

Oral statement by the Secretariat in connection with draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.33/Rev.1 entitled "Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its contribution to sustainable development"

1. The present oral statement is made in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

2. Under the terms of operative paragraph 6 of draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.33/Rev.1, the General Assembly would:

"decide to convene a summit on biodiversity at the level of heads of States, within existing resources, before the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, in 2020, in order to highlight the urgency of action at the highest levels in support of a post-2020 global biodiversity framework which contributes to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and places the global community on a path towards realizing the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity".

3. With regard to the summit on biodiversity in operative paragraph 6 of the draft resolution, it is understood that issues related to the summit including the date, format and scope are yet to be determined. Accordingly, in the absence of modalities for the summit, it is not possible at the present time to estimate the potential costs implications of the requirements for support services, including the meeting and documentation. Upon the decision on the modalities of the summit, the Secretary-General would submit the relevant costs of such requirements in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

4. Accordingly, adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/73/L.33/Rev.1 would not give rise to any budgetary implications under the programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019.

5. With regard to the reference to existing resources in operative paragraph 6 of the draft resolution, the attention of the Committee is also drawn to the provisions of section VI of General Assembly resolution 45/248 B of 21 December 1990, and subsequent resolutions, the latest of which is resolution 72/261 of 24 December 2017, in which the Assembly reaffirmed that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and

budgetary matters, and reaffirmed the role of the Fifth Committee in carrying out a thorough analysis and approving human and financial resources and policies, with a view to ensuring full, effective and efficient implementation of all mandated programmes and activities and the implementation of policies in this regard.