Biodiversity and climate change: Ecosystem-based Approaches to Climate Change Adaptation and Disaster Risk Reduction

Mr. Chair,

The IIFB welcomes the draft Voluntary Guidelines for the design and effective implementation of ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction recognizing some efforts of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities related to addressing and responding to climate change impacts on biodiversity and ecosystems.

We thank the CBD Secretariat and SwedBio for organizing the Regional Dialogues and learning missions for all regions. There have been a number of Regional Workshops held across the regions, however, the IIFB underlines a need to organize a Dialogue for Europe and Arctic regions, where the catastrophic impacts of climate change, especially for the indigenous peoples of this region are already being felt. We appreciate the work undertaken by the Friends of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (FEBA) but would appeal for increased engagement with indigenous peoples and local communities whose traditional knowledge and practices and innovations can make huge contributions to the progress and planning of actions in the field of adaptation to climate change. IPLCs, indigenous women and youth are part of the solution to tackling climate change through their traditional knowledge.

Partnerships with IPLCs must be given central place in any strategy and action plan for ecosystem-based approaches to climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction.

Regarding the recommendations, the IIFB would like to propose these changes.

IV. SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATIONS

3 (a) **Encourages Parties to ensure the free, prior and informed consent and full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities including indigenous women and youth** to identify regions, ecosystems and components of biodiversity that are vulnerable to climate change and assess the threats and impacts of climate change **to biodiversity and livelihoods.**

3 (c) **To promote ecosystem restoration with holistic approach taking into consideration traditional knowledge of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, indigenous women and youth.**

3 (d) **To take appropriate actions to address and reduce the impacts of climate change with special attention to the lands and territories of indigenous peoples and local communities,** and
climate change mitigation and adaptation activities, on biodiversity and biodiversity-based livelihoods;

We propose add a new subparagraph 3(g)

3(g)To engage broadly with civil society organisations and other key actors, and build partnerships with indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth;

6 (a) Enabling capacity-building and supporting the use of tools, including Community-Based Monitoring and Information Systems by indigenous peoples and local communities, in collaboration with relevant partners, and initiatives;

In Annex:

VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES FOR THE DESIGN AND EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF ECOSYSTEM-BASED APPROACHES TO CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

17. In general, entry points for mainstreaming may be found in:

Add new subparagraph (f):

(f) Involving a civil-society partnerships and stakeholders, to enable the full and effective participation of civil society organizations, indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth, to ensure the implementation of the Mainstreaming EbA and Eco-DRR.