



SBSTTA-20

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Agenda Item 7 of the provisional agenda

**Review of IPBES assessment on pollinators, pollination and food production**

Madam Chair, this statement is made on behalf of International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB).

We thank the Secretariat for preparing the document SBSTTA/20/09, and welcome the document.

The main findings of the assessment regarding the importance of pollinators, implications of and concern over their decline and the urgency of action to reverse this decline, is a reminder of the interconnectedness of mankind with nature and to value the gift of nature for human wellbeing. The risk associated to the decline of pollinators is a direct consequence of the relationship of mankind with nature.

IIFB recognizes that the assessment is highly relevant to the implementation of the strategic plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and to the achievement of the Aichi Targets. We observed the practice of giving emphasized to one particular species of honey producing pollinator - *Apis mellifera* for commercial purposes only, undermining the existence of over 20,000 solidary and wild pollinators which are key elements of the ecosystem functioning.

Madam Chair, indigenous and local knowledge, innovations and practices such as sustainable natural resource management system, diversified production and/or integrated/multi cropping system, agro-ecological and organic farming system are pollinators friendly and offer solution to the current challenges of pollinators decline.

Our practices promotes pollinators abundance, their diversity and their preferred habitat including for foraging and nesting. The fact that the most diverse, biodiversity rich ecosystem and productive landscape are found in the areas and territories inhabited, managed and owned by Indigenous peoples and local communities is the evidence.

In this respect, IIFB would like to propose to add in the suggested recommendation in the following paragraph:

**Policies and strategies**

5. (a) To integrate consideration of issues related to the conservation and sustainable use of pollinators in agricultural policy, national biodiversity strategies and action plans, **Climate Change Adaptation Action Plans** and research policy, taking into account the values of pollinators and pollination services, inter alia, to promote the implementation of the actions below, to improve the management of pollinators, to address drivers of pollinator declines and to reduce significantly the large existing crop yield gaps due to pollination deficit;



## Enabling Policies and activities

5. (p) Develop **and implement** incentives for farmers, **indigenous peoples and local communities** to protect pollinators and pollinator habitat, for example through payment for pollinator services schemes, and remove or reduce negative incentives, such as those promoting destruction of pollinator habitat, overuse of pesticides and herbicides and oversimplification of agricultural landscapes and production systems
- 5.(q) Promote and support land-use planning and zoning, to enhance the extent and connectivity of pollinator habitats in the landscape, with the participation of farmers, **indigenous peoples and** local communities;
- 5.(r) Protect and promote, **indigenous peoples and local communities** traditional knowledge, **innovations** and practices for the conservation and sustainable use of pollinators, and protect traditional land rights and tenure to promote biocultural diversity;
5. (s) Enhance the monitoring of the status and trends of pollinators and pollinator-friendly habitats, and the identification of potential pollinator deficits using standardized methodologies **and community- based methodologies**

7. Invites the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and encourages the lead authors of the assessment to prepare an update or supplement to the assessment, focusing on recent advances as reflected in the **scientific literature and other information source**

Madam Chair, IIFB welcome

*11. to undertake a brief scoping of issues related to pollinators and pollination relevant to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in all ecosystems, beyond their role in agriculture and food production for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice at a meeting held prior to fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties;*

Thank you Mr. Chair