



**CBD Formal SBI3 Virtual Session
SBI3 – Plenary 1 (16-18 May, 2021)**

24 May, 2021

CBD/SBSTTA/24/5

Agenda Item 5 - RISK ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Thank you Chair.

I am speaking on behalf of the CBD Women's Caucus.

Risk assessment and risk management of living modified organisms is key in order to prevent future impacts on biodiversity, nature's contributions to people, and people who depend on them.

In this regard, the AHTEG expertise is an important element to promote actions to identify and manage risks. This task could have a bigger impact, if we also undertake capacity building efforts that allow people with no expertise on biotechnology to contribute to assessing risk and/or promote policies at the national and local level for risk assessment.

We have concrete proposals to the suggested recommendations:

On para 7 ADD women and youth after indigenous peoples and local communities

On Annex to the draft decision - TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE AD HOC TECHNICAL EXPERT GROUP ON RISK ASSESSMENT

ADD a new section to read as follows:

“To analyze the relevance of promoting capacity-building efforts and risk methodologies that can be assimilated by non-experts in biotechnology and in a culturally appropriate manner to enhance the capacity to apply risk assessment measures to other sectors of society”.

We also recommend including considerations on local risk perception to living modified organisms with gene drives, focusing on high value biodiversity areas, indigenous people's territories, areas with high endemism, home to endangered species and wild species of high importance to IPLCs, including wild fish species. We agree with the AHTEG members for the need for clear guidance on risk assessment to be developed on living modified fish. This is especially critical in consideration that living modified fish have the potential to spread across national borders, besides other challenges identified, and the implication it could have on biodiversity and for the livelihoods of IPLCs, including women and youth.

Finally, special consideration to women's risk perception, particularly from indigenous peoples and local communities, who have a closer relationship with nature as native seeds keepers and knowledge holders on traditional medicine.

www.women4biodiversity.org

mrinalini.rai@women4biodiversity.org



**CBD Formal SBI3 Virtual Session
SBI3 – Plenary 1 (16-18 May, 2021)**

24 May, 2021

CBD/SBSTTA/24/5

Agenda Item 5 - RISK ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT

We have uploaded our statement and look forward to Parties support.
Thank you Chair.