

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

21 October–1 November 2024 - Cali, Colombia

Item 13: Cooperation with international organizations and bodies established under other conventions

Thank you, Chair

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

We want to focus on synergies that benefit urgent action, avoiding contradictory pathways in addressing biodiversity loss, climate change and land degradation; especially considering that women and girls are the most affected by this planetary crisis including conflict.

Our experience as actors in biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, including the use and transmission of knowledge related to food systems and genetic resources for food and agriculture, will certainly guide FAO, UNEP, the Rio Conventions and the private sector in designing their approaches to sustainable agriculture and sustainable food systems.

In this regard, we suggest the following text modifications to the document *CBD/COP/16/2/Rev.1* on Item 13:

- In paragraph 6, line 2, insert “, **including Indigenous Peoples, local communities, women, youth and the private sector,**”
- In paragraph 16, line 4, after the wording “are not harmful to” to add “**neither to people and their livelihoods nor to**”

Furthermore, considering the need to keep track of the ongoing harmful impacts of mercury used in gold mining, not only on ecosystems but on the life and livelihoods of women, youth, Indigenous Peoples and local communities, we ask for the inclusion of a specific paragraph as follows:



- **16. Bis** *Calls upon* the secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury to develop mechanisms to report on the impacts of mercury on human and ecosystems health, derived from legal and illegal, artisanal, small, medium and large scale gold mining, particularly on the health, life and livelihoods of women, youth, Indigenous Peoples and local communities;

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>