



CBD Women

Position paper for CBD COP16.12

This document outlines the CBD Women's Caucus (CBD WC) positions for the resumed sessions of the 16th Conference of the Parties (COP16.2).

Our aim is to ensure that gender-responsive approaches cross cut the funding, implementation and monitoring, reporting and review of, both, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) and the Gender Plan of Action (GPA).

1. Monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

The CBD WC welcomes the decision on the Monitoring framework for the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the flexibility built into the text to allow for an effective, inclusive and contextually-relevant application of the MF at national level. The draft decision underscores the importance of developing and using national monitoring frameworks that can enable the effective and gender-responsive measuring of progress in the implementation of the NBSAPs, including tracking progress on gender equality and women's rights in the implementation of the GBF.

To this effect, as per Decision 15/06 and 15/11, CBD WC urges Parties to make use of gender specific indicators in implementation, monitoring and reporting in the seventh national report, beyond binary indicators. In the absence of a headline indicator for Target 23, the adoption of the component indicator on the implementation of the Gender Plan of Action and relevant SDGs indicators among complementary indicators are crucial.

Moreover, CBD WC reiterates the importance of taking into consideration Section C including by also collecting disaggregated data by sex/gender, and drawing on multiple sources of evidence and knowledge systems to measure progress effectively and inclusively, and in gender-responsive ways. This approach can help capture the specific impacts on women and girls as well as the contributions of women to biodiversity conservation and its sustainable use.



Find here our proposal text recommendations for the document [CBD/COP/16/L.26](#)



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2. Mechanisms for planning, monitoring, reporting and review, including the global review of collective progress in the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework

The CBD WC welcomes the draft decision submitted by the President, and reiterates the importance of a comprehensive, effective, fully inclusive and gender-responsive process based on whole-of-society and whole-of-government approaches for planning, monitoring, reporting and review, including the global review of collective progress.

An inclusive approach requires that women and other rights holders are enabled and supported to participate and share, including by submitting their contributions to the targets and goals of the GBF. In particular, CBD WC urges the CBD Secretariat and Parties to ensure that the mid-term review of the Gender Plan of Action as referred to in paragraph 9 of Decision 15/11 be fully taken into consideration and inform the outcome of the global review.

 [Find here our proposal text recommendations for the document CBD/COP/16/L.33](#)

3. Cooperation with other conventions and international organisations

For the CBD WC, cooperation between the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and other multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs), as well as social and economic forums—particularly those focusing on human rights—essential for the effective implementation of the GBF - CBD Women's Caucus would continue advocate the full, equitable, inclusive, and gender-responsive representation and participation of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, people of African descent, women and youth.

The CBD WC urges Parties to:

- Promote and ensure alignment as well as expertise sharing between the CBD and key international fora and agencies, among others with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Minamata Convention (on mercury use in artisanal and industrial gold mining).
- Facilitate integration of biodiversity-related considerations into the work of international organisations such as the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), by explicitly identifying, in paragraph 7 of the text decision, Indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth as partners for the future work.
- Follow the Gender Plan of Action (GPA) as its guiding framework for advancing gender equality and integrating gender considerations across all biodiversity-related conventions and international organizations, as per CBD COP Decision 15/11.

 [Find here our proposal text recommendations for the document CBD/COP/16/L.30](#)

4. Resource mobilisation

The CBD WC stresses that the resource mobilisation strategy for the implementation of the GBF and CBD should be rooted in a Human rights based approach and gender-responsive approach. In particular, when scaling up biodiversity finance through innovative schemes, it is critical to establish and enforce robust environmental, social and human rights safeguards, to ensure that these schemes do not adversely impact marginalised groups or perpetuate existing inequalities.

At the same time, the CBD WC urges Parties to include specific provisions in the Strategy to:

- Dedicate financial resources to ensure the full and timely implementation of the Gender Plan of Action (GPA), and the Target 23 of the GBF.
- Improve direct access modalities to financial resources to enable women and girls to contribute effectively to the implementation of the Convention, its protocols, and the GBF.
- Provide funding to support collective activities and capacity-building initiatives led by women and girls.
- Ensure a balance between market-based and non-market-based solutions to close the biodiversity funding gap.

 [Find here our proposal text recommendations for the document CBD/COP/16/L.34](#)

5. Financial mechanism

As women and girls, particularly those from Indigenous Peoples, local communities, and people of African descent are vital contributors to biodiversity conservation and restoration, it is critical that any financial mechanism supporting the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), particularly the Global Environment Facility (GEF), should support their roles through targeted financial resources and ensuring its governance is essential equitable, inclusive, and gender-responsive.

To support these efforts, the CBD WC calls for the following actions:

- The GEF and relevant bilateral and multilateral funding organisations must provide technical and dedicated financial resources for the implementation of CBD's Gender Plan of Action (GPA) as per Decision 15/11.
- The GEF must ensure, from its ninth replenishment onwards, direct access to funding for Indigenous Peoples, local communities, people of African descent, women, and youth.
- The GEF must reform its governance and decision-making structures to ensure the full, equitable, inclusive, and gender-responsive representation and participation of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, people of African descent, women, and youth.
- The GEF's reporting to the CBD COP should be disaggregated by ethnicity, gender, and age to enhance transparency regarding access and benefits received by local actors from biodiversity finance.

 [Find here our proposal text recommendations for the document CBD/COP/16/L.31](#)

6. Multi-year programme of work of the Conference of the Parties

The CBD Women's Caucus (CBD WC) welcomes the draft decision on the Multi-year programme of work of the Conference of the Parties, and we welcome the consideration of the Gender Plan of Action as a point in the agendas for COP17 and COP19. Nevertheless to ensure the upcoming COPs remain inclusive and effective, as a critical tool for advancing the objectives of the GBF, **we recommend the following:**

- Retain paragraph 4 of the Decision, mandating the Secretariat and convention bodies' bureaux to advance the review of programmes of work and cross-cutting issues.
- Maintain flexibility within the programme of work to accommodate emerging issues and priorities. For instance, retaining "literal f" on the COP18 agenda list would allow for the inclusion of additional relevant items.
- Enhance opportunities for stakeholder engagement, ensuring that women's groups and other rights holders have meaningful participation in shaping and reviewing the programme of work.

 **Find here our proposal text recommendations for the document [CBD/COP/16/L.23](#)**

The CBD Women's Caucus (CBD WC) is the 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.



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