



WG8J 11

Montreal, Canada 20 - 22 November 2019

Agenda Item 4 of the provisional agenda

**In-depth dialogue: “The contributions of the traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities, and cultural diversity to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework”**

Thank you, Mr. Chair,

The International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB) appreciates the choice of topic for this in-depth dialogue and the continued practice of the dialogue to provide concurrence and opportunities to share best practices by Parties and observers. We confirm the relevance of the topic for this session as it recognizes the contribution of indigenous peoples and local communities' traditional knowledge as integral to the work of the Convention. We are very pleased with the participation of a young indigenous woman in the panel who reminded us that traditional knowledge needs to be respected and recognized.

The full and effective participation of indigenous peoples and local communities (IPLCs) in the development of a robust post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework is recognized. However, IPLCs have also a lot to offer in its implementation. On this basis, we propose the following changes in the possible recommendations of the Working Group to the Conference of the Parties at its fifteenth meeting with some amendment to paragraph 1 as follows:

- 1. Invites Parties to fully acknowledge the contribution of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices and the collective actions of indigenous peoples and local communities and, more broadly, the links between biological and cultural diversity, in the development **and implementation** of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework;*

Furthermore, the IIFB would also like support the topic for the in-depth dialogue to be held at a twelfth meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Intersessional Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions or its successor on “the role of language in the intergenerational transmission of traditional knowledge.” We believe this is important for indigenous peoples considering that this year is the International Year of Language to raise awareness of the consequences of the endangerment of indigenous languages across the world. The discussion earlier underlined that the loss of indigenous languages leads to the loss in the transmission of systems and practices that have been learned over generation. Ongoing initiatives are being done by indigenous peoples and local communities such as the community-based monitoring, information systems and the indigenous navigator to collect the status of indigenous languages in indigenous communities.

Earlier this month, the Third Committee of the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution to proclaim 2022-2032 as the International Decade of Indigenous Languages. We urge the General Assembly to affirm this resolution.

Thank you.