000		820 005					820 005
Denmark			37 037			39 311			76 348		28 000		28 000	104 348
Estonia								2 854	2 854					2,854
European Union								2 155 332	2 155 332			2 535 788	2 535 788	4 691 120
Finland		25 885	275 626			9 434	11 655		322 600		22 297		22 297	344 897
France ^a		270 680	247 631	264 291	252 218	330 248	860 032	117 553	2 342 653	82 287	135 186	370 292	587 765	2 930 418
Germany ^a	1 736 102	1 298 721	1 850 129	1 582 840	1 119 991	1 270 997	1 461 333	650 403	10 970 516		570 776	3 344 482	3 915 258	14 885 774
India		10 000	10 000						20 000					20 000
Japan		267 900	330 000	300 000	300 000	203 333	190 454	166 428	1 758 115					1 758 115
Latvia			4 299	3 944	3 889	3 726	4 348	11 416	31 621					31 621
Luxembourg							17 483	11 416	28 898					28 898
Malaysia				100 000					100 000					100 000
Monaco						23 697			23 697					23 697
Netherlands			678 426		636 943				1 315 369					1 315 369
New Zealand		16 094	17 134	18 727	16 258	17 834	17 047	16,287	119 380					119 380
Norway		140 458	8 118 860	58 357	372 420	651 080	695 488		10 036 662		352 319		352 319	10 388 982

	<i>Contributions</i>									<i>Pledges</i>				Total
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total	2018	2019	2020–2022	Total	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13 = (10+11+12)	14 = (9+13)
Republic of Korea ^a		20 000						123 899	143 899					143 899
South Africa			30 000						30 000					30 000
Sweden ^a		228 349	194 368	128 535	116 421	255 445	230 209	161 338	1 314 666					1 314 666
Switzerland		76 144	84 793	84 000	84 000	84 000	84 000	72 651	569 588					569 588
United Kingdom		1 285 694	1 046 145		228 956	193 140	650 214		3 404 149		250 000	250 000	500 000	3 904 149
United States	500 000	500 000	500 000	477 500	516 306	516 951	495 000		3 505 757					3 505 757
Subtotal, 1	2 236 102	4 276 699	13 620 944	3 131 428	3 881 938	4 141 723	5 056 061	3 489 577	39 834 472	82 287	1 476 441	6 500 561	8 059 289	47 893 761
2. Other donors														
Yves Rocher							11 416		11 416					11 416
Kering SA											134 680		134 680	134 680
Subtotal, 2							11 416		11 416		134 680		134 680	146 096
Subtotal, 1+2	2 236 102	4 276 699	13 620 944	3 131 428	3 881 938	4 141 723	5 067 477	3 489 577	39 845 888	82 287	1 611 121	6 500 561	8 193 969	48 039 857
3. Investment and miscellaneous income^b														413 880
Total														48 453 737

^a Contribution includes earmarked components. For details, see table 2, section 1.

^b Cumulative investment and miscellaneous income earned on cash pool resources of UNEP. The 2018 amount has been included as a provisional figure.

1. Section 1 of table 2 shows earmarked contributions to the trust fund received in cash for activities that are part of the approved work programme and the approved budget, received and pledged for the period 2018–2021. Earmarked contributions for 2018 totalled \$0.8 million, including \$0.1 million pledged. Earmarked contributions received and pledged for 2019 and beyond amount to \$0.7 million. These contributions are included in the amounts shown in table 1, as indicated by footnote *a*. They were made in compliance with the financial procedures for IPBES set out in decisions IPBES-2/7 and IPBES-3/2.

2. Section 2 of table 2 shows additional earmarked contributions received in cash in support of activities relevant to the work programme but not included in the approved budget. Such contributions amounted to \$0.4 million for 2018, including the contribution of \$0.3 million from Colombia as host of the sixth session of the Plenary. Pledges received for 2019 and beyond amount to \$0.1 million.

