

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

21 October–1 November 2024 - Cali, Colombia

Item 18: Diverse values of biodiversity

Thank you, Chair.

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

As proud representatives of women in all their diversity, the CBD Women's Caucus welcomes the *Methodological Assessment* report by IPBES to guide decision-making on the diverse values and valuation of biodiversity and natural resources.

This report crucially recognises the unique perspectives of women and girls, underscoring the importance of gender justice and the inclusion of their rights in global biodiversity policies.

Knowing and accepting diversity is key to achieving peace with nature.

What is needed now is for this guidance to be reflected in a stronger emphasis on implementation and the enabling conditions that specifically consider the roles of women and girls. This should align with the Global Biodiversity Framework's Targets 22 and 23, as well as the Gender Plan of Action.

In this regard, we suggest the following text edits in the draft decision on **Diverse values of biodiversity (Item 18)** for document *CBD/COP/16/2/Rev.1*

In paragraph 3, in line with focusing on implementation, **remove square brackets from "Endorses"; and refer to the complete assessment and not only to the summary for policymakers.**

In paragraph 5, the COP should urge parties and other stakeholders at all levels to use this assessment. Therefore, instead of **"Encourages,"** the paragraph should start with **"Urges".**

In paragraph 6, we ask for the substitution of *Encourages* for **Request**. And in line 5 of the same paragraph, after "to provide support to developing countries", include women, youth, Indigenous Peoples, and local communities.



Regarding paragraph 7, Parties should be **urged**, rather than merely encouraged. Additionally, we call for **retain paragraph 7(c)**, considering not only environmental but also **adding gender justice**, in line 3.

In 7(d) we emphasize that the implementation of Target 14 of the Global Biodiversity Framework should **not only consider but prioritize** the assessment of diverse values of nature.

Finally, in paragraph 8, Parties should be further **urged** to ensure that the contributions of women and girls, youth, Indigenous Peoples, and local communities are fully considered through their equitable, inclusive, effective, and gender-responsive representation and participation. We ask for the inclusion of a reference to **“ongoing and new valuation processes”** in line 4.

We thank the Parties for their support.

Thank you Chair.

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>