Thank you, Madam Chair,

We would first like to acknowledge that we are on the Mohawk Peoples ancestral territories and we thank them for allowing us to speak and work on their land. We also want to express our best wishes for the success of this SBSTTA meeting.

We welcome the document CBD/SBSTTA/21/2 and the various explanations and proposed scenarios for the 2050 vision for biodiversity. However, we would like to highlight that these initiatives, goals and pathways clearly show an extensive lack of recognition and inclusion of Indigenous peoples and local communities’ perspectives, language and knowledge at all visionary stages in this process.

The 2050 Vision for Biodiversity must prioritize: holistic views and language in visions and plans regarding Mother Earth; required consideration and connection of biodiversity and cultural diversity; and the protection of Indigenous rights in Biodiversity visions and scenarios. Further, we emphasize that all scenarios should incorporate a full range of impacts on, interactions with, and mutual feedbacks between, changes in biodiversity and Indigenous peoples and local communities, cultures, rights, interests, values, livelihoods and well-being.

This argument is strengthened by the recent dialogue between authors of the IPBES Global Assessment of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and Indigenous peoples and local communities. The dialogue brought together broad views and information from diverse knowledge systems, offering different perspectives on the relationships between people and nature. As result of this Global Dialogue, Indigenous peoples and local communities and IPBES authors identified the need to work together for the inclusion of the traditional knowledge in the IPBES Global Assessment, which will contribute to Biodiversity Convention post-2020 process.

Therefore, we look to document CBD/SBSTTA/21/2, paragraph 56 subparagraph 3- ‘welcomes the ongoing work of the Expert Group on Models and Scenarios of IPBES and encourages Parties, other Governments, Indigenous peoples and local communities and all stakeholders to engage in this process’. We very much welcome this call for engagement and we look forward to a practical mechanism for that to happen. To ensure that this happens, we recommend editing the paragraph 56 subparagraph 3 as follows:

“Welcomes the ongoing work of the Expert Group on Models and Scenarios of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services to develop a new set of multi-scale biodiversity scenarios through a stakeholder-driven process, noting its relevance to the process of developing a post-2020 global biodiversity
framework, urges the Expert Group to ensure Indigenous peoples and local communities' participation in this process and encourages Parties, other governments and all stakeholders to engage in this process."

Nia:wen - Thank you