ADVANCE

Table 2
Earmarked contributions received in cash in 2018 and pledges made for the period 2018–2021
 (United States dollars)

<i>Government/ institution</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Type of support</i>	<i>Contributions received in 2018</i>	<i>Pledges made for 2018</i>	<i>Contributions received in 2019</i>	<i>Pledges made for 2019–2021</i>	<i>Total</i>
1. Earmarked contribution received in cash in support of the approved work programme							
Canada	Global assessment; assessment of invasive alien species; assessment of the sustainable use of wild species; assessment of values	Support to deliverables	25 547			30 793	56 340
France (Agence française pour la biodiversité)	Global assessment	Support for deliverable	105 798			76 409	182 207
France (Agence française pour la biodiversité)	Support for the assessment of invasive alien species	Support for deliverable		82 287		182 207	264 494
France (Agence française pour la biodiversité)	Support for the assessment of the sustainable use of wild species	Support for deliverable	82 287			182 207	264 494
Germany	Sixth session of the Plenary	Support to participants	139 860				139 860
Germany	P-3 consultant for the technical support unit of the global assessment	Staff costs	106 166		79 627		185 794
Germany	Third author meeting for the global assessment	Venue and logistics	6 277				6 277
Republic of Korea	Meeting of the task force on knowledge and data	Support for participants	123 899				123 899
Sweden	Multidisciplinary Expert Panel meetings	Support for participants	84 603				84 603
Subtotal			756 725	82 287	79 627	653 824	1 572 463
2. Earmarked contribution received in cash in support of activities relevant to the work programme but not included in the approved budget							
Colombia	Sixth session of the Plenary	Support for travel of conference- servicing staff and of secretariat	324 950				324 950
Germany	Information Systems Assistant	Staff costs ^a	30 000			154 500	184 500

<i>Government/ institution</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Type of support</i>	<i>Contributions received in 2018</i>	<i>Pledges made for 2018</i>	<i>Contributions received in 2019</i>	<i>Pledges made for 2019–2021</i>	<i>Total</i>
Norway	Summary for policymakers meeting for the global assessment	Support for participants, venue and logistics	44 952				44 952
Subtotal			399 902			154 500	554 402
Total			1 156 627	182 287	79 627	808 324	2 126 865

^a The contribution from Germany in support of the information systems assistant is limited to the period 2019–2021 (three years).

3. Table 3 shows in-kind contributions received in 2018, together with their corresponding values in United States dollars, as provided or estimated, when possible, according to the equivalent costs in the work programme, if available. These in-kind contributions, amounting to \$3.5 million, consist of support provided directly by the donor, and hence not received by the trust fund, for approved and costed activities of the work programme (sect. 1) and activities organized in support of the work programme, such as technical support, meeting facilities and local support (sect. 2).

Table 3

In-kind contributions received for 2018, as at 31 December 2018

(United States dollars)

<i>Government/institution</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Type of support</i>	<i>Estimated value</i>
1. In-kind contributions in support of approved and costed activities of the work programme			
Norway	Technical support unit on capacity-building	Staff and office costs	300 000
UNESCO	Technical support unit on indigenous and local knowledge	Staff and office costs	150 000
	6Sixth meeting of the task force on capacity-building		
	3Third meeting of the IPBES capacity-building forum		
UNESCO	Indigenous peoples' consultation on the IPBES participatory mechanism		
	7Seventh meeting of the task force on indigenous and local knowledge	Meeting facilities	11 000
Future Earth initiative	Workshop and other activities in support of IPBES fellows	Support for participants	21 000
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, Japan	Indigenous peoples' consultation on the IPBES participatory mechanism	Support for participants	30 000
Ministry of the Environment, Republic of Korea	Technical support unit on knowledge and data	Staff and office costs	194 000
Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, South Africa	Technical support unit for the regional assessment for Africa	Staff and office costs	28 700
SwedBio, Sweden	Technical support unit for the regional assessment for Africa	Staff costs	83 600
Alexander von Humboldt Institute Biological Resources Research, Colombia	Technical support unit for the regional assessment for the Americas	Staff and office costs	70 000
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, Japan	Technical support unit for the regional assessment for Asia and the Pacific	Staff and office costs	97 000
University of Bern, Switzerland	Technical support unit for the regional assessment for Europe and Central Asia	Staff and office costs	150 000

