



**CBD Formal Session Session  
7-9 June, 2021**

**June 8, 2021**

**Agenda Item 9. Biodiversity and Health (CBD/SBSTTA/24/9)**

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Thank you Mr. Chair

I am speaking on behalf of the CDB Women's Caucus

For a transformative and just recovery, the draft global action plan for biodiversity and health for 2021 -2030 should address and identify key rights-based approach into the elements and the activities presented in the action plan that can truly help in catalyzing the operationalization of the “biodiversity-inclusive One Health Transition” into the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, as identified as one of the principles of the Action Plan.

We would like to present our recommendations to the working document CBD/SBSTTA/24/9, as follows.

**On IV. Suggested Recommendations**

Para 3 (page 5), ADD - **all** sectors identified in the global action plan for biodiversity and health.

*Endorses* the global action plan for biodiversity and health annexed to the present decision, and *encourages* Parties to implement this plan, including through the mainstreaming of biodiversity and health linkages into existing and future policies, plans and strategies, as appropriate, and the reinforcement of collaboration among ministries and agencies responsible for **all** the sectors identified in the global action plan for biodiversity and health, with a view to enhancing implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Para 4 (page 5), (a) ADD **including indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth and** other relevant partners.

4. *Invites* the World Health Organization, relevant expert groups and multilateral initiatives:

(a) To support the implementation of the global action plan for biodiversity and health in cooperation with **indigenous peoples and local communities, women and youth and** other relevant partners



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We welcome the acknowledgement of a rights based approach and considerations of gender approaches into the action plan in the Annex, however it is not adequately addressed. To save time, we are putting forward a few of our main recommendations.

#### **Section IV: STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND RATIONALE OF THE ACTION PLAN**

Para 16, (c) **ADD** - “nature-based solutions with ‘ecosystem based approaches’” to align with the principles of the action plan set in the following Section V.

16. The implementation of the aforementioned strategic *operational objectives* will enable and be reinforced by the following strategic *supporting objectives*:

(c) To support capacity-building and ensure allocation of predictable and sustainable funding to policies and programmes promoting biodiversity and health linkages and One Health approaches, with investments aiming to reverse unsustainable anthropogenic consumption and exploitation patterns and promote nature-based solutions with ecosystem based approaches.

#### **V. PRINCIPLES OF THE ACTION PLAN**

**ADD NEW (g) Social justice and gender equality.**

This is one of the guiding principles as identified in CBD/SBSTTA/21/9. We welcome the principle of a rights based approach, but as we still see a lack of gender-responsive elements and actions, hence we want to encourage Parties to retain this principle in the Action Plan.

#### **VI. KEY ELEMENTS OF THE ACTION PLAN**

**Element 2 : Sector-specific mainstreaming of biodiversity and health linkages (Page 16),**

**Action area 2.1. Mainstream biodiversity and health linkages through specific sectoral policies**

Action Area 2.1, only two sectors have been prioritised (infrastructure (2.1.1) and food systems (2.1.2). There is **no entrypoint in addressing energy and mining sectors** considering their direct impacts on biodiversity and health. This needs to be included in the action plan recognising the associated conflict that may arise, including gender based violence besides others.

We recommend addressing that in **NEW 2.1.3 (Energy) and 2.1.4 (Mining)**



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**Action area 2.2. Mainstream biodiversity and health linkages in ecosystem, wildlife and land/sea use management, as well as in the context of climate change and pollution**

Action Area 2.2.1 (Land and sea use planning, and ecosystem management)

2.2.1.3 Encourage land reform efforts and enforcement of regulations that avoid human encroachment, while **recognising**, ensuring **governance systems of and** access for indigenous and other local communities, and sustainable, inclusive land use;

In the ongoing pandemic COVID-19, glaring gender disparities are apparent, from the additional burden on women that has impacted all spheres of their lives, from social, cultural, economics besides others. The pandemic has resulted in reports of increased tension contributing to new cases of Gender Based Violence, including many linked with the environment.

We cannot “Recover and build back better” if we do not not bend the curve of inequality and injustice

We welcome Party support to our recommendations.

Thank you, Chair.