



WG8J 11

Montreal, Canada 20 - 22 November 2019

Agenda Item 5 of the provisional agenda

**Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities and the Post-2020
Global Biodiversity Framework**

Thank you, Co-chairs,

I am speaking on behalf of the IIFB

- The original mandate of the Ad Hoc Working Group on 8(j) was intended to strengthen the capacity of IPLCs to be involved in decisions related to their knowledge, innovations and practices; to be involved in national decision making, policy and planning in biodiversity conservation and sustainable use; to promote the participation of women; to report on status and trends; to support the development of guidelines for cultural impact assessments, and for the protection of traditional knowledge, on repatriation of information; a review of status and trends; and other elements. Many of these have been completed, but some tasks remain.
- We believe that lessons learned from the Ad Hoc Working Group on 8J should provide the basis for a new permanent body, building on the work of the Working Group. In addition to the full integration of IPLCs and indigenous and local knowledge within all CBD procedures, practices, and products, the formation of a Permanent Body, will provide the structure needed to address issues that will keep arising as long as this Convention remains in force. This body would support mainstreaming, and additional work entailing specialised expertise on indigenous and local knowledge, that cannot be effectively addressed without a separate body.
- Some longer-term elements of work that will need to be addressed might include:
 1. **Contributing to the new goals and targets that will be developed under the post-2020 Agenda, such as the links between nature and culture; and associated relevant indicators and community-based monitoring and information system (CBMIS);**
 2. Mainstreaming IPLC contributions to principles and ways of thinking and doing that can lead to transformative change in society-as-a-whole, while living in harmony with nature;
 3. Further work on customary sustainable use could be included, such as community-based conservation and restoration, support in the transmission of TK, the promotion and application of the guidelines developed by WG8j; and,
 4. This body could address the need to provide ongoing expert advice on the growing number and importance of intergovernmental processes, such as those that touch upon



traditional knowledge, rights-based approaches, **including on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**, finding synergies across bodies and platforms, elements of the IPBES report, and Climate Change.

- We believe that the proposed Elements for a Future Programme of Work with IPLCs in the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework contained in this document provide a good starting point for our joint discussions moving forward. However, we believe that “form” should follow “function”. After COP15 and the adoption of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, we will need to look at further elements of a program of work, our priorities, and the sequence of their implementation after the meeting of an AHTEG, and further work at another meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group on 8J.
- Dear colleagues, we want to propose a name for this new body, so I call your attention: the *Subsidiary Body for Ongoing Partnership with IPLCs*. This body would support the full integration, as well as provide a permanent source for expert advice not fully captured by the Working Group on 8J or the SBSTTA. This body could provide multiple functions – from a clearing house on best practices to ongoing expert advice on integration – but at its core, it would provide a forum for the emergence of partnership and new ways to work together.
- After all, the vision of “living in harmony with nature” does not materialize as a final state in 2050, but will represent a new and emergent reality that will be grounded in evolving relationships – both with nature and with one another – relationships that will need to be nurtured and sustained forever into the future. And it is in this vein that the collaboration with IPLCs will, too, evolve over time to reflect changing issues and circumstances as the basis of a relationship.

Finally, other Potential Elements of work could include:

- expanded work on the links between traditional knowledge, innovations and practices, biodiversity and climate change and IPLC strategies for achieving post-2020 targets under climate change
- Work on building the evidence base of the linkages between biodiversity rich areas and IPLC land tenure, access and resource rights, and understanding of how a range of tenure regimes contribute to biodiversity maintenance and conservation
- This body could also develop guidance on the development of biocultural protocols in collaboration with IPLCs

Thank you, co-chairs