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## **Subsidiary Body on Implementation**

Sixth meeting

Rome, 16–19 February 2026

### **Agenda Item 5. Midterm review of the implementation of the Gender Plan of Action 2023–2030.**

Thank you, Chair

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

In light of the findings of the mid-term review and the current minimal implementation of the Gender Plan of Action, we wish to highlight the following considerations for Parties' reflection.

The current review of the Gender Plan of Action reveals significant data gaps that limit a systematic assessment of progress and can limit the accountability and effectiveness of its implementation through 2030. A comprehensive, evidence-based end-of-term assessment and integrated with the global review of the Eighth National Reports at COP19, is essential to clearly identify progress, gaps, resource needs, and the critical contributions of women to the Global Biodiversity Framework.

Women's organisations still face major barriers to participating in the implementation, monitoring and reporting of the Gender Plan of Action — including accreditation and accessibility challenges, limited resources, technical and digital challenges, socio-cultural constraints, and risks of Gender Based Violence.

In this context, formal recognition of the CBD Women's Caucus is paramount. As the women's major group for CBD, the CBD WC - a self-organised global platform - provides an established mechanism through which these barriers can be addressed in practice. Formal recognition would facilitate structured communication, information flow, and participation pathways between women's organisations and the Convention processes, directly strengthening the implementation, monitoring and review of the Gender Plan of Action.

Despite some progress in data disaggregation, gender- and biodiversity-specific data remain insufficient and fragmented in many contexts, limiting effective monitoring, evaluation, and accountability. An established methodology for a component indicator on national implementation of the Gender Plan of Action was peer-reviewed by Parties and formally adopted at COP-16. In this context, Parties may wish to consider approaches to encourage the integration of this indicator into their NBSAPs and national targets, so that it can serve a dual purpose: supporting national reporting under the Gender Plan of Action while also contributing to streamlined reporting through national reports.

Community-generated data and diverse knowledge systems, including Indigenous, traditional, and local knowledge, and women's specialized knowledge, are essential for

capturing lived experiences of the implementation of the Gender Plan of Action and Target 23, and should be recognised as complementary and credible sources of evidence. Parties are encouraged to collaborate with women's organisations, including the CBD Women's Caucus, Indigenous Peoples, and local communities, to strengthen pathways for integrating these knowledge systems and data into planning, monitoring, and implementation processes.

It is important to recall that Target 23 is not limited to women's participation in decision-making. It requires the recognition of equal rights and access to land and natural resources, and the integration of gender equality across the implementation of the entire KM-GBF through a gender-responsive approach. The Gender Plan of Action is the operational tool already agreed by Parties to enable this. Advancing full implementation of the GPA is therefore one of the most direct and practical pathways for Parties to implement Target 23

Drawing on key lessons identified in the mid-term review, there is a clear need to strengthen access to gender-responsive and dedicated funding, including by addressing priority resource and capacity gaps, supporting the strategic allocation of budgets at global and national levels, and improving direct access to funding for women-led grassroots organisations. Ensuring adequate and predictable resources for gender and biodiversity focal points is essential to enable sustained, effective, and gender-responsive implementation of the Gender Plan of Action. Evenmore, additional budgetary resources are required to enable the Secretariat to fully implement the activities under its mandate that have not yet been realized at this stage of the review.

**In this regard, we propose the following textual adjustments to the document (CBD/SBI/6/5):**

*In the "Recommendations" section:*

**1.bis Welcomes actions and initiatives undertaken by Parties, CBD Women's Caucus, other women's groups and stakeholders to promote and support the implementation of the Gender Plan of Action.**

2. **Urges Encourages** Parties, other Governments, subnational governments, cities and other local authorities and relevant organizations to continue and strengthen their efforts to implement the Gender Plan of Action, **in its entirety, and support the gender-responsive implementation of the KM-GBF as under Decision 15/6** in particular by:

(a) Integrating gender-responsive approaches across all biodiversity-related policies, strategies, actions **and budgets** in line with **all the elements of** Target 23 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework;

(b) Ensuring the full, equitable, **effective, inclusive** meaningful and informed participation of women and girls **in all their diversity** and **enabling** the leadership of women, including those from indigenous peoples and local communities, in biodiversity-related **policy- and** decision-making at all levels;

**(b. bis) Recognizing, documenting and reporting the roles and contributions of women, through collaboration with women groups, networks and organizations at all levels, including the CBD Women Caucus.**

(c) Enhancing efforts to generate, use and report gender-disaggregated data, to support monitoring **with gender-specific indicators** and the evaluation of progress with the implementation of the Plan of Action;

(d) ~~Promoting the Allocating~~ of adequate, **accessible and timely financial and technical resources for and women-led initiatives and** strengthening institutional capacity **for an effective** gender-responsive implementation of the Plan of Action ~~including through targeted support for women-led initiatives, especially among indigenous peoples and local communities~~ **including the role of Gender and Biodiversity National focal points.**

**(e) Building capacities and expertise at all levels through engagement and collaboration with women groups, networks and associations, including the CBD Women's Caucus and other relevant experts to support a whole-of-society, inclusive implementation of gender-responsive policies, budgets and programmes, and ensure gender expertise is included in all advisory and expert bodies under the Convention on Biological Diversity**

**(f) Enhance efforts to build synergies with gender plans or strategies under other Rio Conventions and other relevant multilateral environmental agreements**

3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary, ~~subject to the availability of resources,~~ to continue to support Parties in the implementation of the Gender Plan of Action, including through technical guidance, capacity-building and knowledge exchange, in collaboration with indigenous peoples and local communities, women, youth and relevant stakeholders, in collaboration with the regional and subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres

**3.bis Requests the Executive Secretary to conduct a systematic and comprehensive end-of-term assessment of the implementation of the Gender Plan of Action, to be integrated with the global review of Eighth National Reports at COP19.**

**We would like to ask Parties for support.**

**Thank you.**

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. For more information: [coordination@cbdwomenscaucus.org](mailto:coordination@cbdwomenscaucus.org)