



SBSTTA 25
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Agenda 7. Biodiversity and Climate change
17 October, 2023

Thank you, Chair

My name is Cicilia Githaiga from Kenya, speaking on behalf of the CBD Women's Caucus.

Climate change continues to have significant impacts across the globe, all ecosystems and sectors with disproportionate impacts on women, who make up 50% of the global population.

Ecosystem-based approaches offer a path to enhanced synergy between the care for biodiversity and for the climate, as well as for the communities that are dependent on them. The CBD and UNFCCC should forge integrated actions, including holistic ecosystem approaches, that are based on the precautionary principle, respect for human rights and must not sacrifice biodiversity in the name of carbon offsets or any experimental risky technologies such as geoengineering.

As key change actors, women play vital roles that must be valued and supported through legal, technical and functional capacities backed by adequate and consistent funding.

Women call for urgent support and actions that allow their continued interaction with environment and nature to avoid disastrous consequences for extensive societies that depend on them. Thus, we propose the following adjustments to the recommendations:

1. Addition to para 4 after the words framework to provide that the actions proposed should be undertaken **"in line with human rights including the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, women's rights to land and resources, and the Agreed Conclusions of the 66th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women"**, and after the words "with the full and effective participation of" add **"all stakeholders, particularly those whose livelihoods largely depend on biodiversity, including Indigenous peoples, local communities, women and youth"**
2. At para 4a, add at the end **"particularly Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, women and youth;"**
3. At para 4 b, delete reference to **greenhouse gas cuts**; and after "nationally determined contributions" add **"climate change action plans and strategies"**.
4. At para 4 c, at the end, add **"gender plan of action"**.
5. At para 5 after the words "impacts of climate change" add **"Indigenous peoples, local communities, women and youth"**

6. At para 7 add “**to assess the impacts**” after “sustainable development”; and add “**prioritising permanent emissions-reducing proposals**” after the words “provide guidance on their application”
7. In the same para, replace “subject to availability of resources and” with “**while**”.
8. In between paras 5 and 6 of the recommendation section we propose additional text as follows:

(bis) Request Parties at COP16 to reaffirm the precautionary principle on geoengineering, by reaffirming decision CBD COP X/33 8 (w)

We welcome parties to support our proposals

Thank you.

For further information contact CBD Women’s Caucus Coordination

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Explanatory notes:

In line with Targets 11, 22 and 23 of the GBF and the GPA women push for:

1. Promotion of women’s leadership in all areas to protect biodiversity, and fulfil UNEA declarations will end pollution, including GHG pollution.
2. Avoid all negative impacts of climate change response measures on women and girls in all their diversities, and specially prevent geoengineering experiments and deployment by affirming CBD precautionary decisions on geoengineering
3. Demand accelerated action on fossil fuels, a key driver of biodiversity loss, as a matter of priority for everyone.
4. Climate and biodiversity policies at all levels should respect, protect, defend and fulfill human rights including the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment for IPLCs, youths and women and girls’ in all their diversities in all actions towards implementation of protection and conservation of biodiversity using an ecosystem based approach.
5. Legal mechanisms are urgently needed to be put in place to support the work of women and girls in all their diversities to realize the GBF commitments to biodiversity, while supporting actions to reverse the impacts of climate change.
6. Governments must collect and collate data that is disaggregated by gender and have indicators that include women, girls in all their diversities for utilization in inclusive, effective and efficient planning, budgeting, programmes, policy, decision making processes such as NBSAPs, National Climate Change Action Plans, strategies and other policy documents and processes to achieve more equitable, robust, gender responsive outcomes.
7. Womens’ rights to land are integral to effective adaptation, restoration, conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing.