

The Oslo Call to Cali – statement by Oslo Ministerial Dialogues on Nature Co-Chairs; Ministers María Susana Muhamad González, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development of the Republic of Colombia and Andreas Bjelland Eriksen, Minister of Climate and the Environment of Norway

Biodiversity is fundamental to human well-being, a healthy planet, and economic prosperity for all people, including for living well in balance and in harmony with Mother Earth. We are part of nature, our lives depend on it for food, medicine, energy, clean air and water, security from natural disasters as well as recreation and cultural inspiration, and it supports all systems of life on Earth.

We are facing a triple global crisis. According to the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), nature and its contributions to people, including its ecosystem functions and services, are declining globally at rates unprecedented in human history — and the rate of species extinctions is accelerating. There are grave impacts on all people around the world.

Nature is our main ally. We need to halt, and urgently reverse, the damage to ecosystems and the global loss of biodiversity.

Holding the Ministerial Dialogues on Nature in conjunction with the Oslo Tropical Forest Forum has offered us an opportunity to identify important aspects concerning the implementation of the CBD ahead of COP 16 and discuss the critical role of tropical forests for biodiversity, and the current momentum and challenges of reducing deforestation in preparation for COP 16.

At the CBD COP 16 in Cali, Colombia, we need to see clear progress on the ambitions and promises from COP 15. We have to implement the goals and targets of the Biodiversity Plan (the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework) to fulfill the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity.

This must happen through moving and engaging the society at different levels to take care of nature and act towards a sustainable future. This includes Parties and other governments, indigenous peoples, and local communities, local and subnational governments and authorities, academia, women and youth, the business, financial and economic sectors, and non-governmental organizations as well as afro-descendants.

We call on all governments to finalize the revision process and submit the National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans to CBD ahead of COP 16 to cover all aspects of the Biodiversity Plan or communicate national targets aligned with the Biodiversity Plan.

We commit to working together to implement the Biodiversity Plan and pursue an ambitious result at COP 16 in Cali, Colombia, through, inter alia:

- Integrate biodiversity and climate efforts at all levels and sectors, to address the human induced causes common to this triple crisis, the indirect drivers of change, and seek urgent and actionable solutions for people and the planet.
- Protect and recover nature as one of the main pillars of climate action, and pursue the need for deep, rapid and sustained reductions in greenhouse gas emissions in line with 1.5 °C pathways as reflected in decision -/CMA.5 (Outcome of the first global stocktake under the Paris agreement).
- Enhance the programme of work on the implementation of the article 8 j of the CBD, and decide on a subsidiary body on 8 j, taking into consideration the views and wisdom from indigenous peoples and local communities.
- Identify incentives, including subsidies, harmful for biodiversity by 2025 and start to phase them out starting with the most harmful incentives, and scale up positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.
- Deliver progress on mainstreaming of biodiversity within and across sectors and alignment of all relevant public and private activities, and fiscal and financial flows.
- Mobilize resources from all sources to at least USD 200 billion per year by 2030 and increase the total biodiversity-related international financial resources from developed countries to at least USD 20 billion per year by 2025 and USD 30 billion per year by 2030.
- Operationalize the Global Multilateral Mechanism on Benefit-sharing from the use of Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources, as part of the implementation of the third objective of the Convention.
- Reach agreement on the update of the programs of work on marine and coastal biodiversity and islands biodiversity, and on modalities for modifying the descriptions of ecologically or biologically significant marine areas and describing new areas (EBSA).
- Finalize the planning, reporting, monitoring and review system.
- Promote involvement of all sectors of society including afrodescendants and other relevant groups in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.