

October 2, 2023

Dr. David Cooper  
Acting Executive Secretary  
Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity  
413 Saint-Jacques Street, Suite 800  
Montréal, QC H2Y 1N9, Canada

Dear Acting Executive Secretary Cooper:

I am writing to you on behalf of *the Group of Leading Subnational-governments toward Global Biodiversity Targets (GoLS)*, which consists of 9 subnational governments including Aichi, ANAAE, Campeche, Catalonia, Gangwon, Jiangsu, Ontario, Quebec, and Sao Paulo with support from Regions4, ICLEI, and last but not least, the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

On the occasion of SBSTTA25 in Nairobi as the full start of the new phase within the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, we sincerely respect your exceptional leadership and express strong support for your continuous efforts to pave the way for achieving GBF goals and targets.

In the name of *the Group of Leading Subnational-governments*, we would like to take this opportunity to reiterate that we do deliver on our strong commitment to contribute to the GBF by fostering its implementation, promoting the whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach, sharing our experiences with the international community and evolving as pioneers to spark transformative change.

We expect fruitful discussions at SBSTTA25 and toward next year's COP16.

Sincerely yours,



Hideaki Ohmura  
Governor  
Aichi Prefecture, Japan