<i>Government/institution</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Type of support</i>	<i>Estimated value</i>
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, Japan	Technical support unit for the assessment of invasive alien species	Staff and office costs	101 000
Foundation for Research on Biodiversity, France, and Agence française pour la biodiversité, France	Technical support unit for the assessment of the sustainable use of wild species	Staff and office costs	17 000
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, France	Technical support to implement the fundraising strategy of IPBES	Staff costs	279 800
Netherlands	Technical support unit on scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem services	Staff costs	423 500
Netherlands	Meetings related to work on scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem services	Support for participants	75 900
PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency	Meetings of the expert team on scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem services	Meeting facilities and catering	5 700
PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency	Technical support unit on scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem services	Office facilities	27 500
Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany /International Climate Initiative	Technical support unit on values	Staff costs	18 000
World Conservation Monitoring Centre	Technical support unit on policy support tools and methodologies	Staff and office costs	40 000
UNEP	Secondment of a P-4 Programme Officer to the IPBES secretariat	Staff costs	180 600
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México	Technical support for the assessment of values	Staff costs, meeting facilities, travel expenses, lodging and meals	55 460
International Union for the Conservation of Nature	Support for stakeholder engagement		75 000
Subtotal, (1)			2 434 760
2. In-kind contributions in support of the approved work programme			
Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, Germany	Global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services:		
	Dialogue workshop on Arctic indigenous and local knowledge		
	Meeting of experts for chapter 1		
	Third author meeting		
	Meeting of authors of the summary for policymakers	Support for participants	11 500
Norwegian Environment Agency	Global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services:		
	Meeting of experts for chapter 2		
	Meeting of authors of the summary for policymakers	Support for participants	58 500
	Consultation of IPBES national focal points	Support for participants	7 400
	Workshop of IPBES fellows at the sixth session of the Plenary	Support for participants	9 200
Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of the Environment, Finland	IPBES dialogue workshop on Arctic indigenous and local knowledge	Support for participants and logistical costs	28 800
University of Helsinki, Finland	IPBES dialogue workshop on Arctic indigenous and local knowledge	Logistical costs	5 200
University of Minnesota, United States	Meeting of experts for chapter 2 of the global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services	Support for participants	2 200

<i>Government/institution</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Type of support</i>	<i>Estimated value</i>
World Conservation Monitoring Centre	Technical support (contribution of model outputs) for the global assessment	Staff costs	128 000
World Conservation Monitoring Centre	Meeting of the expert group on policy support tools and methodologies	Venue	7 600
Netherlands	Workshop related to work on scenarios and models	Support for participants and logistical costs	11 500
Ministry of the Environment, Republic of Korea	Support to IPBES experts to participate in author meetings	Support for participants	12 000
Colombia	Hosting of the sixth session of the Plenary	Venue, support staff, security, communications, travel, stakeholder day	839 500
Subtotal, (2)			1 121 400
Total			3 556 160

Abbreviation: UNESCO, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

4. In 2018, IPBES continued to catalyse activities in support of its aims and objectives, in particular regarding the generation of new knowledge and capacity-building. Table 4 presents examples of international projects or workshops known to the secretariat, amounting to \$63.6 million for 2018.

Table 4

Examples of activities catalysed by IPBES in 2018

(Millions of United States dollars)

<i>Donor Government/donor institution</i>	<i>Project lead</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Estimated value</i>
Generation of new knowledge			
European Union (Horizon 2020)	European Union	Two calls for proposal in support of IPBES:	
		-Valuing nature: mainstreaming natural capital in policies	3.3
		-Valuing nature: mainstreaming natural capital in business decision-making	2.2
		Four calls for proposal to inform major international scientific assessments such as those of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and IPBES:	
		-Climate change impacts on health in Europe and	22.3
Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation Science Program and the NOMIS Foundation	Future Earth initiative	-Global climate change impacts from a European perspective	5
		-Interrelations between climate change, biodiversity and ecosystem services	27.9
		-ERA-NET Co-fund action on biodiversity and climate change: impacts, feedbacks and nature-based solutions for climate change adaptation and mitigation	5.6
		Programme for early-stage grants advancing sustainability science (PEGASuS)	0.6
		EQUIVAL Project	0.1
Capacity-building			
Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany/ International Climate Initiative	World Conservation Monitoring Centre	Capacity-building and support to Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cambodia, Cameroon, Colombia, Ethiopia, Grenada and Viet Nam to undertake national ecosystem assessments and establish IPBES national science and policy platforms	0.4
Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany/ International Climate Initiative and SwedBio, Sweden	Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources, Dominican Republic and UNDP/BES-Net	Caribbean regional dialogue on pollinators, food security and climate resilience (Dominican Republic) in relation with the IPBES pollination assessment	0.1
APN	APN	IPBES-related projects in Asia-Pacific	0.6
Ministry of the Environment, Japan (Japanese Biodiversity Fund)	APN and Institute for Global Environmental Strategies	Science-policy dialogues following the IPBES regional assessment for Asia-Pacific	0.5
Total			63.6

Abbreviations: APN, Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research; BES-Net, Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services Network; UNDP, United Nations Development Programme.

II. Final expenditures for 2017

5. Table 5 shows the final expenditures for 2017, as at 31 December 2017, against the 2017 budget of \$8,732,772 approved by the Plenary at its fifth session (decision IPBES-5/6).

Table 5

Final expenditures for 2017

(United States dollars)

<i>Budget item</i>	<i>2017 approved budget</i>	<i>2017 expenditure s</i>	<i>Balance</i>
1. Meetings of the IPBES bodies			
1.1 Sessions of the Plenary			
Travel costs for fifth session participants (travel/daily subsistence allowance)	500 000	276 518	223 482
Conference services (translation, editing and interpretation)	830 000	514 273	315 727
Reporting services	65 000	37 747	27 253
Security	100 000	33 855	66 145
Subtotal 1.1, sessions of the Plenary	1 495 000	862 392	632 608
1.2 Bureau and Multidisciplinary Expert Panel sessions			
Travel and meeting costs for participants for two Bureau sessions	70 900	43 791	27 109
Travel and meeting costs for participants for two Panel sessions	170 000	160 868	9 132
Subtotal 1.2, Bureau and Multidisciplinary Expert Panel sessions	240 900	204 659	36 241
1.3 Travel costs of the Chair to represent IPBES	25 000	–	25 000
Subtotal 1, meetings of the IPBES bodies	1 760 900	1 067 051	693 849
2. Implementation of the work programme			
2.1 Objective 1: strengthen the capacity and knowledge foundations of the science-policy interface to implement key functions of IPBES	798 000	592 320	205 680
Deliverable 1 (a) Capacity-building needs	133 750	87 294	46 456
Deliverable 1 (b) Capacity-building activities	375 500	289 593	85 907
Deliverable 1 (c) Indigenous and local knowledge	225 000	192 236	32 764
Deliverable 1 (d) Knowledge and data	63 750	23 197	40 553
2.2 Objective 2: strengthen the science-policy interface on biodiversity and ecosystem services at and across the subregional, regional and global levels	2 635 750	1 974 573	661 177
Deliverable 2 (a) Assessment guide	–	–	–
Deliverable 2 (b) Regional/subregional assessments	2 050 000	1 661 016	388 984
Deliverable 2 (c) Global assessment	585 750	313 557	272 193
2.3 Objective 3: strengthen the knowledge-policy interface with regard to thematic and methodological issues	490 000	446 189	43 811
Deliverable 3 (b) (i) Land degradation and restoration assessment	340 000	289 809	50 191
Deliverable 3 (c) Policy support tools for scenarios and models	100 000	134 494	(34 494)
Deliverable 3 (d) Policy support tools for values	50 000	21 886	28 114
2.4 Objective 4: communicate and evaluate IPBES activities, deliverables and findings	235 000	207 212	27 788
Deliverable 4 (a) Catalogue of assessments	30 000	30 000	–
Deliverable 4 (c) Catalogue of policy support tools and methodologies	30 000	31 057	(1 057)

<i>Budget item</i>	<i>2017 approved budget</i>	<i>2017 expenditure s</i>	<i>Balance</i>
Deliverable 4 (d) Communication and stakeholder engagement	175 000	146 155	28 845
Subtotal 2, implementation of the work programme	4 158 750	3 220 294	938 456
3. Secretariat			
3.1 Secretariat personnel	1 917 000	1 216 866	700 134
3.2 Operating costs (non-personnel)	249 250	136 677	112 573
Subtotal 3, secretariat (personnel + operating)	2 166 250	1 353 543	812 707
Subtotal, 1+2+3	8 085 900	5 640 888	2 445 012
Programme support costs (8 per cent)	646 872	451 271	195 601
Total	8 732 772	6 092 159	2 640 613

III. Estimated expenditures for 2018

6. Table 6 shows the estimated expenditures for 2018, as at 31 December 2018, against the 2018 budget of \$8,554,853 approved by the Plenary at its sixth session. These estimated expenditures for 2018 include expenditures made in 2018 and pending commitments related to 2018 activities.

Table 6
Estimated expenditures for 2018
(United States dollars)

<i>Budget item</i>	<i>2018 approved budget</i>	<i>2018 estimated expenditures</i>	<i>Estimated balance</i>
1. Meetings of the IPBES bodies			
1.1 Sessions of the Plenary			
Travel costs of sixth session participants (travel and daily subsistence allowance)	500 000	350 552	149 448
Conference services (translation, editing and interpretation)	1 065 000	1 115 604	(50 604)
Reporting services	65 000	59 894	5 106
Security	100 000	24 036	75 964
Subtotal 1.1, sessions of the Plenary	1 730 000	1 550 086	179 914
1.2 Bureau and Multidisciplinary Expert Panel sessions			
Travel and meeting costs for participants for two Bureau sessions	70 900	50 029	20 871
Travel and meeting costs for participants for two Panel sessions	170 000	135 200	34 800
Subtotal 1.2, Bureau and Multidisciplinary Expert Panel sessions	240 900	185 229	55 671
1.3 Travel costs of the Chair to represent IPBES	30 000	–	30 000
Subtotal 1, meetings of the IPBES bodies	2 000 900	1 735 315	265 585
2. Implementation of the work programme			
2.1 Objective 1: strengthen the capacity and knowledge foundations of the science-policy interface to implement key functions of IPBES	861 250	698 233	163 017
Deliverable 1 (a) Capacity-building needs	133 750	123 143	10 607
Deliverable 1 (b) Capacity-building activities	450 000	388 025	61 975
Deliverable 1 (c) Indigenous and local knowledge	213 750	187 065	26 685
Deliverable 1 (d) Knowledge and data	63 750	–	63 750
2.2 Objective 2: strengthen the science-policy interface on biodiversity and ecosystem services at and across the subregional, regional and global levels	1 310 000	911 936	398 064
Deliverable 2 (b) Regional/subregional assessments	285 000	159 510	125 490
Deliverable 2 (c) Global assessment	1 025 000	752 426	272 574

<i>Budget item</i>	<i>2018 approved budget</i>	<i>2018 estimated expenditures</i>	<i>Estimated balance</i>
2.3 Objective 3: strengthen the knowledge-policy interface with regard to thematic and methodological issues	921 250	963 228	(41 978)
Deliverable 3 (b) (i) Land degradation and restoration assessment	71 250	73 268	(2 018)
Deliverable 3 (b) (iii) Sustainable use of wild species assessment (first year)	375 000	375 000	–
Deliverable 3 (c) Scenarios and models	100 000	112 468	(12 468)
Deliverable 3 (d) Values assessment (first year)	375 000	402 492	(27 492)
2.4 Objective 4: communicate and evaluate IPBES activities, deliverables and findings	559 160	554 539	4 621
Deliverable 4 (a) Catalogue of assessments	10 000	10 991	(991)
Deliverable 4 (c) Catalogue of policy support tools and methodologies	100 000	96 515	3 485
Deliverable 4 (d) Communication and stakeholder engagement	311 000	311 664	(664)
Deliverable 4 (e) Review of IPBES	138 160	135 369	2 791
Subtotal 2, implementation of the work programme	3 651 660	3 127 936	523 724
3. Secretariat			
3.1 Secretariat personnel	2 017 600	1 289 611	727 989
3.2 Operating costs (non-personnel)	251 000	223 811	27 189
Subtotal 3, secretariat (personnel + operating)	2 268 600	1 513 422	755 178
Subtotal, 1+2+3	7 921 160	6 376 673	1 544 487
Programme support costs (8 per cent)	633 693	510 134	123 559
Total	8 554 853	6 886 807	1 668 046

