



## **Statement by the South Centre to the Third meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group on the Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF)**

The South Centre, the intergovernmental think tank of developing countries based in Geneva, is pleased to participate in the third meeting of the Open-Ended Working Group on the Post 2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF).

There is a lot of work to be done until COP-15. The new draft of the GBF improves on the previous version, yet several areas require significant improvements, in particular:

- Resource mobilization for implementation must be a key priority, reaching agreement on scale and plan. Technology transfer –informed by horizon scanning, assessment and monitoring of new technologies that may impact biodiversity- ; capacity building and technical cooperation also need to be clearly specified. These must be a central element of the theory of change of the GBF and integral in the text rather than separate; it should hence be negotiated together.
- The structure of the GBF requires increased balance among the three CBD objectives and further simplification to be understandable for all.
- Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) needs to be a core component of the GBF aligned to supporting implementation of the Nagoya Protocol. Prior and informed consent is a central requirement for access to genetic resources and for access to traditional knowledge associated to genetic resources held by indigenous and/or local communities, and for establishing the mutually agreed terms for fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from their utilization. ABS in relation to Digital Sequence Information (DSI) on genetic resources must be integrated into the GBF.

- The GBF must make more emphasis in addressing the drivers of biodiversity loss, promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns, means for transitioning towards more sustainable agriculture, and the importance of participatory management of ecosystems.
- There is a need to broaden synergies with the Sustainable Development Agenda and the principles of the Rio Conventions.