



## THE POST-2020 GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY FRAMEWORK MUST INCLUDE PROVISIONS TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FUTURE PANDEMICS OF ZONOTIC ORIGIN

***Advisory note to Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, prepared by the Coalition for Preventing Pandemics at the Source ahead of the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the open-ended working group on the post-2020 global biodiversity framework in Nairobi June 21-26, 2022***

The new post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework provides a once-in-a-decade opportunity to help reduce the risk of future pandemics of zoonotic origin through a strengthened global biodiversity agenda. Most emerging infectious diseases documented over the last century were caused by pathogens that spilled over from animals, particularly wildlife, to humans. Urgent policy reforms, including effective conservation measures and controls on practices involving wildlife, together with a global annual investment of approximately \$20 billion would be sufficient to implement actions needed to significantly reduce the risk of pathogen spillover and spillback<sup>1</sup> on a global scale. This sum represents just three percent of the annualized cost of new diseases of zoonotic origin.<sup>2</sup> As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to reap huge costs in terms of loss of life and economic devastation, the world can no longer afford to ignore these links between the degradation of nature and health impacts.

The Coalition for Preventing Pandemics at the Source<sup>3</sup> – a group of leading organizations focused on conservation, public health, human rights, science, health justice and Indigenous Rights – is concerned that this vital One Health<sup>4</sup> component, featured in target 5 in the latest draft of the framework<sup>5</sup>, risks not being included in its final version.

Recent research<sup>6</sup> and analysis produced by our Coalition<sup>7</sup>, as well as a large body of research including from members of our Coalition, shows that a set of highly cost-effective actions can reduce the risk of future pandemics of zoonotic origin by addressing upstream drivers of pathogen spillover. These actions include:

- Eliminating large-scale deforestation and forest degradation
- Shutting down or significantly regulating commercial markets and associated trade in live and freshly butchered wildlife that pose health risks (while respecting the traditions and rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities)

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<sup>1</sup> The term spillback refers to transmission of zoonotic pathogens from humans to animals

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.science.org/doi/10.1126/sciadv.abl4183>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.preventingfuturepandemics.org/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/37600/JTFOWU.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.cbd.int/doc/c/c949/b2cc/a311c0c411d3a81134e2c7f3/wg2020-03-l-02-en.pdf>

<sup>6</sup> <https://cdn1.sph.harvard.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/2343/2021/08/PreventingPandemicsAug2021.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> <https://518e5d64-0420-46bf-af00->

[ae9ccb35a974.usrfiles.com/ugd/518e5d\\_40b62fb5ff104a1a806276bc9bf54a2a.pdf](https://518e5d64-0420-46bf-af00-ae9ccb35a974.usrfiles.com/ugd/518e5d_40b62fb5ff104a1a806276bc9bf54a2a.pdf)



Inclusion of spillover prevention as a priority theme and justification for action and investment in the Global Biodiversity Framework is critical to ensure the Framework is fit for purpose for a decade in which the world increasingly needs to work across traditional silos to address interconnected issues. This includes ensuring it is consistent with the Berlin Principles<sup>8</sup> and OHHLEP's definition<sup>9</sup> of One Health, which recognize the interconnection of human, animal, and ecosystem health.

***We urge Parties to the CBD to include in their feedback on the latest draft of the Global Biodiversity Framework, and subsequent negotiations, the position that One Health and reducing the risk of pathogen spillover must be explicitly included.***

***While some member organizations of the Coalition have provided their own recommendations on other aspects of the Framework<sup>10 11 12 13</sup>, below are a number of recommendations from the Coalition on the inclusion of pathogen spillover prevention. Several Coalition members will be present at the meeting in Nairobi, and look forward to working closely with the Parties.***

For each relevant section of the draft Framework, the existing text is included in black. ~~Grey strikethrough~~ indicates text we recommend deleting. The blue text at the end of each section is our proposed/ recommended “clean” text, which may have grammatical adjustments.

#### Section B. The purpose

**Suggested additional wording:** 3bis. The framework will provide special attention and deliver adequate action to address drivers of pathogen spillover to significantly reduce the risk of emerging diseases of zoonotic origin in humans that can lead to future pandemics.

