

Sixth meeting of the Subsidiary Body Implementation

16–19 February 2026
Rome, Italy

AGENDA ITEM 6: CAPACITY-BUILDING AND DEVELOPMENT, AND TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION.

DATE: 15 FEBRUARY 2026

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

The IIFB welcomes several positive elements of document CBD/SBI/6/6, including the explicit recognition of Indigenous Peoples and local communities, as well as the acknowledgment of indigenous and traditional knowledge as essential for addressing needs and filling capacity gaps. We also note with appreciation the emphasis on inclusion, participatory governance and whole-of-society approaches, and the recognition that integrating the knowledge systems of Indigenous Peoples and local communities is critical for strengthening data, knowledge, monitoring frameworks and decision-making processes under the Convention.

Consistent with these elements, Indigenous Peoples and local communities must be placed at the heart of capacity-building processes under the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols. This requires the adequate, predictable and sustained allocation of financial, technical and human resources dedicated to strengthening their capacities.

Indigenous Peoples and local communities' traditional knowledge and technology systems, rooted in their territories, governance structures and cultural practices, are essential for the effective implementation of agreed objectives, targets and frameworks, including the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF), as well as for the conservation, sustainable use and restoration of biodiversity.

In this context, the IIFB supports the recommendation of the Informal Advisory Group on the need for a global analysis of capacity needs and gaps. We strongly urge that this analysis include information provided directly by Indigenous Peoples and local communities on the capacity gaps and needs they have identified in fulfilling their commitments.

We also recall Decisions 15/10, paragraphs 5 and 6, which highlight the need to appoint and adequately support national traditional knowledge focal points to promote capacity-building for Indigenous Peoples and local communities on issues related to the Convention. In addition, Decision 15/8 can be further strengthened by

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ensuring that capacity gaps and needs identified by Indigenous Peoples and local communities and other relevant actors are systematically included in the work plans of regional and subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres, together with the allocation of adequate resources to respond to these needs.

Furthermore, we call for the guarantee of the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities at all levels of decision-making related to national, regional and international capacity-building. This includes the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of capacity-building strategies, mechanisms and programmes, supported by dedicated resources to enable such participation. The full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples in national consultations must be ensured using Indigenous languages.

Capacity-building and technical and scientific cooperation must be grounded in a human rights-based approach, including the full recognition of the rights of Indigenous Peoples. The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples must serve as a substantive foundation for advancing coherent, effective and equitable capacity-building processes under the Convention.

Finally, we invite Parties and relevant bodies to ensure that the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building and the technical and scientific cooperation mechanism fully integrate the rights, knowledge systems and specific capacity needs of Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

Based on this, we propose text to ensure that capacity gaps identified by Indigenous Peoples and local communities, women, youth and other relevant stakeholders are fully reflected in the global analysis and subsequent decision-making.

The new suggested text is in **GREEN CAPITALS** as follows:

Annex. Text Proposals CBD/SBI/6/6

2. *Decides* that a global analysis of the capacity needs and gaps related to the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Kunming–Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, to be carried out by the Secretariat of the Convention in collaboration with partners and using information contained in national reports and assessments undertaken by regional and subregional technical and scientific cooperation support centres

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and relevant organizations, will form the basis for identifying suitable options to further address the technological, technical and institutional capacity gaps of Parties **AS WELL AS CAPACITY GAPS IDENTIFIED BY INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES, WOMEN, YOUTH AND RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS.**

4. *Urges* Parties to provide, in their national reports and in their responses to assessments by technical and scientific cooperation support centres and relevant partners, detailed information on specific technological, technical and institutional capacity needs and gaps related to the implementation of their national biodiversity strategies and action plans and of the Framework, **INCLUDING THOSE IDENTIFIED BY INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES, WOMEN, YOUTH AND RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS, AS WELL AS INFORMATION ON RESOURCES ALLOCATED TO ADDRESS THESE NEEDS.**

6. *Requests* the Informal Advisory Group, in collaboration with the Secretariat, and on the basis of the global analysis referred to in paragraph 2 above, to identify suitable options to further address the technical, technological and institutional capacity gaps identified by Parties **AS WELL AS CAPACITY GAPS IDENTIFIED BY INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES, WOMEN, YOUTH AND RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS, INCLUDING OPTIONS FOR DEDICATED AND TARGETED RESOURCE MOBILIZATION,** for consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Implementation at its eighth meeting and the Conference of the Parties at its eighteenth meeting.

Annex

I. Evaluation of the relevance and effectiveness of the long-term strategic framework for capacity-building and development

B. Methodology and sources of information

5. The following non-exhaustive set of elements is intended to guide the design of the evaluation:

(a) Extent of the awareness among Parties, **INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES** and stakeholders of the role of the long-term strategic framework in guiding capacity-building and development efforts;

(b) Extent to which the guidance provided in the long-term strategic framework has been used by Parties, **INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES** and stakeholders in their capacity-building and development interventions;