IV. Budget for the biennium 2019–2020

Table 7

Revised budget for 2019 and 2020

(United States dollars)

<i>Budget item</i>	<i>2019 budget</i>	<i>2020 budget</i>
1. Meetings of the IPBES bodies		
1.1 Sessions of the Plenary		
Travel costs for seventh session participants (travel and daily subsistence allowance)	500 000	
Conference services (translation, editing and interpretation)	830 000	
Reporting services	65 000	
Security and other costs	100 000	
Subtotal 1.1, sessions of the Plenary	1 495 000	-
1.2 Bureau and Multidisciplinary Expert Panel sessions		
Travel and meeting costs for participants for Bureau sessions	35 450	70 900
Travel and meeting costs for participants for Panel sessions	85 000	170 000
Subtotal 1.2, Bureau and Multidisciplinary Expert Panel sessions	120 450	240 900
1.3 Travel costs of the Chair to represent IPBES	25 000	25 000
Subtotal 1, meetings of the IPBES bodies	1 640 450	265 900
2. Implementation of the work programme		
Part A: First work programme (wp1)		
wp1-Objective 1: strengthen the capacity and knowledge foundations of the science-policy interface to implement key functions of IPBES	145 417	
wp1-Deliverables 1 (a) and 1 (b) Capacity-building	29 167	
wp1-Deliverable 1 (c) Indigenous and local knowledge	62 500	
wp1-Deliverable 1 (d) Knowledge and data	53 750	
wp1-Objective 2: strengthen the science-policy interface on biodiversity and ecosystem services at and across the subregional, regional and global levels	153 750	
wp1-Deliverable 2 (c) Global assessment	153 750	

<i>Budget item</i>	<i>2019 budget</i>	<i>2020 budget</i>
wp1-Objective 3: strengthen the knowledge-policy interface with regard to thematic and methodological issues	1 415 000	1 995 000
wp1-Deliverable 3 (b) (ii) Invasive alien species assessment (first year)	425 000	445 000
wp1-Deliverable 3 (b) (iii) Sustainable use of wild species assessment (second year)	445 000	775 000
wp1-Deliverable 3 (c) Scenarios and models	100 000	775 000
wp1-Deliverable 3 (d) Values assessment (second year)	445 000	
wp1-Objective 4: communicate and evaluate IPBES activities, deliverables and findings	130 000	
wp1-Deliverable 4 (a) Catalogue of relevant assessments	10 000	
wp1-Deliverable 4 (d) Communication and stakeholder engagement	112 500	
wp1-Deliverable 4 (e) Review of IPBES	7 500	
Subtotal, part A	1 844 167	1 995 000
Part B: Rolling work programme up to 2030		
Objective 1: assessing knowledge	411 000	170 000
Deliverable 1 (a) A thematic assessment of the interlinkages among biodiversity, water, food and health	215 000	
Deliverable 1 (b) A technical paper on the interlinkage between biodiversity and climate change	59 000	170 000
Deliverable 1 (c) A thematic assessment of the underlying causes of biodiversity loss and determinants of transformative change and options for achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity	137 000	
Deliverable 1 (d) A methodological assessment of the impact and dependence of business on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people		
Objective 2: building capacity	680 000	680 000
Objective 2 (a) Enhanced learning and engagement, Objective 2 (b) Facilitated access to expertise and information and Objective 2 (c) Strengthened national and regional capacities	680 000	680 000
Objective 3: strengthening the knowledge foundations	395 000	395 000
Objective 3 (a) Advanced work on knowledge and data	210 000	210 000
Objective 3 (b) Enhanced recognition of and work with indigenous and local knowledge systems	185 000	185 000
Objective 4: supporting policy	504 000	504 000
Objective 4 (a) Advanced work on policy instruments, policy support tools and methodologies	244 000	244 000
Objective 4 (b) Advanced work on scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services	260 000	260 000
Objective 5: communicating and engaging	300 000	300 000
Objective 5 (a) Strengthened communication	250 000	250 000
Objective 5 (b) Strengthened engagement of Governments, Objective 5 (c) Strengthened engagement with stakeholders	50 000	50 000
Subtotal, part B	2 290 000	2 049 000
Subtotal 2, implementation of the work programme	4 134 167	4 044 000
3. Secretariat		
3.1 Secretariat personnel	1 631 425	2 056 100
3.2 Operating costs (non-personnel)	251 000	251 000
Subtotal 3, secretariat (personnel + operating)	1 882 425	2 307 100
Subtotal, 1+2+3	7 657 042	6 617 000
Programme support costs (8 per cent)	612 563	529 360
Total	8 269 605	7 146 360

