

ICC WG on Biodiversity
First Meeting
2 February, 14:00-15:30 CET

List of Participants: included in Annex 1

Welcome Remarks and Introduction

- Daphne Yong-d'Hervé, Raelene Martin and Sandra Hanni welcomed the more than 60 participants for the first meeting of the ICC Working Group on Biodiversity and extended particular thanks to the guest speakers **Basile van Havre**, Co-Chair, Open-Ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, UN Convention on Biological Diversity and **Sylvie Lemmet**, Ambassador for the Environment, France as well as **Mark Johnston**, Biodiversity & Nature-based Solutions Strategy Lead, BP; **Owen Bethell**, Senior Manager Environmental Impact Global Public Affairs and **Markus Wyss**, DSM Strain Director, Global Regulatory Affairs, DSM Nutritional Products for agreeing to share their views and reflections during the first meeting.
- Daphne provided the background and reasoning for establishing a new working group on biodiversity to explore the broader set of biodiversity issues which may impact businesses and enable a more holistic approach to the role of business in the context of the international biodiversity agenda. The work of the new group will complement and build on existing work of the ICC Task Force on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) under the IP Commission on this agenda as well existing partnerships in this area.
- Raelene and Sandra emphasised that biodiversity is intrinsically linked to climate change and other areas such as trade and finance and the need for a holistic, coherent approach to address both challenges. ICC cross-cutting work in the area of [sustainable trade and sustainable trade finance](#), that will also look at how to integrate biodiversity into the new framework, was also mentioned.

Overview of the Working Group and its Core Objectives

- The WG currently consists of 96 members from 23 countries, covering all geographical regions.
- The overarching objectives of the WG were highlighted:
 - o Act as a forum for exchange of information, views and knowledge on policy developments relating to biodiversity, with a particular focus on the current biodiversity negotiations;
 - o Identify specific issues of relevance to companies; and
 - o Explore how ICC can address these issues as appropriate.

UN CBD process and Negotiation of Post-2020 Biodiversity Framework

- Basile van Havre presented an overview of the formal CBD process that will culminate in the negotiations of the First Draft of the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) at the upcoming OEWG-3, SBSTTA-24 and SBI-3 in March in Geneva as well as COP15 (see slide 3 attached presentation)
- Basile emphasised that the GBF needs to be both realistic in terms of recognising current socio-economic challenges but also ambitious to achieve the overall vision – that by 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored. Basile also stressed the important role of business engagement and contributions to the CBD process and invites ICC and the working group to provide concrete inputs, in particular on the different targets under discussion.
- Sylvie Lemmet stated that in order for the GBF to be successful a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach is needed and reiterated the importance of the public and private sector working together. The Ambassador also mentioned the complexity of biodiversity and that, compared to climate, efforts to mitigate biodiversity loss and

degradation are not captured in a single indicator. Measuring performance on biodiversity requires multiple different indicators and the proposed targets are an attempt to try and capture the different drivers.

- Sylvie also underlined the importance of the upcoming CBD sessions in March that will provide the first opportunity for governments to discuss the draft text in an in-person setting, since the postponement of the proceedings due to the pandemic. The EU is currently developing its position and Sylvie hopes that the March meetings will provide more clarity and that elements of possible landing zones on key issues will emerge.

Business and Biodiversity – Initiatives and Companies' Perspectives

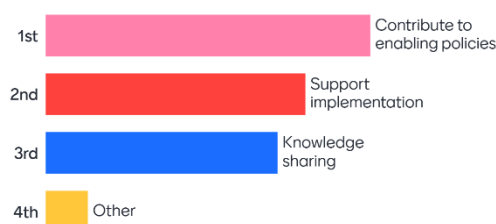
- Mark Johnston, BP informed about BP's new business strategy that includes the objective to become a net zero business by 2050 and its new biodiversity position. Mark reiterated the important link between climate and biodiversity and the need for governments and business to work together to secure an ambitious framework but also achieve a successful implementation. In order to support UK companies in understanding the value of biodiversity and support collective action, the [UK Business and Biodiversity Forum](#), that Mark currently chairs, was launched.
- Mark also highlighted three areas to take into consideration in the work going forward:
 1. Complexity (biodiversity more complex than carbon or ozone) but actions for businesses do not need to be as complicated.
 2. Language – businesses need simple and practical guidelines.
 3. Metrics and reporting are important but it is important to also provide necessary support to businesses to accelerate action and embed biodiversity in decision making.
- Owen Bethell, Nestle, informed about the increased interlinkages between climate change and biodiversity they are seeing in their operations and referred to a few examples of how Nestle is integrating climate action with biodiversity protection and restoration and trying to ensure co-benefits from all of their activities, both environmental and social (deforestation initiative, forest positive strategy; regenerative agriculture; land management support to farmers; leveraging carbon markets by ensuring high-quality of offsets, engagement in TNFD initiative)
- Markus Wyss, DSM, a company that focuses on producing ingredients for animal and human nutrition and personal care, explained that sustainability and environmental considerations play an important role in their operations. Markus reiterated the complex nature of biodiversity and underlined the challenges companies face in addressing biodiversity and integrating it into their strategies.
- As Chair of the ICC ABS TF, Markus also mentioned that in terms of ABS, the main challenge is to move from ABS as primarily a compliance issue to a framework that truly supports biodiversity conservation and sustainable use and maximises social benefits for all.
- Keyvan Macedo, Natura provided a brief remark "from the floor" highlighting the important social dimension of biodiversity.

