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Photographs: Paul Hilton for Earth Tree Images. Further press materials available [here](#).

A fighting chance for Nature: Global Biodiversity Framework adopted at COP15

Montreal, 19 December: The Global Initiative to End Wildlife Crime (EWC) warmly welcomes the adoption of the [Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework](#) ('the Framework'), a much-awaited global deal aimed at halting and reversing biodiversity loss by 2030. The adoption of this Framework marks the end of a four-year negotiation process, involving 196 governments that are parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

EWC commends the Parties' ambition to ensure that the *"use, harvesting and trade of wild species is sustainable, safe and legal"* by the end of the decade, in an effort to prevent overexploitation and reduce *"the risk of pathogen spill-over"* (Target 5). This is to be done *"while respecting and protecting customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities"* (Targets 5 and 9). With over [1 million](#) plant and animal species facing extinction, many within decades, and the ever-present risk of zoonotic spill-over from wild animals to humans, tackling unsustainable, unsafe and illegal exploitation of wildlife has never been more urgent.

For this reason, EWC warmly welcomes the adoption of a decision on ["Biodiversity and health"](#), which notes the ongoing efforts to draft and negotiate a [Pandemic Instrument](#) under the World Health Organization (WHO) and encourages Parties to *"further integrate the One Health approach"* in their national biodiversity strategies and action plans. A reference to a One Health Approach can also be found in Section C, 25 of the Framework, establishing that it should *"be implemented with consideration of the One Health Approach [...] and aim to sustainably balance and optimize, the health of people, animals, plants and ecosystems"*.

"The adoption of a new, ambitious, well-funded Global Biodiversity Framework to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030 is a major milestone. What will be historic is achieving the targets this time around. It is now all about implementation and new funding offers reason for optimism" said John E. Scanlon AO, Chair of EWC, who attended CoP15 in Montreal and the Geneva session of the Open-ended Working Group.

*"The final text of the Framework reflects the ambition our natural world desperately needs to recover and prosper. However, **the text of any agreement is only as good as its implementation.** The history of the 2010 target and the 2020 Aichi Targets teaches us that **we need more than a good agreement if we are to succeed**"* added Scanlon.

EWC applauds the tireless work of the 196 CBD Parties, as well as the vital contribution of the two Co-chairs Basile van Havre (Canada) and Francis Ogwal (Uganda), and the Convention's Secretariat, well-led by its Executive Secretary, Elizabeth Mrema. EWC also recognises the invaluable inputs of indigenous peoples, civil society and the private sector during this lengthy process

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EWC's previous submissions on the Zero Draft, the First Draft of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, including the Addendum to its second submission, the Post-Nairobi Revised Draft, as well as the final draft recommendation submitted by the Co-Chairs are available on the "Resources" section of the EWC [website](#).

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The Global Initiative to End Wildlife Crime is an initiative of organizations working on wildlife crime and trade related issues and is hosted by the Hong Kong based [ADM Capital Foundation](#), chaired by John E. Scanlon AO and with a Steering Group comprising the [African Wildlife Foundation](#), the [Born Free Foundation](#), Freeland, the [Global Environmental Institute](#), the [International Conservation Caucus Foundation Group](#), and [The Food and Land Use Coalition](#) (represented by [SYSTEMIQ](#)). More information on the Initiative, including its Steering Group, the organizations that have signed up as Champions of the Initiative, and its Special Advisers and Supporters, can be found on the [EWC website](#).