V. Provisional budget for 2021

Table 8

Provisional budget for 2021

(United States dollars)

<i>Budget item</i>	<i>2021 budget</i>
1. Meetings of the IPBES bodies	
1.1 Sessions of the Plenary	
Travel costs for eighth session participants (travel and daily subsistence allowance)	500 000
Conference services (translation, editing and interpretation)	830 000
Reporting services	65 000
Security and other costs	100 000
Subtotal 1.1, sessions of the Plenary	1 495 000
1.2 Bureau and Multidisciplinary Expert Panel sessions	
Travel and meeting costs for participants for two Bureau sessions	70 900
Travel and meeting costs for participants for two Panel sessions	170 000
Subtotal 1.2, Bureau and Multidisciplinary Expert Panel sessions	240 900
1.3 Travel costs of the Chair to represent IPBES	25 000
Subtotal 1, meetings of the IPBES bodies	1 760 900
2. Implementation of the work programme	
Part A: First work programme (wp1)	
wp1-Objective 3: Strengthen the knowledge-policy interface with regard to thematic and methodological issues	775 000
wp1-Deliverable 3 (b) (ii) Invasive alien species assessment	775 000
wp1-Deliverable 3 (b) (iii) Sustainable use of wild species assessment	
wp1-Deliverable 3 (d) Values assessment	
Subtotal, part A	775 000
Part B: Rolling work programme up to 2030	
Objective 1: Assessing knowledge	1 118 750
Deliverable 1 (a) A thematic assessment of the interlinkages among biodiversity, water, food and health	588 250
Deliverable 1 (b) A technical paper on the interlinkage between biodiversity and climate change	-
Deliverable 1 (c) A thematic assessment of the underlying causes of biodiversity loss and determinants of transformative change and options for achieving the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity	414 500
Deliverable 1 (d) A methodological assessment of the impact and dependence of business on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people	116 000
Objective 2: Building capacity	680 000
Objective 2 (a) Enhanced learning and engagement, Objective 2 (b) Facilitated access to expertise and information and Objective 2 (c) Strengthened national and regional capacities	680 000
Objectives 3: Strengthening the knowledge foundations	395 000
Objective 3 (a) Advanced work on knowledge and data	210 000
Objective 3 (b) Enhanced recognition of and work with indigenous and local knowledge systems	185 000
Objectives 4: Supporting policy	739 000
Objective 4 (a) Advanced work on policy instruments, policy support tools and methodologies	244 000
Objective 4 (b) Advanced work on scenarios and models of biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services	260 000
	235 000
Objectives 5: Communicating and engaging	300 000
Objective 5 (a) Strengthened communication	250 000
Objective 5 (b) Strengthened engagement of Governments, Objective 5 (c) Strengthened engagement with stakeholders	50 000
Subtotal, part B	3 232 750
Subtotal 2, implementation of the work programme	4 007 750
3. Secretariat	
3.1 Secretariat personnel	2 056 100
3.2 Operating costs (non-personnel)	251 000

<i>Budget item</i>	<i>2021 budget</i>
Subtotal 3, secretariat (personnel + operating)	2 307 100
Subtotals 1+2+3	8 075 750
Programme support costs (8 per cent)	646 060
Total	8 721 810

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