



**CBD Informal SBI3 Virtual Session
8-12 and 13 March, 2021**

March 8, 2021

**Agenda Item 3. Review of progress in the implementation of the Convention
and the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020**

Statement of the CBD Women's Caucus

Thank you, Chair

Happy International Women's Day to all!

I am making this statement on behalf of the CBD Women Caucus.

We welcome all documents prepared by the SCBD including Addendums (1to4) for this agenda item.

We particularly welcome efforts in reviewing the implementation of the 2015-2020 Gender Plan of Action (GAP) (Addendum 3) which included the assessment of the 126 sixth national reports, and two global surveys, and thanks the work and support of the Secretariat in this regard, and we are happy to have contributed to these discussions.

**A. Updating national biodiversity strategies and action plans and setting national targets
(CBD/SBI/3/2/Add.1)**

Given NBSAPs are the principal planning tool for the implementation of the CBD at the national level, it is definitely good news that since 1993, 97% of Parties to the CBD have developed at least one NBSAP, and that as of early 2020, over 150 Parties have revised them at least once. This includes the establishment of national and regional targets in relation to achieving the Aichi targets. Out of which only 76 Parties make reference to gender or women's issues in their NBSAPs - **this number is still very low** (less than half of NBSAPs make reference to gender or women issues).

**B. Progress in implementing the Strategic Plan – information from national reports
(CBD/SBI/3/2/Add.2)**

It is worrying to see the few of the national targets set by Parties explicitly referred to taking into account the needs of women, indigenous peoples and local communities and the poor and vulnerable when it comes to restoring and safeguarding ecosystems that provide essential services.



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C. Progress in implementing the Gender Plan of Action (CBD/SBI/3/2/Add.3)

Though there seems to have been an enhanced understanding among Parties of gender and biodiversity, the gender plan of actions was not fully implemented. We encourage Parties to take reflection of the review of the GPA to address the gaps going forward in the development of the whole of the Post2020 global biodiversity framework to ensure that women and girls are recognised as key partners and rights holders in its implementation.

CBD is the first Rio Convention to have adopted a Gender Plan of Action, and going forward we hope it will be strengthened to guide in pursuit of gender mainstreaming in the implementation of the work of the Convention, as a strong commitment is needed to put in place actions to address the gaps that have been identified in the review (Addendum 1-4).

D. Progress towards Aichi Biodiversity Target 18 (CBD/SBI/3/2/Add.4)

On review of Target 18, there has not been any measurable progress in the participation of IPLCs in the development and implementation of NBSAPs. Only 10% of the sixth national reports mention their engagement in NBSAP processes and those would have to be addressed.

This review is the last opportunity for the SBI to assess a series of relevant issues in the period 2011-2020. This assessment is consistent with alerts from GBO5 and IPBES and this is the opportunity going forward to urgently take steps for a truly transformative action to address the review of implementation provided under this Agenda Item. Having these baselines should inform the deliberations of the Post2020 global biodiversity framework, including all agenda items being put forward for the consideration of the SBI3. This is a reminder that we cannot go back to business as usual, we need change - a drastic one - and we need it now.

Today, as we commemorate International Women's Day, let us all take this momentum to pave a more just, fair and equitable framework for all.

Thank you Chair.