Thank you, Chair. I am speaking on behalf of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB). We thank the Co-chairs of the Post-2020 Working Group for their proposal on the structure and we are pleased to provide some general comments and specific proposals on targets and indicators.

Based on the evidence that the IIFB cited in our earlier statement, we would like to propose the following:

Targets and indicators on indigenous and traditional knowledge, innovations, practices and technologies should be included under all relevant goals of the Framework. We believe that an important concept to be reflected in the 2050 goals is the principle of “equity”. We cannot achieve the 2050 goals without equity within and across societies.

A target to address land use change could be: “Full and appropriate recognition of and support for indigenous peoples’ and communities’ rights and responsibilities to their collective territories, lands and waters, in accordance with their self-determined customary laws, governance systems and management practices.” This is supported by findings of the IPBES Global Assessment.

Like many others, we believe that we must have ambitious targets for the protection of land and sea by 2030. This protection should be achieved in an equitable manner and ensure zero eviction of indigenous peoples in the establishment of protected areas. In cases where protected areas overlapped with indigenous territories, indigenous peoples’ right to self-govern over those overlapping areas should be recognized.

To address overexploitation and achieve sustainable use, a target could be “Full recognition and respect for indigenous peoples’ sustainable practices and uses of biodiversity.”

There must be recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples to authorize access to and benefit from utilization of their genetic resources and associated indigenous and traditional knowledge. A target could be “significant benefits shared with indigenous peoples for the utilization of their genetic and biological resources and associated indigenous knowledge.” We have many other specific proposals, which we will submit in writing.
Finally, we believe that transformational change can only be achieved through values change. The evidence shows that indigenous peoples’ values, such as relationality, respect and sustainable use, provide a model for behavior change. That will be our most significant contribution to the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.

Thank you, Chair.