

Esteemed Chair, distinguished delegates, Good afternoon

Suriname is pleased to announce the completion of its updated National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for the period 2024-2035, fully aligned with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). As one of the most forested country in the world and part of the Amazon biome, Suriname recognizes the urgency of halting biodiversity loss and restoring nature. With this updated NBSAP, we reaffirm our commitment to the Convention on Biological Diversity and aim to make a meaningful contribution to the global goals set by the GBF.

The updated NBSAP consists of four strategic pathways that prioritize the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, fair and equitable benefit-sharing, and the mainstreaming of biodiversity across different sectors. We have set ambitious national targets, including increasing protected areas to cover 30% of our total land and marine territory, restoring degraded ecosystems, and integrating biodiversity into our national climate policies. The strategy also addresses the protection of traditional knowledge and the rights of Indigenous and tribal communities, with a strong emphasis on a human rights-based approach throughout.

Our action plan features 20 national strategic targets, aligned with the 23 global targets of the GBF.

Key actions focus on enhancing ecosystem resilience, reducing pollution, and promoting sustainable land and sea use. This revision is informed by lessons learned from previous NBSAP implementations, with a stronger emphasis on measurable outcomes, gender mainstreaming, and the mobilization of financial resources. We have adopted a whole-of-society approach to ensure inclusivity and participation across all sectors.

As Suriname prepares for the implementation of this updated NBSAP, we call on international partners and donors to support our efforts, particularly in mobilizing the resources necessary to achieve our biodiversity targets. With combined regional and international efforts, we can ensure that biodiversity conservation drives sustainable development and enhances the well-being of our people and future generations.

Thank you Mr. Chair.