



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

**March 10, 2021**

**Agenda Item 6. Resource mobilization and the financial mechanism**

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**Statement of the CBD Women's Caucus**

Thank you Chair. I am speaking on behalf of the CBD Women Caucus.

We welcome all documents prepared for this agenda item. And we thank the support of the Secretariat to attend the Thematic Workshop on Resource Mobilization for the Post2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, which was held in Berlin in January 2020.

The document prepared on Resource Mobilisation (CBD/SBI/3/5), and Annex II "REPORT OF THE PANEL OF EXPERTS ON RESOURCE MOBILISATION", among others, correctly state that it is strategic to eliminate harmful incentives that cause biodiversity loss and redirect those investments to biodiversity protection.

However, the latter report is largely gender blind. It does not include women, including youth and from indigenous peoples and local communities, nor women's organizations which are key actors in the mobilisation of resources and capacity building for biodiversity conservation.

Policy reforms and advocacy should aim at eliminating harmful incentives that destroy local ecosystems, biodiversity and women's livelihoods; including subsidies to fossil fuels and the promotion of extractive activities, including monoculture tree plantations, industrial agriculture and livestock and large-scale infrastructure.

Policies also should eliminate harmful taxes, trade and investment that currently lead to tax avoidance and illicit financial flows, land grabs and violations of labour rights. Governments should adopt policies that redistribute wealth, power and resources, and recognize women's needs and roles as biodiversity caretaker agents. Then, can we move towards a gender just economy.

Resources should be mobilised to assess and document the effect/impact of the lack of resource mobilisation for capacity building of women, including youth, indigenous peoples and local communities, on biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, as well as benefit sharing. Resources should also be allocated to recovering and value traditional local knowledge and the role of women in the conservation and governance of biodiversity. It also requires building on the existing knowledge and best practices of grassroots and indigenous women and their communities, recognizing and supporting their contributions and solutions to effective and efficient resource utilization that contributes not only to biodiversity conservation, but also to the conservation and restoration of ecosystems, food sovereignty and sustainable community livelihoods. This includes



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the locally owned, women-led and climate resilient best practices such as small scale agro-ecological, forest and energy solutions.

We are not seeing sufficient and bold gender considerations in the financial mechanism documents. This must be addressed. We recall that GEF has strong gender safeguards and its gender guidelines are fully applicable for its implementing agencies. GEF also has an Indigenous Peoples policy. We are confident that this would lead to reinforcing the gender considerations of the post 2020 GBF with this regard.

Both Resource Mobilization and the Financial Mechanism, carried out through inclusive, integrated and holistic processes can be effective in recognizing human rights and access rights. Moving to the “all of society approach” will eliminate discriminatory social norms, break down structural barriers and gender stereotypes.

Strategies and actions on resource mobilisation and financing must match commitments to gender equality with adequate financing which will strengthen a wide range of stakeholders and institutions to promote gender equality; harness the potential of technology and innovation to improve the lives of women; regularly collect, analyze and use gender data and statistics; and promote international cooperation to implement commitments to gender equality. Women and girls are fundamental in the path towards achieving a world living in harmony with nature, achieving the SDGs and ensuring a recovery from the human and sanitary COVID crisis that is transformative and respectful of nature and human rights.

Thank you Chair.