



**Resumed sessions of SBSTTA 24, SBI 3 and WG2020-3, Geneva, Switzerland
14 - 29 March 2022**

SBI-3 Agenda Item 5: Communications

Statement on behalf of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB), delivered by Alice Mathew, Indigenous Women Biodiversity Network (IWBN).

The IIFB applauds the progress that has been achieved so far on the Global Communication Strategy and welcomes the further inclusion of language on Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, that highlights increasing understanding, awareness, and appreciation of the values of biodiversity, including the associated knowledge, values and approaches used by Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities.

However, to achieve a more inclusive transformative change, more needs to be done. Building on these developments, the IIFB suggests the following additions:

- In Para 8, we support the inclusion of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, and propose the addition of “women and youth”.

text suggestion:

8. *Further requests* the Executive Secretary, within available resources, in coordination with Parties, **indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth** and stakeholders, to support the range of communications activities needed for the following initiatives in the upcoming biennium:

- We propose the explicit inclusion of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, women, and youth in Para 9, rather than being in the general mention as “partners such as those in the Communications Flotilla”

text suggestion:

Requests the Executive Secretary, subject to the availability of resources, to work with **indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth and other partner in the Communications Flotilla...**

- The Global Communications Strategy should also reflect the landmark resolution of The United Nations in recognizing access to a healthy and sustainable environment as a human right.
- In line with The United Nations resolution on the International Decade of Indigenous Languages, the global communications strategy must also consider development of communications materials that include cultural and language diversity.

We have submitted these text proposals in writing. We would like to request Party support on our text.

Thank you, Madam Chair.