



## **SBSTTA 25**

**Nairobi, Kenya**

**15-20 October, 2023**

### **Agenda Item 5. Invasive Alien Species**

#### **Date of delivery**

Thanks, Chair

My name is Sumina Subba from Nepal, speaking on behalf of the CBD Women's Caucus.

Target 23 says that GBF should be implemented through a gender-responsive approach, and this item is around Target 6. Therefore, women and girls have equal opportunity and capacity to contribute to the objectives of "minimize, reduce and or mitigate the impacts of invasive alien species on biodiversity and ecosystem services" (Target 6).

The diverse provisions on CBD/SBSTTA/25/10 should explicitly include and recognize Indigenous peoples, local communities, women, and youth as decision-makers and key agents of change, as well as holders of key knowledge. They should not merely serve as sources of information but be integral and active participants in, as appropriate, all actions relevant to IAS, including:

- Developing and administering measures that end the introduction of alien species while effectively managing them, by prioritizing women's local leadership using their own observation-based sciences.
- Developing and implementation of evaluation of risk assessments, cost-benefit analyses, and economic effectiveness evaluations.

In parallel, Indigenous peoples and local communities should be able to protect not only sacred spaces but also their livelihoods where they sustainably nurture biodiversity and harvest the benefits of biodiversity. And also, support should be allocated to safeguard Indigenous and local community women's food sources related to biodiversity.

For that we suggest the concrete additions in document:

- In annex 1, paragraph 3. (b) to add at the end of it **"or the social, cultural and environmental impacts to Indigenous peoples, local communities, women and youth"**.

- Also in annex 1, paragraph 6. to add at the end of it **“women and youth”**.
- In annex IV, both in paragraphs 5.a and 5. B add **“women and youth”** after the reference to Indigenous peoples and local communities.
- In annex IV “Risk analysis” in para 3 after “Risk analysis” add **“and vulnerability analysis”**
- And finally in annex V, paragraph 6.i add the word **“free”** after “obtaining” and before “prior and informed consent”.

We kindly ask the Chair to ask Parties to support our considerations.

Thanks,

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Additional points:

We encourage to approach IAS’ management through the One Health approach. This involves identifying synergies and efficiencies to prevent the spread of infectious, especially zoonotic diseases, while managing the transport of goods and services related to the introduction of invasive species.

Protocols for preventing and managing the spread of alien species should be intricately tied to financial measures, in coordination with the UN Office of Financing for Sustainable Development, UNCTAD, UNFCCC, and UN financial instruments, as guided by the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and relevant governance.

Finally, Relevant instruments, such as the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, should be embraced at all levels, with rapid response protocols to regulate the direct exploitation of organisms that can become invasive threats to genetic biodiversity.

**For further information contact CBD Women’s Caucus Coordination**

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