

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

21 October–1 November 2024 - Cali, Colombia

Item 14: Implementation of Article 8(j) and Related Provisions

Thank you, Chair

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

We endorse establishing the Subsidiary body for Article 8(j), and its New Programme of Work.

We hope all decisions emerging from the deliberation on Article 8(j) and related provisions have proactive gender-responsive language that reflects the above. It is important to strengthen the visibility of Indigenous AND local women by explicitly including them in the text of the new PoW and other decisions. This inclusion is crucial for acknowledging and supporting their contributions.

Acknowledging that the new PoW recognizes that the Gender Plan of Action informs its implementation, relevant sections should be guided by GPA for gender considerations to be systematically integrated.

We encourage Parties to raise the ambition of the Human Rights component to match the agreement already made in 2022 in the GPA: "Objective 1.5 Identify and eliminate, prevent and respond to all forms of gender-based discrimination and violence, in particular, concerning control, ownership and access to sustainable use and conservation of biodiversity, including protecting women environmental human rights defenders and park rangers."

In this regard, we suggest the following text modifications to the document *CBD/COP/16/2/Rev.1* on Item 14:

Under section "Development of a new programme of work"

- In paragraph 4, replace "engage with" with "**ensure the full equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive representation and participation of**"
- In paragraph 4, lift brackets around the phrase "including women and girls, children and youth, persons with disabilities and environmental human rights defenders".

- In paragraph 5 lift brackets around “participation of indigenous peoples and local communities, including women, youth and environmental defenders”.
- In same paragraph adjust language to include Target 22 wording of **“equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive representation and participation”**

In the annex “Draft programme of work on Article 8(j)”

- In element 7, retain the tasks 7.1, 7.1 ter and 7.2 alt
- In the heading of element 8, lift brackets around “Direct access”, as well as on its description and task 8.2
- In same element retain tasks 8.2 bis and 8.3

In the section on “Institutional arrangements”

- Lift brackets around paragraph 4
- In the same paragraph, after “local communities” to add **“including women and youth within them”**

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>