



COP28
UAE



2020 UN BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE
COP 15 - CP/MOP10 - NP/MOP4
Ecological Civilization-Building a Shared Future for All Life on Earth
KUNMING | CHINA



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JOINT STATEMENT ON CLIMATE, NATURE AND PEOPLE





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2020 UN BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE
COP 15 - CP/MOP15-D/NP/MOP4
Integrated Conservation Planning and Management Process for the World Bank
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COP28 Joint Statement on Climate, Nature and People

We, the UNFCCC COP28 and COP30 Presidencies, CBD COP15 and COP16 Presidencies, UNCCD COP15 Presidency*, and chairs of the undersigned partnerships, initiatives and coalitions:

- Recognizing that the growing and projected impacts of climate change critically threaten biodiversity and the billions of livelihoods dependent on high-integrity ecosystems;
- Noting that continued loss and degradation of nature increases climate vulnerability, contributes to significant greenhouse gas emissions, and impedes sustainable development;
- Acknowledging that efforts which promote sustainable land management, drought resilience and ocean health provide cross-cutting benefits to action on climate change, biodiversity loss, and sustainable development;
- Underscoring that acting on climate change, biodiversity loss, land degradation and ocean health in an ambitious, integrated and synergetic manner provides mutually reinforcing benefits for increasing resilience and securing sustainable livelihoods, while reducing negative trade-offs;
- Reaffirming the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement¹, the Chile Madrid Time for Action, the Glasgow Climate Pact, the Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan, the CBD and its Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and noting UN Environment Assembly Resolution 5/5, UN General Assembly Resolution 76/300;
- Recognizing the value of international, regional and local cooperation, especially in the form of voluntary partnerships, initiatives and coalitions that support governments in the integrated implementation of existing commitments and obligations, including through enhancing resource mobilization, capacity building, and scientific and technical assistance;

In this year of the first Global Stocktake, and on the occasion of convening at COP28 during Nature, Land Use and Ocean Day, we affirm that there is no path to fully achieve the near- and long-term goals of the Paris Agreement or the 2030 goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework without urgently addressing climate change, biodiversity loss and land degradation together in a coherent, synergetic and holistic manner, in accordance with the best available science.

In striving to achieve these goals in an integrated manner, we therefore affirm our commitment to strengthen our respective and shared efforts, including through voluntary partnerships, initiatives and coalitions, and in accordance with the Paris Agreement and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, to work collaboratively and expeditiously to pursue the following common objectives:

1. **Fostering stronger synergies, integration and alignment in the planning and implementation of national climate, biodiversity and land restoration plans and strategies**, with specific emphasis on ambition, comprehensiveness and coherence between the next round of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), updated National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), and forthcoming revised

* Endorsed following COP28.

¹ Adopted under the UNFCCC.



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National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs), as appropriate/within their respective mandates, and the implementation of a whole-of-government approach that mainstreams coherence, coordination and the efficient use of resources within and between relevant ministries and departments;

2. **Scaling of finance and investments for climate and nature** from all sources, including domestic budgets, multilateral development banks, multilateral climate and biodiversity funds, bilateral development agencies, private sectors actors, and philanthropic sources, in a synergetic, dedicated and progressive manner that ensures the promotion of co-benefits and efficient use through nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem based approaches, and access to finance in an inclusive and equitable manner, including through direct access modalities, in particular for indigenous peoples, local communities, women, girls, and youth, among others;
3. **Ensuring the full, equitable, inclusive and effective representation and participation** of indigenous peoples, local communities, women, girls, youth, and other vulnerable communities in the planning and implementation of climate and biodiversity plans and strategies at all levels, in a manner respecting rights, enhancing land tenure security, and utilizing traditional knowledge;
4. **Promoting a whole-of-society approach in the synergetic planning and implementation of national climate, biodiversity and land restoration plans and strategies** that draws upon and includes the contributions of indigenous peoples, local communities, civil society including women, youth and children, the private sector, financial institutions, academic institutions, and subnational authorities, including through the voluntary actions under the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action and the Sharm El-Sheikh to Kunming and Montreal Action Agenda for Nature and People, and their respective Champions;
5. **Encouraging coherence and interoperability across data sources and data collection, metrics and methodologies, and voluntary reporting frameworks** for climate change, biodiversity, and sustainable land management efforts, including through collaboration with international, non-governmental and private sector organizations, scientific and academic institutions, and indigenous peoples and local communities.