#### Section G. 2030 Action targets

##### Target 5

**Current wording:** ~~[Prevent overexploitation by ensuring] / [Ensure] that [any] / [the] [harvesting] / [exploitation], [[captive]—breeding]/[farming], trade and use of—terrestrial,—[and~~

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<sup>8</sup> <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0048969720364494>

<sup>9</sup> <https://wedocs.unep.org/bitstream/handle/20.500.11822/37600/JTFOWU.pdf>

<sup>10</sup> Conservation International: <https://www.conservation.org/nairobi-recommendations>

<sup>11</sup> WWF:

[https://wwfint.awsassets.panda.org/downloads/wwf\\_response\\_to\\_first\\_draft\\_of\\_the\\_post\\_2020\\_gbf.pdf](https://wwfint.awsassets.panda.org/downloads/wwf_response_to_first_draft_of_the_post_2020_gbf.pdf)

<sup>12</sup> Wildlife Conservation Society [https://c532f75abb9c1c021b8c-e46e473f8aadb72cf2a8ea564b4e6a76.ssl.cf5.rackcdn.com/2022/05/23/9gblj09bob\\_WCS\\_recommendations\\_for\\_CBD\\_OEWG\\_4\\_Updated\\_20\\_May\\_.pdf](https://c532f75abb9c1c021b8c-e46e473f8aadb72cf2a8ea564b4e6a76.ssl.cf5.rackcdn.com/2022/05/23/9gblj09bob_WCS_recommendations_for_CBD_OEWG_4_Updated_20_May_.pdf)

<sup>13</sup> The Nature Conservancy:

[https://www.nature.org/content/dam/tnc/nature/en/documents/TNC\\_views\\_First\\_Draft\\_GBF\\_August\\_2021.pdf](https://www.nature.org/content/dam/tnc/nature/en/documents/TNC_views_First_Draft_GBF_August_2021.pdf)



~~aquatic]/[freshwater]/[inland water] and marine and coastal], wild [animal and plant] species[, including eggs, fries, parts and derivatives], is sustainable [and legal] [and safe for target and non-target species] [effectively regulated] [and traceable], [minimizing impacts on non-target species and ecosystems] [without adverse effects on the populations of species], [and safe for [[human], [animal and plant]] health], [and poses no risks of pathogen spillover to humans, wildlife or other animals] [and for all living beings on mother Earth]], [and prevent and eliminate biopiracy and other forms of illegal access to and transfer of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge], while [respecting]/[protecting] customary [rights and] sustainable use [of IPLCs] [and preventing pathogen spillover], [applies [ecosystem-based approaches]/[the ecosystem approach] to management] [and creating the conditions for the use and provision of benefits for IPLCs] [and take urgent action to address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products].~~

Alternative.1 [Eliminate all ~~harvesting~~, trade and use of wild ~~terrestrial freshwater and marine~~ species that is illegal, or unsustainable, ~~unsafe~~, while safeguarding customary sustainable use by IPLCs.]

**Suggested wording:** Eliminate all exploitation, trade and use of wild species that is illegal, unsustainable or poses a risk of pathogen spillover to humans, wildlife or other animals, while safeguarding customary sustainable use by IPLCs.

#### Proposed section B.bis

Our coalition supports the concept of Section B.bis. It is critical that this new section includes explicit references to:

- Implementation of the framework in line with trans-sectoral One Health approaches;
- Recognition of synergies with other multilateral goals/frameworks at the highest political level.

June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

*The members of the Coalition for Preventing Pandemics at the Source endorsing this advisory note are: Conservation International, Dalberg Catalyst, EcoHealth Alliance, Health in Harmony, IFAW, INCT EECBio, Management Science for Health, Marked by Covid, PIVOT, Rainforest Alliance, Right to Health Action, The Association of Zoos and Aquariums, The Jane Goodall Institute, The Tenure Facility, Wildlife Conservation Society, World Resource Institute, WWF*

For more information, please visit the [Preventing Pandemics at the Source](https://www.preventingfuturepandemics.org) website or contact [secretariat@preventingfuturepandemics.org](mailto:secretariat@preventingfuturepandemics.org)