

Summary of dialogue meeting on Danish participation in COP17

Below is a summary of the key points from the online dialogue meeting on COP17, hosted by DI, Danish Ministry of Green Transition and State of Green.

The Danish presence at COP17

State of Green has extensive experience with the climate COPs as **organiser** and coordinator of the Danish pavilion. However, biodiversity COPs are generally smaller and structured differently. For COP17, DI and State of Green are exploring different formats for an official Danish presence.

Kommenterede [KA1]: Altid i tvivl om det er z eller s?

An official Danish delegation will be coordinated if there is a critical mass of interest and participation of companies, organizations etc.

A survey has been sent out to clarify the interest

Possible formats for a coordinated Danish presence include:

- A **Danish pavilion**, allowing for organised events and presentations
- A **shared Danish meeting point**, enabling networking for Danish participants

A coordinated Nordic collaboration is furthermore being explored.

Expected themes for COP17 include:

Rikke Søndergaard, the Ministry of Green Transition and Karin Klitgaard, Danish Industry presented expected themes for COP17. Their full presentations can be found [here](#).

While the detailed agenda is still developing, several political and thematic tracks are expected to be central:

- Evaluation of global progress towards the Kunming–Montreal biodiversity targets
- Discussions on future biodiversity targets beyond 2030
- Financing of biodiversity protection and mobilisation of private capital
- Strengthening synergies between biodiversity policy and other areas such as climate, agriculture and ocean governance
- Governance and benefit-sharing related to genetic resources and digital sequence information

Practical information regarding participation:

- In the case of a coordinated Danish presence, accreditation will be possible through State of Green, which collaborates with the Ministry for the Green Tripartite on the Danish delegation.

- The ministry will organise regular briefings during the conference for Danish participants, providing updates on negotiations and enabling dialogue between government representatives and companies.
- Hotels close to the venue in Yerevan are expected to fill quickly, and early booking is recommended. DI and State of Green have preliminarily reserved rooms at the Armenia Marriott Hotel Yerevan.
- Shuttle transport between the COP venue and key locations in the city is expected to be organised by the host country.

Perspectives from participating companies

- **Mads Steinmüller, Head of Climate & Nature, Danske Bank** shared experiences from participating in both COP15 and COP16. He highlighted that biodiversity COPs provide valuable opportunities to engage directly with experts, data providers, NGOs and financial institutions working on nature-related frameworks and methodologies. For Danske Bank, participation has helped build networks and gain insights that can be applied directly in their work on integrating biodiversity considerations into financial decision-making.
- **Lars Mortensen, Principal Scientist – Biodiversity and Ecology, DHI** emphasised that biodiversity COPs bring together researchers, policymakers, NGOs and industry representatives working on the latest developments in biodiversity. For organisations working with applied research and innovation, the COP provides important insight into emerging trends, scientific developments and policy directions, as well as opportunities to build international partnerships.

Nina Milling Riiser, Public Affairs Director, Pandora explained that Pandora's participation at COP16 was primarily focused on learning and understanding emerging biodiversity trends and policy developments. As a consumer brand, Pandora used the COP to explore how biodiversity and circularity agendas may shape future expectations and reporting requirements, as well as to identify relevant partners and positioning opportunities within the global biodiversity discussion.

Responses to questions raised during the COP17 information meeting

Security / situation in Iran and the Middle East: DI noted that the situation is being monitored closely (as is the Danish Government). It is difficult to predict developments, but at present there are no indications of issues affecting COP17 in Armenia, and planning continues. The situation will be followed closely going forward.

Does the Danish delegation typically influence the agenda / contribute to the agenda?

The COP agenda is largely fixed, so it is not possible to influence it directly. Denmark will coordinate through the EU process, as usual. However, organisers experience significant flexibility from the host side regarding the format and content of Denmark's presence (e.g., side events, meeting formats). The earlier Denmark provides input, the easier it is to accommodate priorities—hence the early dialogue.

Nordic cooperation: A Nordic collaboration was highlighted as a relevant option (e.g., a joint event or shared set-up). A key aim is to avoid a purely Danish-to-Danish dialogue and ensure international engagement. Whether this is pursued depends on participant interest and perceived value.

Greenland's role: The Kingdom of Denmark perspective is included, and there is close dialogue with Greenland and Greenlandic stakeholders as part of the planning.

Using Danish government-to-government partnerships at COP (e.g., Thailand): While the negotiation table is fixed, it was considered a very good idea to use Denmark's public-sector partnerships actively in side events and Denmark-led activities. Participants were encouraged to propose ideas for joint activities that could be showcased.

Business & Biodiversity conference ahead of COP: At this stage, it is not yet confirmed whether a Business & Biodiversity conference will take place in the days before COP. Updates will be shared as soon as confirmed through the COP biodiversity news updates.

Denmark's 7th National Report to the CBD: The report is slightly delayed, but Denmark expects to submit it shortly after the UN Ocean Conference.

Canada + Nordics as a potential grouping: This point was not addressed specifically during the meeting.

Next steps

- Based on the dialogue meeting and the upcoming survey, Danish Industry and State of Green will work to identify the interest in an official Danish delegation and what the shared priorities, themes and messages are.
- Please share your input through the survey [here](#)

All participants in the dialogue meeting will receive updates about COP17 going forward but can easily unsubscribe from COP17 updates in the email flow.