To assist in the achievement of these aims, we, the chairs of the assembled voluntary partnerships, initiatives and coalitions, commit to work with our respective secretariats (as applicable) and member countries to ensure each partnership, initiative or coalition enhances the coordination of country-focused actions, promotes the sharing of information, knowledge and best practices, and collaborates on capacity building efforts. Doing so will maximize synergies among our actions, avoid the duplication of efforts, and ensure efficient use of our collective resources.

We will meet regularly to demonstrate and review our collective progress under this grouping of voluntary partnerships, initiatives and coalitions, and convene further high-level meetings, with the allowance of additional partnerships, initiatives and coalitions, at future UN Climate Change and UN Biodiversity Conferences.



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Frequently Asked Questions – *Not part of statement*

What is the COP28 Joint Statement on Climate, Nature and People?

The COP28 Joint Statement on Climate, Nature and People (henceforth 'Joint Statement') was launched on 9 December 2023 on the occasion of the '[NDC-NBSAP Ministerial](#)' held on Nature, Land Use and Ocean Day at COP28. This ministerial event brought governments and non-state actors together to discuss international and domestic efforts which align the design and implementation of national climate and biodiversity plans and strategies (NDCs and NBSAPs, respectively), towards promoting accelerated and integrated action for climate, nature and sustainable development.

What are its objectives? What is the value-add of this effort?

The collective ambition expressed by the Joint Statement aims to raise stronger awareness of and capacity to deliver the necessary synergies between the Paris Agreement and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). Specifically, it seeks to encourage and support synergetic implementation of their respective national instruments: Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), and Long-Term Strategies (LTS) for climate, and National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) for biodiversity. Additional engagement with countries' Land Degradation Neutrality targets and National Drought Plans are also encouraged. This effort is critical as countries work to submit revised NBSAPs that are GBF-aligned in 2024 in advance of CBD COP16, and submit new NDCs in 2025 for UNFCCC COP30 in response to the Global Stocktake at COP28.

This Joint Statement also serves to bring together leading country-led partnerships, initiatives and coalitions across climate, biodiversity and land restoration, to facilitate stronger coordination and collaboration, as well as avoiding duplication of effort, across a multi-year period provisionally leading up to COP30. The recent emergence of many initiatives and coalitions across climate and nature necessitates stronger coordination across them; COP28 provides an important platform to bring them into stronger conversation. As such, this Joint Statement is accompanied by an addendum that indicates how partnership, initiative or coalition secretariats will collectively aim to work together to advance this common nexus agenda.

This effort builds upon and helps support prior and existing related initiatives, such as the Leaders' Pledge for Nature, the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use, the UN Food Systems Summit, the UN Ocean Conference, the UN Water Summit, the ACTO Summit, and the Three Basins Summit, amongst other efforts (such as the Emirates Declaration on Resilient Food Systems, Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Action).

How was this Joint Statement developed?

The Joint Statement was developed jointly by the UNFCCC COP28 and CBD COP15 Presidencies and a select group of country-led international partnerships, initiatives and coalitions focused on delivering the goals and targets of the core instruments across the three Rio Conventions. This group includes the NDC Partnership, the NBSAP Accelerator Partnership, the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People, the ENACT Partnership, the Nature Champions Network, the Global Ocean Alliance, the Forest and Climate Leaders' Partnership, the SIDS Coalition for Nature, the G20 Global Land Initiative, and the International Drought Resilience Alliance.



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The drafting process had been led by the UNFCCC COP28 Presidency and CBD COP15 Presidency, with inputs from the secretariats and chairs/leads of the core group of participating partnerships, initiatives and coalitions.

Who is invited to sign this statement?

Now launched following COP28, this Joint Statement is open for signatures from countries that chair or co-chair country-led partnerships, initiatives or coalitions focused on addressing climate change, biodiversity loss, land degradation and other environmental issues. Countries are invited to sign on behalf of their whole government, and therefore do not request individual ministerial signatures.

The signatory countries who chair/lead different partnerships, initiatives or coalitions have not signed on behalf of the whole membership of their respective partnerships, initiatives or coalitions, but have signed in agreement with their respective partnership secretariats (where applicable).

What are the main areas covered in this statement?

