

Sixth meeting of the Subsidiary Body Implementation

16–19 February 2026
Rome, Italy

AGENDA ITEM 3(a): RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

DATE: 15 FEBRUARY, 2026

Statement by the **International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB)**

The IIFB welcomes the 3 studies commissioned by the Secretariat in response to COP decision 16/34 for consideration by SBI 6 and reiterates that direct access to finance by Indigenous Peoples and local communities is a clear pathway for ensuring the most efficient use of resources, delivering the most concrete and permanent results for biological diversity. In this regard, Indigenous Peoples- and local communities- led funds, created by Indigenous Peoples and local communities themselves, have already demonstrated in practice that it is possible to manage resources with responsibility, transparency and autonomy.

Regarding the impact of debt on the resources available for implementation of the CBD, Indigenous Peoples and local communities rarely receive the services financed by the debt that national governments incur, but are burdened by the obligation to pay anyway. The innovative financial mechanisms proposed to address the impact of debt are mostly market-based mechanisms that may result in the commodification of nature, contrary to the values of Indigenous Peoples and local communities. Therefore, it is important to ensure that social and environmental safeguards to protect the rights of Indigenous Peoples and local communities are in place, including free, prior and informed consent or approval and involvement, especially for debt-for-nature swaps, sustainability-linked bonds, credit enhancements and climate- and nature-resilient debt clauses.

To ensure that social and environmental safeguards standards are properly implemented, it is crucial that Indigenous Peoples and local communities have the necessary knowledge and skills to engage effectively. Technical and financial support must be made available to them.

The IIFB believes that while there should be greater synergies and co-benefits for climate and biodiversity action, environmental and social safeguards standards should also apply in climate finance. Climate finance should not be provided if it could result in negative impacts on biodiversity and on the rights and livelihoods of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, including through the commodification of nature. While biodiversity finance through the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) and Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF) include dedicated windows and an aspirational target of 20% share for Indigenous Peoples and local communities, such mechanisms do not currently exist in climate finance mechanisms. There needs to be upward harmonization to ensure that climate and biodiversity finance deliver adequate and appropriate resources for Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

The IIFB will provide more detailed comments and proposals on these matters at related meetings during SBI 6 and in response to the request for peer review of the three studies.

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IIFB suggest the following on CBD/SBI/6/2, new text suggested in **GREEN CAPITALS**, and that the text highlighted in green to be maintained:

V. Recommendation

Taking into account the information provided above, the Subsidiary Body on Implementation may wish to adopt the following recommendation:

The Subsidiary Body on Implementation

1. *Takes note* of the report on progress with the implementation of decision [16/34](#) of 27 February 2025 prepared by the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity;^{1,2}
2. *Recommends* that, at its seventeenth meeting, the Conference of the Parties adopt a decision on resource mobilization that includes the following elements:³

The Conference of the Parties

5. *Invites* Parties and other Governments, in line with section C of the Framework, and in particular with the involvement of indigenous peoples and local communities and relevant stakeholders:

5. URGES PARTIES AND INVITES OTHER GOVERNMENTS, IN LINE WITH SECTION C OF THE FRAMEWORK, AND IN PARTICULAR WITH THE INVOLVEMENT OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS:

- (a) To assess how debt dynamics affect the capacity to implement national biodiversity strategies and action plans and how it can be addressed in national biodiversity finance plans or other relevant planning frameworks;
- (b) To integrate, or improve the integration of, biodiversity considerations into national debt management strategies, including by improving relevant enabling environments;
- (c) To explore opportunities for applying debt-related finance instruments for biodiversity, taking into account national contexts, **WHILE APPLYING SAFEGUARDS STANDARDS;**

7. *Invites* Parties, other Governments, business organizations and other stakeholders, as well as national, regional and international development banks and other financial institutions, to

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

² See CBD/SBI/6/2.

³ Additional elements will be submitted to the Subsidiary Body at its seventh meeting.

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take the voluntary guidelines on safeguards in biodiversity financing mechanisms⁴ into account when selecting, designing and implementing biodiversity financing mechanisms and when developing instrument-specific safeguards for them, with a view to harnessing their positive effects in an effective manner and to avoiding or mitigating negative effects, and in particular:

(a) To take the voluntary guidelines on safeguards in biodiversity financing mechanisms into account in the context of the ongoing review and harmonization of safeguards standards;

(b) To provide capacity-building and the requisite financial support for technical assistance and training to relevant institutions and actors, in line with national circumstances and priorities, as well as for indigenous peoples and local communities, for strengthening the application of safeguards standards;

(c) To encourage enhanced access to knowledge through libraries of case studies and exchange platforms for sharing experiences on the use of the voluntary guidelines on safeguards in biodiversity financing mechanisms across projects and countries;

(d) To submit relevant case studies, good practices, lessons learned and associated guidance materials to the clearing-house mechanism of the Convention;

8. *Also invites* Parties, other Governments, business organizations and other stakeholders, as well as national, regional and international development banks and other financial institutions, to continue to optimize the co-benefits and synergies of biodiversity and climate finance by:

(a) Capitalizing on emerging opportunities to create or scale up biodiversity synergies with climate finance-related actions, such as those emerging under implementation strategies for the nationally determined contributions 3.0 and planning under the new collective quantified goal on climate finance;

(b) Integrating, or improving the integration of, biodiversity considerations into international and domestic climate finance mechanisms, by:

(i) Implementing and advancing **SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL** safeguards policies that **STOP**, reduce and prevent the potentially harmful impacts of climate-related programmes, projects and activities on biodiversity **AND PEOPLE**;

(ii) Setting goals and designing programmes, projects and actions with biodiversity co-benefits in the delivery of climate finance, such as programmes, projects and

⁴ Decision [XII/3](#), annex III.

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activities that support ecosystem-based mitigation and adaptation, through nature-based solutions and other appropriate approaches;

(c) Strengthening finance tracking and reporting systems, with a view to improving information on progress in achieving co-benefits and synergies between biodiversity and climate finance while enhancing transparency and avoiding double counting.