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Subsidiary Body on Implementation

Seventh meeting

Nairobi, 4–12 August 2026

Agenda Item 8. Synthetic biology: thematic action plan to support capacity-building and development, access to and transfer of technology and knowledge-sharing

Thank you, Chair

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

The Thematic Action Plan should strengthen countries' capacities to make independent, informed and precautionary decisions on synthetic biology before promoting access, transfer or application of these technologies. Capacity-building should prioritize multidisciplinary risk assessment, biosafety, monitoring, regulation and governance, drawing on both scientific evidence and the knowledge systems of Indigenous Peoples and local communities and people of African descent. Decision-making must be transparent, inclusive and responsive to uncertainties, potential adverse impacts and knowledge gaps. The means of implementation should complement—not displace—investment in proven, low-risk and community-based biodiversity conservation approaches. The implementation of the Action Plan should be supported through additional resources that complement, rather than displace, existing investments in proven, community-based biodiversity conservation approaches.

In this regard, we propose the following textual adjustments to document CBD/SBI/7/8

In section "II. Recommendation"

Paragraph 18. 3. *Invites* Parties to consider the actions contained in the thematic action plan in the development and implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans; **based on multidisciplinary approaches to assessments, inclusive to Indigenous Peoples, women, and local communities perspectives and realities.**

We would like to ask Parties for support.

Thank you.

Refer to [CBD/SBI/7/8](#) 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