The Joint Statement affirms the imperative that climate change, biodiversity loss and land degradation - and the resulting problems that each issue creates if left unabated - cannot be adequately addressed without doing so in a joint and aligned manner.

In this spirit, the Joint Statement sees governments commit to taking action in a synergetic, integrated and aligned manner across climate, biodiversity and land restoration, with specific focus on the implementation of national frameworks under the respective Rio Conventions. It also includes adopting whole-of-government and inclusive, equitable and effective whole-of-society approaches to advance synergetic climate-nature action.

The Statement additionally emphasizes the role of international cooperation and voluntary initiatives, and sees signatories committing to regular touchpoints to support a collaboration agenda of 'COP to COP' implementation.

What is the legal status of this document? What are the obligations of this statement?

This Joint Statement is not a legally binding document. It sits outside of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) or the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD). It is a voluntary, non-binding political statement meant to galvanize support for a synergetic implementation of national climate change and biodiversity frameworks, in a manner fully respecting national sovereignty, self-determination and national circumstances.

This effort is focused on supporting the positive benefits from adopting a synergetic implementation of existing frameworks across the Paris Agreement and GBF, and Land Degradation Neutrality targets and National Drought Plans as applicable. This Joint Statement does not propose or suggest in any way a diminishment in the integrity of each respective Rio Convention, including the unique specific and separate obligations found within each legal instrument.



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What is the timeline for endorsements?

The formal launch of this statement took place on 9 December 2023 at the NDC-NBSAP Ministerial held on Nature, Land Use and Ocean Day at COP28. Additional endorsements from additional countries are welcome up to the start of CBD COP16, scheduled to start 21 October, 2024.

How should endorsements be made?

Endorsements should be transmitted to the COP28 Presidency directly via email (contacting nature@cop28.com with ca.tsuyuki@cop28.com in cc).

What are the plans for this effort after COP28?

This Joint Statement is intended to instigate a multi-year agenda of collaboration among voluntary partnerships, initiatives and coalitions to support countries advance synergetic climate-nature action domestically and internationally. Its accompanying addendum indicates the modalities of collaboration across the partnerships, initiatives and coalitions, entailing regularity of meetings and respective chairing responsibilities. As the signatories of the Joint Statement will commit to further gatherings at future UNFCCC and CBD COPs, this statement invites future COP Presidencies to welcome and engage in this collaborative effort.





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SIGNATORIES

Signatory Presidencies:

- Federative Republic of Brazil
[UNFCCC COP30 Presidency](#), Chair of G20 Global Land Initiative steering committee
- People's Republic of China
[CBD COP15 Presidency](#), Chair of Action Initiative for Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework
- Republic of Colombia
[CBD COP16 Presidency](#), Co-chair of NBSAP Accelerator Partnership
- Republic of Côte d'Ivoire*
[UNCCD COP15 Presidency](#)
- United Arab Emirates
[UNFCCC COP28 Presidency](#), co-chair of Mangrove Alliance for Climate

Signatory countries in recognition of their roles as chairs/leads of select partnerships, initiatives or coalitions:

- Belize
Co-lead of SIDS Coalition for Nature
- Republic of Cabo Verde
Co-lead of SIDS Coalition for Nature
- Canada
Chair of Nature Champions Network
- Republic of Costa Rica
Co-chair of High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People
- Kingdom of Denmark*
Co-chair of NDC Partnership
- Arab Republic of Egypt
Co-chair of ENACT Partnership
- Republic of France
Co-chair of High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People
- Federal Republic of Germany
Co-chair of NBSAP Accelerator Partnership and ENACT Partnership
- Republic of Ghana*
Co-chair of Forest and Climate Leaders' Partnership
- Japan*
Sponsor of UNEA-6 resolution on synergies
- Kingdom of Norway*
Co-chair of High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy
- Republic of Palau*
Co-chair of High Level Panel for a Sustainable Ocean Economy
- Republic of Rwanda
Co-chair of NDC Partnership
- Independent State of Samoa
Co-lead of SIDS Coalition for Nature
- Republic of Senegal
Co-chair of International Drought Resilience Alliance
- Republic of Seychelles
Co-lead of SIDS Coalition for Nature
- Kingdom of Spain
Co-chair of International Drought Resilience Alliance
- United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Chair of Global Ocean Alliance, co-chair of High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People
- United States of America
Co-chair of Forest and Climate Leaders' Partnership

* Endorsed after formal launch at COP28