

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

21 October–1 November 2024 - Cali, Colombia

ITEM 9: Digital Sequence Information on Genetic Resources

Thank you, Chair

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

Fairness and accountability are crucial for equitable benefit-sharing from the utilisation of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, including regarding the use of DSI. In this context, transparent, collaborative, and accountable processes that meet the needs of women and girls should be ensured. This entails that all commercial users of DSI shall share monetary benefits, including all existing databases.

In this regard, we suggest the following text modifications to the document *CBD/COP/16/2/Rev.1* on Item 9:

- In the annex addressing the operationalizing of the multilateral mechanism, in paragraph 1 lift all the brackets.
- In the same paragraph 1, second line, after “share monetary”; delete “~~or~~” and include “**and**”, so it reads “**shall share monetary and non-monetary**”.
- In paragraph 19, in line 3, delete “set aside” and add “**directly allocated in an effective, timely and easily accessible manner**”.

Regarding the indicative list of elements in Enclosure B and Enclosure C, these should include the reference to women and youth when addressing capacity needs, and all implications regarding respect to rights should be considered.

- Therefore, in enclosure B para (b) insert “**, including women and youth**” after local communities.
- And in enclosure D para (j) replace the word “~~possible~~”, with “**any**” before the word “implications” in the last line.

We would like to ask Parties for support.

Thank you.

For more information:

Amelia Arreguín Prado, CBD Women's Caucus Coordinator, coordination@cbd womenscaucus.org

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>