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**Informing the scientific and technical evidence base for the Post-2020
Global Biodiversity Framework**

Thank You Mr. Chair

We thank the Mohawk Nation for this opportunity to speak on their ancestral lands. I make this statement on behalf of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity. We thank the Co-chairs of the Post-2020 Working Group for their proposal on the structure, and we make the following comments on both this proposed structure and elements of work, providing an evidence base.

On the proposed structure, we believe there needs to be developed overarching principles that apply to all elements of the proposed Strategic Biodiversity Framework (elements of work, the means of implementation in enabling conditions, the development and evaluation of tools and solutions, actions to reduce threats, meeting peoples needs, the setting of goals and outcomes). The two most important overarching principles are equity and human rights. The report on Human Rights and Biodiversity of the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and the Environment committed to the 34th session of the Council (A/HRC/34/49) details the nexus between biodiversity and human rights to food security, water, healthy environments and ecosystems and human dignity and flourishing, among other human rights. The full enjoyment of human rights is intertwined with and cannot be separated from biodiversity. One cannot address any of the elements and targets of the post-2020 process without addressing and protecting human rights, including the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Equity encapsulates fairness, access, opportunity, advancement, inclusiveness, participation, respectful treatment and governance and is critical to the development of legitimate, just and locally informed processes for addressing and reversing biodiversity loss. The IPBES global assessment emphasizes these issues in matters such as inclusiveness and equity among knowledge systems and perspectives, collaborative management, and conservation planning. Decision UNEP/CBD/COP/DEC/8/9 recognizes that inequalities in the use of resources are a driver of biodiversity loss that can be addressed through the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. Equity must be reflected throughout the Strategic Biodiversity Framework.

In summary, human rights and equity are not only high-level obligations to motivate biodiversity conservation, they are also necessary to evaluate all processes and outcomes of the post-2020 Strategic Biodiversity Framework. IPLCs are affected both by direct and indirect drivers, and by the direct and indirect consequences of measures, policies and actions for addressing these drivers. Human rights- and equity related indicators should be developed to prevent responses that are unjust and inequitable or otherwise harmful to indigenous peoples and local communities, the poor, women and marginalized groups.



In relation to Means of Implementation and Enabling Conditions, we propose that "traditional knowledge" be expanded to encompass the full range of principles of the Convention. Article 17 on the Exchange of Information refers to "indigenous and traditional knowledge," with reference to the transfer of technologies in Article 16. As such, we propose the Means of Implementation and Enabling Conditions should refer to **"indigenous and traditional knowledge, innovations, practices and technologies" (ITKIPT).**

Another representative of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity will address in another statement. We have a number of proposals for elements of work that the IIFB will submit to the Secretariat.