

Thank you Mr Co-chair,

I speak on behalf of the participating members of the Public Research and Regulation Initiative, PRRI.

Mr. Co-Chair, we very much agree with the statements by Parties that the Post2020 targets and should be science-based and consistent with the CBD and its protocols.

We refer to the current drafting of Target 16 of the Post2020 GBF, the first part of the which (up to “health”) is neither science based (there is no basis to speak in a general sense of risks associated with biotechnology) nor is it consistent with the CBD and its protocols.

We therefore believe that the first part of this sentence should read: “By 2030, establish or maintain means to regulate, manage or control the risks associated with the use and release of living modified organisms resulting from biotechnology which are likely to have adverse environmental impacts that could affect the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, taking also into account the risks to human health”.

The second part of Target 16, “i.e. “reducing these impacts by [X]”, makes little scientific sense because this part of the text changes suddenly from ‘risks’ to ‘these impacts’, while no impacts have been identified. We therefore believe that this part of Target 16 should be deleted.

Thank you Mr Co-chair.