

INFORMAL SESSION IN PREPARATION FOR THE THIRD MEETING OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODY ON IMPLEMENTATION

8–12, 14 March 2021

Agenda Item 11 Mainstreaming of Biodiversity within and across Sectors and other Strategic Actions to Enhance Implementation

**Statement of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB),
presented by Ms. Gunn-Britt Retter from Saami Council.**

Thank you Mr/Mdm Chair

Distinguished delegates and colleagues, I am speaking on behalf of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB).

The 2nd edition of the Local Biodiversity Outlooks (LBO 2) (<http://www.localbiodiversityoutlooks.net/>) finds that the contributions of Indigenous Peoples and local communities have been neglected and marginalized, resulting in a collective failure to achieve all 20 Aichi Biodiversity Targets. Mainstreaming biological diversity is a vital step towards the meaningful representation of the actions, governance and capacity from IPLCs into global biodiversity conservation.

In general, the IIFB is concerned that the proposed Strategies and Action Plan for Mainstreaming currently ignores the critical role of IPLCs in mainstreaming biodiversity while placing an undue emphasis on the financial and economic sectors to promote sustainable practices. We are wary of the lack of accountability mechanisms to hold stakeholders accountable to voluntary actions.

As stated in LBO 2, awareness-raising and mainstreaming of biodiversity requires a shift away from a sole focus on economic values towards diverse intrinsic, social, and cultural values across society. Mainstreaming these holistic values requires stronger action to include IPLCs as knowledge-holders and key agents of change, innovation, and transformation. As such, we propose specific

recommendations to Document CBD/SBI/3/13 and Addendum I to address these concerns.

The Global assessments by IPBES, GBO5, and LBO2 state that lands and territories of Indigenous peoples and Local Communities experience the most pressure as a result of the biodiversity crisis. These assessments also provide evidence that Indigenous-led conservation over their lands, waters, territories, and resources can reverse the trend of nature's decline. For this reason, strategic approaches to mainstreaming need to prioritize actions in the lands and territories of IPLCs, recognize IPLCs as key actors in leading conservation efforts, and mainstreaming the protection of the rights of Indigenous peoples to ensure our well-being, benefits to biodiversity, and by extension, benefits of conservation for all of humanity. Thus, we recommend that Local Biodiversity Outlooks be included as an additional mechanism to monitor and analyse progress in implementing the long-term strategic approach and action plan on the progress towards post-2020 targets.

Finally, the IIFB would like to underscore the importance of seeking and ensuring the free, prior and informed consent of Indigenous peoples, to ensure that Indigenous Peoples remain equal partners in research, decision making and implementation in mainstreaming efforts. Further, including the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples within strategic actions to mainstreaming biodiversity is a way to bring the Convention up to date with international human rights standards. The cooperation, partnership, and collaboration of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, as well as the empowerment of our governance systems, are critical to ensure that IPLCs participate as legitimate partners in achieving the new post-2020 global biodiversity targets.

We will submit the detailed proposal and the full statement in writing. We look forward to further discussions about mainstreaming in the future formal SBI meetings.

Thank you Mdm. Chair.

IIFB recommendations

As such the IIFB makes the following recommendations within CBD/SBI/3/13 and CBD/SBI/3/13/Add.1:

1. In document CBD/SBI/3/13: Section V Suggested Elements of a Draft Recommendation, para 5, we want to add a reference to the LBOs when mentioning the of report function:
 5. *Invites* Parties and other Governments, international organizations and initiatives, indigenous peoples and local communities, business and civil society organizations, as well as other stakeholders, to report their good practices, lessons learned, and other relevant experiences in implementing the long-term strategic approach and its action plan, as part of their national reports **and Local Biodiversity Outlook**;
2. For the long-term strategic approach to mainstreaming biodiversity in Document CBD/SBI/3/13, Annex II, para 4:
 - 4 a) “Address the pressures on biodiversity and the indirect or underlying drivers of biodiversity in decline, in line with recommendations such as those **from the second edition of the Local Biodiversity Outlooks**, Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services,...and from the fifth edition of the Global Biodiversity Outlooks, prioritizing **actions to address the increasing pressures on the lands and territories of Indigenous peoples.**”
3. Document CBD/SBI/3/13, Annex II, Para 6, Action 1.3 under Strategy Area I Mainstreaming biodiversity across government and its policies:

“Governments at all levels implement integrated spatial planning and management for decreasing negative and increasing positive impacts on biodiversity at landscape, seascape and urban levels, including, as appropriate, through ~~voluntary or~~ regulatory plans, and innovative policies and programmes related to economic sectors affecting biodiversity loss, respecting the mitigation hierarchy and striving towards net positive impacts.”

4. Document CBD/SBI/3/13, Annex II, Para 6, Actions 2.1 and 2.2 under Strategy Area I: Include consideration of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples for:

Action 2.1 “Prohibit, in key economic sectors, forms of incentives, including subsidies, that are harmful for biodiversity, including by redirecting them to biodiversity-positive activities, eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal biodiversity-harmful activities, and refrain from introducing new such subsidies, taking into account national socioeconomic conditions, and consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other international obligations, **including the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.**”

Action 2.2: “Develop, strengthen and apply positive incentives for the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of biodiversity, consistent and in harmony with the Convention and other relevant international obligations, , **including the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.**”

5. Document CBD/SBI/3/13/Add.1, Action 1.3.in Proposed Activities under Action Plan for the Long-Term Approach to Biodiversity Mainstreaming: include recognition of Indigenous-led conservation and role of IPLCs to lead these actions:

Proposed Activities: “Incorporate biodiversity issues in regional and subregional land and oceanic planning (**Indigenous-led conservation**, connectivity of protected and sensitive areas, areas to be restored, sustainable agricultural and forestry areas...) with emphasis on transboundary ecosystems **and the lands and territories of IPLCs.**”

Actors: “Relevant national entities, in collaboration with subnational and municipal government agencies as appropriate, as well as **Indigenous peoples and local communities.**”