

Political Monitoring

Biodiversity politics in Belgian parliaments Questions and Discussions

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What is the BBNJ treaty ?

In March this year, a historic agreement was reached among UN member states to protect biodiversity in the high seas. The agreement, known as the BBNJ treaty ("Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction"), is a legally binding pact that took many years of negotiation to develop. **Currently, only 1 percent of the high seas are protected, making this treaty a crucial step forward in preserving our oceans.**

Under the BBNJ treaty, countries will collaborate to establish networks of marine protected areas and will have to conduct environmental impact assessments of proposed activities on the high seas. Economic interests and sharing of benefits from the use of marine genetic resources were major points of contention during the negotiations.

Before the treaty can be put into action, 60 national governments must formally adopt and ratify this agreement. Once in force, **it will be an essential tool in achieving the 30x30 pledge made by Parties at the UN Biodiversity conference last December, which aims to protect a third of the sea and of land by 2030.**

The BBNJ treaty is an extraordinary diplomatic achievement, particularly in light of the East-West geopolitical rivalry and growing North-South frictions on climate and development issues. Its successful implementation will be vital in preserving the health of our oceans and protecting the future of our planet.



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- Questions jointes Greet Daems et Daniel Senesael à Zakia Khattabi sur "L'utilisation de pesticides interdits au niveau européen"
- Samengevoegde vragen van Greet Daems en Daniel Senesael aan Zakia Khattabi over "Het gebruik van pesticiden die in de EU verboden zijn"



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Question d'actualité de M. Florent à Mme Tellier sur "Les résolutions adoptées dans le cadre des Assises de la forêt"



8. 19/04/2023 | Commissie voor Leefmilieu, Natuur, Ruimtelijke Ordening en Energie | [here](#)

Vraag van Emmily Talpe aan Zuhail Demir over "De alarmerende evolutie van de bijenpopulatie in Vlaanderen"

9. 12/04/2023 | Commissie voor Leefmilieu, Natuur, Ruimtelijke Ordening en Energie | [here](#)

Vraag van Steven Coenegrachts aan Zuhail Demir over "Aanwezigheid wolf - Automatische erkenning tot Natura2000-gebied"

10. 30/03/2023 | Commissie voor Leefmilieu, Natuur, Ruimtelijke Ordening en Energie | [here](#)

Vraag van Brecht Warnez aan Zuhail Demir over "Erkenning natuurreservaten - West-Vlaanderen"

11. 29/03/2023 | Commissie voor Landbouw, Visserij en Plattelandsbeleid | [here](#)

Vraag van Bart Dochy aan Hilde Crevits over "Het toekomstige actieplan ter bescherming van de mariene ecosystemen en het aanpakken van de boomkorvisserij"

12. 08/03/2023 | Plenaire vergadering | [here](#)

Vraag van Tinne Rombouts aan Zuhail Demir over "Het akkoord tussen de natuur- en landbouworganisaties betreffende een nieuw mestactieplan"



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Questions jointes de Mme Austraet et Mme Parmentier concernant "La prise en compte du bien-être animal dans l'encadrement de la pêche en Région bruxelloise et l'aménagement et la gestion des étangs de pêche pour y favoriser la biodiversité"



13. 01/03/2023 | Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

- [Debating on the outcome of the COP 15 of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora \(CITES\)](#)

The political monitoring of the Belgian National Focal Point to the Convention on Biological Diversity carries out research on biodiversity and ecosystem-related topics at the level of the different Belgian legislative institutions: the Chamber, the Senate, the Walloon parliament, the parliament of the Walloon-Brussels federation, the Flemish parliament, the Brussels parliament and the European parliament. The monitoring aims to give a non-exhaustive overview of the different ongoing policy developments related to biodiversity and ecosystem services in these legislative institutions.

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