Discussion on the way forward

- As for key areas of work, Daphne and Sandra presented the following initial ideas and invited feedback and suggestions from members:
 - o **Knowledge Sharing:** Help a broader range of companies follow and understand international policy developments (e.g. CBD); key initiatives; and experiences of other companies
 - o **Contribute to enabling policies:**
 - Support policy development that would encourage businesses to integrate biodiversity considerations in their strategies and activities; Input into CBD process (coordinated with ICC ABS task force and partner organisations)

- Defining effective incentives
- Integrate biodiversity into other areas of ICC work (e.g. trade)
- **Support implementation:** Integrate biodiversity into ICC sustainable trade finance work; clarifying key concepts and terms
- In a quick poll, members responded as follows:

Which of the suggested key areas do you consider to be the most important for the Working Group to focus on in the coming months?



- While the groups saw value in doing work under all three key areas and exploring potential other issues, members expressed particular interest for ICC to support business and provide input in the CBD process. Members also proposed developing a position paper in the lead up to the upcoming CBD meetings. A first draft is currently being developed.

Annex 1: List of Participants

Naomi	Stevens	BAYER CROPSOURCE	Australia
Bart	Van Vooren	COVINGTON & BURLING LLP	Belgium
Dominic	Muyldermans	CROPLIFE INTERNATIONAL	Belgium
Frank	Michiels	BASF BELGIUM COORDINATION CENTER COMM V.	Belgium
Matthias	Vey	IFRA	Belgium
Danielle	Berini	ICC BRASIL	Brazil
Giovani	Tomasoni	BAKER MCKENZIE	Brazil
Julia	Pupe	CNI	Brazil
Keyvan	Macedo	NATURA &CO	Brazil
Laís	Zeitune	ICC BRASIL	Brazil
Leonardo	Barbosa	ICC BRASIL	Brazil
Marina	Bastos	MATTOS FILHO	Brazil
Renata	Amaral	TRENCH ROSSI WATANABE	Brazil
Tatiani	Leal	NATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF INDUSTRY – BRAZIL	Brazil
Henry	Garay	CAEM	Colombia
Justin	Perrettson	NOVOZYMES	Denmark
Roberto	Rosales	CBS NETWORK	Ecuador
Sylvana	Garzon	ICC ECUADOR	Ecuador
Johanna	Pentjärvi	KEMIANTEOLLISUUS RY THE CHEMICALS INDUSTRY FEDERATION	Finland
Ava	Strowel	ICC HQ	France
Benoît	Galaup	ENTREPRISES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT (EPE)	France
Danny	Grajales	ICC HQ	France
Daphne	Yong-d'Herve	ICC HQ	France

Patrick	Thieffry	INDEPENDENT ARBITRATOR	France
Raelene	Martin	ICC HQ	France
Sandra	Hanni	ICC HQ	France
Yvonne	Harz-Pitre	INTERNATIONAL FERTILIZER ASSOCIATION	France
Jasmina	Rilak	BAYER	Germany
Lisa	Weipert	VCI	Germany
Olga	Manaeva	ICC GERMANY	Germany
Regina	Karakina	ICC GERMANY	Germany
Ricardo	Gent	DEUTSCHE INDUSTRIEVEREINIGUNG BIOTECHNOLOGIE	Germany
Dionysia	Avgerinopoulou	ICC GREECE	Greece
Andrea	Lupo	ZELIAN SRL	Italy
Cayetana	Aljovín	AZERTA	Peru
Henrik	Blomqvist	ICC SWEDEN	Sweden
Karin	Nilsson	CONFEDERATION OF SWEDISH ENTERPRISE	Sweden
Stina	Wallström	IKEA OF SWEDEN AB	Sweden
Eva	Häussling	SWEDISH FOREIGN TRADE ASSOCIATION	Sweden
Grega	Kumer	IFPMA	Switzerland
Hélène	Khan Niazi	ISF	Switzerland
Markus	Wyss	DSM	Switzerland
Melchior	Kuo	IFPMA	Switzerland
Owen	Bethell	NESTLÉ	Switzerland
Grega	Kumer	IFPMA	Switzerland
Abyd	Karmali	BANK OF AMERICA	UK
Artemis	Kostareli	IPIECA	UK
Jessica	Craven	KIMURA CAPITAL LLP	UK
Juliana	Viegas	SHELL	UK
Katie	Yan	ICC UNITED KINGDOM	UK
Kristie	Lo	IPIECA	UK
Madeleine	Gray	IPIECA	UK
Mark	Johnston	BP PLC	UK
Stuart	Bruce	KPMG	UK
Tracy	Oates	BAT	UK
Agnes	Vinblad	USCIB	US
Gabriela	Burian	BAYER	US
Norine	Kennedy	USCIB	US