



**Open-Ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework –**

**Third meeting, 14 – 29 March 2022**

**Alliance for Science, PRRI and Youth Biotech statement on Post2020 GBF Target 17**

Thank you Chair

I speak on behalf of the Alliance for Science, PRRI and Youth Biotech, which are organisations that are active in research in and transfer of biotechnology for the common good.

Our responses to the three guiding questions are as follows:

As regards Question 1: with regard to biosafety, Target 17 should focus on LMOS.

In reply to Question 2, whether Target 17 should address the positive impacts of biotechnology, we respond with a resounding 'yes!', because the whole reason why Governments and International Organisations are investing in biotechnology research for the common good is because of the anticipated benefits, as recognised in article 16 of the CBD.

We therefore propose adding a reference to the benefits at the start of the target, so that the target would read: "Foster and advance applications of biotechnology that can be beneficial to the objectives of the convention. Further, establish, strengthen capacity for, and implement measures in all countries to ensure an adequate level of protection in the field of the safe transfer, handling and use of LMOs that may have adverse effects on biodiversity and human health".

Thank you Chair