



SBSTTA-20

Montreal, Canada, 25 - 30 April 2016

Closing Statement

Mr. Chairman, distinguished delegates, IIFB would like to thank you all for the support, and especially those parties that who kindly supported us to forge a way forward on issues that IPLC wanted taken into consideration in the discussion.

The IIFB would like to thank the donors Australia, Germany, Japan, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Sweden and Switzerland for their financial contributions to the voluntary fund and thus facilitated us to be here. We are however concerned that this funding is reducing. We humbly urge parties and other donors to kindly contribute to the voluntary fund to facilitate effective participation for Indigenous peoples and local communities including Indigenous women and youth.

Mr Chairman, IPLCs are important for the implementation of the work of the convention and are contributing to the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. The IIFB is concerned on the development of reduction of time allocated to Article 8(j) at this SBSTTA 20 meeting. Target 18 is a cross-cutting and enabling target for achieving the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity. WG8j will play an important role in providing scientific and traditional knowledge to guide implementation of the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, alongside the discussions in SBSTTA.

Indigenous peoples and local communities practice holistic mainstreaming from ancestral times within a framework of reciprocity and solidarity with a focus on collective well being. This is important in order to ensure the Indigenous peoples and local communities and indigenous women and youth full and effective participation in the CBD processes.

Finally, adopting rights based approach in engaging with Indigenous Peoples and Local communities ensures the success of archiving in the implementation of the Strategic plan at all levels. We look forward to working together with you all to ensure that above points are acted on during SBI 1 meeting starting next week

Thank you Mr Chair