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Subsidiary Body on Implementation

Seventh meeting

Nairobi, 4–12 August 2026

Agenda Item 5. Digital sequence information on genetic resources

Thank you, Chair

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

The multilateral mechanism and the Cali Fund must ensure that the governance and use of digital sequence information is equitable, transparent and rights-based. We call for the full, equitable, effective and gender-responsive participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities and people of African descent, including women and youth, throughout the governance, implementation, monitoring and review of the mechanism. The implementation of the MLM should strengthen fair and equitable benefit-sharing, respect customary governance and traditional knowledge, and prioritize equitable access to monetary and non-monetary benefits. Transparency, accountability and responsible data governance, consistent with the CARE Principles, are essential to ensure that the use of DSI contributes to biodiversity conservation while respecting the rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

In this regard, we propose the following textual adjustments to document CBD/SBI/7/5

In section "III. Elements of a draft recommendation "

Paragraph 31. 5 (a) Indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth from these communities, with the support of Parties; and, as appropriate, relevant organizations and initiatives; to develop educational material for the use of database operators, scientific and research institutions, the Secretariat and other stakeholders, as relevant, on the management and governance of data linked to indigenous peoples and local communities including women and youth from these communities and their traditional knowledge, providing guidance for digital sequence information on genetic resources users and researchers, including for scientific publications on research using digital sequence information on genetic resources;

Paragraph 31. 5 ((b) Database managers and users to develop and implement: (i) standardized metadata supporting improved accessibility, transparency and accountability in databases; including, as appropriate, information on country of origin, associated traditional knowledge and other relevant information to safeguard the rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, and women and youth from those communities and (ii) a process for the ~~incremental~~ monitoring of alignment with the CARE

(collective benefit, authority to control, responsibility, ethics) principles for indigenous data governance;

Paragraph 8. (b) To develop educational material on the Convention on its access and benefit-sharing obligations and expectations for use by database operators, scientific and research institutions and other stakeholders, as relevant; including on responsible data governance, transparency, accountability and equitable benefit-sharing.

We would like to ask Parties for support.

Thank you.

Refer to [CBD/SBI/7/5](#) for a full set of textual recommendations.

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@cbd womenscaucus.org