

Date 12/04/2026

Dear Sir/Madam,

Submission of Rio Institute peer review input on the Synthetic Biology Independent Study

I am writing on behalf of Rio Institute to formally endorse the attached comments submitted in response to the independent study on synthetic biology commissioned under Decision 16/21 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

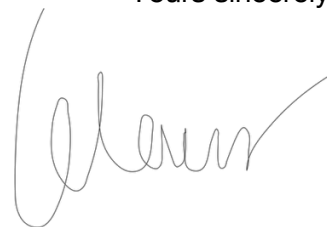
We would like to express our appreciation for the effort undertaken in preparing this study. Our comments are intended to support and strengthen the study by enhancing its methodological robustness, analytical balance, and policy relevance. In particular, we have sought to provide constructive input on:

- The transparency and inclusiveness of the methodological approach;
- The balance between opportunities, risks, and uncertainties associated with synthetic biology applications;
- The interpretation of evidence, including literature, patent data, and stakeholder inputs;
- The treatment of cross-cutting issues such as biosafety, governance, and equitable benefit-sharing, including in relation to KMGBF Target 17.

We emphasize that our observations are provided in a constructive spirit, with the aim of supporting a comprehensive, balanced, and policy-relevant evidence base to inform deliberations under the Convention and its Protocols.

We remain at your disposal should any clarification be required and would be pleased to engage further in this process.

Yours sincerely,



Nicolas Laarman
Rio Institute Director