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10<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the SAPBIO National Correspondents

Videoconference, 5 June 2024

Agenda Item 4: Assessment of the Post-2020 SAPBIO: proposed approach and the way forward

4.1. Post-2020 SAPBIO Mid-Term Assessment: Proposed Concept note and Timeline

Post-2020 SAPBIO Mid-Term Assessment: Proposed Concept note and Timeline

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## Note by the Secretariat

- 1. As provided for in the Post-2020 SAPBIO (Decision IG.25/11 of CoP22) and as requested by (Decision IG.26/5 of CoP23), SPA/RAC will conduct during 2024-2025 a mid-term evaluation to assess the collective progress in implementing the Post-2020 and the Contracting Parties shall review their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) accordingly to ensure the achievement of the Post-2020 SAPBIO objectives by 2030 as well as data on the Common Indicators of the Integrated Monitoring and Assessment Programme (IMAP) to monitor the effectiveness of the actions put in place.
- 2. Targets and Actions presented in annex III of the Post-2020 SAPBIO which are quantified will serve as indicators of implementation progress allowing the timely analysis of progress based on objective/numerical elements of targets towards the Strategy Goals.
- 3. The Post-2020 SAPBIO should be monitored as an alive/dynamic document, so the monitoring framework should need flexibility to allow adaptation.
- 4. The SPA/RAC will undertake the mid-term assessment in collaboration with the Barcelona Convention contracting parties through their designated Focal Points and/or their SAPBIO National Correspondents, UNEP/MAP components, and partners affiliated with the Advisory Committee of SAPBIO, alongside any other pertinent stakeholders.
- 5. The following document was discussed with the SAPBIO Advisory Committee during the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the SAPBIO Advisory Committee, 30 April 2024, Videoconference.

# Post-2020 SAPBIO Mid-Term Assessment: Proposed Concept note and Timeline

#### The Post-2020 SAPBIO:

1. The Post-2020 SAPBIO<sup>1</sup> sets a visionary goal for 2050, to ensure a Mediterranean where marine and coastal biodiversity are valued, conserved, restored, and wisely used to sustain a healthy environment. The mission for 2030 is to initiate the reversal of biodiversity loss, putting Mediterranean marine and coastal biodiversity on a path to recovery for the benefit of both nature and people.

## **Goals and Targets:**

- 2. Structured hierarchically following the CBD Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, the Post-2020 SAPBIO outlines three overarching goals for 2030:
  - Goal 1: Reduce the threats to biodiversity.
  - <u>Goal 2:</u> Ensure that biodiversity is preserved and maintained or enhanced to meet people's needs
  - <u>Goal 3:</u> Enable transformative change through the implementation of tools and solutions.

#### **Mid-Term Evaluation Framework:**

- 3. By 2025, the Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA/RAC) will conduct a midterm assessment<sup>2</sup> of the collective implementation of the Post-2020 SAPBIO and Contracting Parties shall review their National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans (NBSAPs) accordingly to ensure the achievement of the Post-2020 SAPBIO objectives by 2030;
- 4. The mid-term assessment will be based on the Post-2020 SAPBIO Actions table (<u>see annex III of the Post-2020 SAPBIO</u>) and will be carried out by external consultants. The Terms of Reference (ToRs) for these consultants will be drafted based on the SAPBIO Advisory Committee and the SAPBIO National Correspondents meetings recommendations and input.
- 5. The SPA/RAC will consult the SAPBIO National Correspondents and the SAPBIO Advisory Committee, which will be actively involved throughout the assessment process, for input and guidance, in coordination with the UNEP/MAP. This collaborative effort will ensure a comprehensive and robust assessment.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>Decision I2G.25/11: Post-2020 Strategic Action Programme for the Conservation of Biodiversity and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources in the Mediterranean Region (Post-2020 SAPBIO)</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> <u>Decision IG.26/5: Specially Protected Areas (SPAs), Specially Protected Areas of Mediterranean</u> Importance (SPAMIs) and Ecosystem Restoration

#### **Evaluation Focus:**

6. The mid-term assessment will focus on determining the progress of Contracting Parties towards the targets set for 2025. It will assess the status of the startup activities which deadline of its implementation is 2025 and the feasibility of achieving targets by 2027, 2030, and beyond. Any identified gaps will be thoroughly examined, and priority actions will be updated to ensure the timely achievement of the three overarching goals.

# Timeline:

7. The draft evaluation is scheduled to be completed in time for presentation at the 17<sup>th</sup> SPA/BD National Focal Points Meeting in the first semester of 2025. The timeline includes the following key milestones:

	2024							2025														
	Q1			Q2			Q3		Q4		Q1			Q2			Q3		;		Q4	
Draft the concept note		П																				
Share the concept note with the CU																						
(52 <sup>nd</sup> ECP meeting)		Ш																				
Develop the detailed concept note																						
including a proposed assessment																						
approach and drafting the Terms of																						
Reference (ToRs) for external																						
consultants																						
Share the detailed concept note with																						
the CU																						
Organize the Advisory Committee																						
Meeting, 30-April 2024, Online;																						
Discuss the approach																						
Review of the concept Note based on																						
the AC meeting conclusions and																						
share it with the SAPBIO National																						
Correspondents																						
Organize the SAPBIO National																						
Correspondent meeting, 5 June 2024,																						
Online																						
Review of the concept Note based on																						
the NC meeting conclusions and																						
recommendations																						
Launching the call for external																						
consultants and contract																						
establishment																						
Running of the assessment activities																						
by the retained consultant (s)																						
First Draft mid-term assessment																						
report																						
Review of the Draft mid-term																						
assessment by SPA/RAC and CU																						
Review Draft mid-term assessment						Ť																
report by SAPBIO Advisory																						
Committee and the SAPBIO National																						
Correspondents																						
Final Draft mid-term assessment																						
report																						

		20	24		2025							
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4				
Presentation of the draft mid-term assessment report and recommendations at the 17 <sup>th</sup> SPA/BD National Focal Points Meeting, as reviewed by the National Correspondents and Advisory												
Presentation of the mid-term assessment report and recommendations at the MAP Focal Points Meeting as reviewed by the SPA/BD National Focal Points meeting												
Presentation of the mid-term assessment report and recommendations at the Barcelona Convention CoP24 as reviewed by MAP National Focal Points meeting and edition of the final version of the mid-term assessment report												

# **Conclusion:**

- 8. The mid-term assessment of the Barcelona Convention Post-2020 SAPBIO is a critical step to evaluate the progress made at national and regional levels; identify gaps and difficulties; update priorities; define recommendations to achieve the agreed targets for 2030.
- 9. The SAPBIO Advisory Committee and the SAPBIO National Correspondents will be of great support to ensure a comprehensive and inclusive evaluation process within the proposed timeline.