

Sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity

21 October–1 November 2024 - Cali, Colombia

Item 22: Biodiversity and health

Thank you, Chair

I am speaking on behalf of the CBD Women's Caucus.

Historically, women have been the backbone of health and caregiving in our societies. Today, in the midst of biodiversity loss, we recognize that these challenges disproportionately affect women, with risks varying according to gender, class, ethnicity, age, and geographic location.

We call for collaboration between various entities and frameworks, such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Global Framework on Chemicals. Additionally, we emphasize the need to facilitate national dialogues and knowledge-sharing platforms and events to strengthen the capacities of women in the health sector.

To enhance the positive role of biodiversity in all aspects of health and well-being, we call for the adoption of a preventive approach that promotes awareness-raising and education policies on the interconnections between biodiversity and health.

We also remark the importance of the disaggregated data that makes visible the ways in which the environmental crisis impacts women's health.

In this regard, we suggest the following text modifications to the document ***CBD/COP/16/2/ Rev.1 Item 22***

- In preambular paragraph 11, in line 3, to lift the brackets starting in “recognized, inter alia, the interdependent crisis of climate change....” and Until the end of the pp11
- In Annex I paragraph 7(g) line 2, after “youth” add women
- In section III, subsection A. General actions
- Paragraph 12(b) line 2, add after “including” indigenous peoples and local communities, women, childrens and youth

We would like to ask Parties for support.

Thank you.

For more information:

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The CBD Women's Caucus (CBD WC) serves as the recognized women's constituency within the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). It stands as a self-organised global platform, supporting women and girls worldwide to advocate for their rights within biodiversity-related decision-making processes across all levels.

To find out more about the CBD WC visit <https://cbd womenscaucus.org>