

AGENDA ITEM 4. Matters related to the work programme of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services

DATE: 22 July 2026

Statement on behalf of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB)

The IIFB welcomes the **Methodological assessment of the impact and dependence of business on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people** of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services. Which highlights that:

“Businesses may [...] be dependent on Indigenous and local knowledge and could learn from Indigenous Peoples and local communities and the ways in which their businesses conserve and sustainably use biodiversity.” (Key message A5)

“Some businesses led by Indigenous Peoples and local communities share communal objectives and draw on place-based knowledge, characteristics that make them more likely to have positive impacts. Indigenous and local knowledge offers valuable lessons for businesses, including different ways of conceptualizing and understanding businesses, traditional practices, business principles and ways of operating. Community-based monitoring approaches that interweave Indigenous and local knowledge with scientific methods exist; however, uptake of these approaches by businesses is low.” (Key message A7)

“C.3.6 Ensure respect for Indigenous Peoples and local communities and for with national legislation and the principle of free, prior and informed consent, and establish mechanisms for the participation of Indigenous Peoples and local communities in decision making {B4}”

The IIFB supports the encouragement to Parties to use the findings of the assessment to advance implementation of the Convention and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, particularly Target 15. The IIFB emphasizes that this must be done in ways that uphold the rights, roles, and contributions of Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

The IIFB welcomes the explicit reference to “incorporating traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples and local communities into capacity-building frameworks” . This is essential for ensuring that business-related biodiversity measurement does not rely solely on Western scientific metrics but integrates indigenous and traditional knowledge systems with our free, prior and informed consent.

The IIFB suggested text is in **GREEN CAPITALS**, text we suggest deleted is ~~struck through in red~~ and the text to be maintained is **highlighted in green**.

Thank you, Chair.

TEXT SUGGESTIONS

The Conference of the Parties

1. Welcomes *The Methodological Assessment Report on the Impact and Dependence of Business on Biodiversity and Nature's Contributions to People* ("business and biodiversity") of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services;

2. Encourages Parties:

(a) To use the findings of the business and biodiversity assessment to support the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, in particular to achieve Target 15, including through the implementation of national biodiversity strategies and action plans and relevant policy and regulatory frameworks;

(b) To provide or enhance enabling environments for sustainable business practices through the implementation of the needed actions listed in the assessment, including by:

- (i) Fully implementing Target 18 of the Framework and aligning fiscal policies and financial flows with the goals of the Framework;
- (ii) Undertaking capacity-building activities focused on measuring business impacts and dependence on biodiversity;
- (iii) Incorporating traditional knowledge **OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES** into capacity-building frameworks;
- (iv) Encouraging businesses, the financial sector and other actors to implement the actions required to create an enabling environment, as listed in the assessment, and supporting them in that regard;

(c) To identify gaps in knowledge and the application of knowledge for measuring business impacts and dependence on biodiversity;

(d) To address such gaps by:

- (i) Facilitating the uptake by businesses of existing methods and knowledge for measuring business impact and dependence on biodiversity;
- (ii) Collecting and sharing information on the activities and locations of businesses, their operations and value chains that can be compared among businesses and the financial sector, including through disclosure mechanisms;
- (iii) Providing actionable guidance for businesses to select methods appropriate for their context and needs;
- (iv) Supporting research and data collection;
- (v) Strengthening the integration of science and traditional knowledge **SYSTEMS** and of **INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES WITH THEIR**

FREE, PRIOR AND INFORMED CONSENT¹ methods and practices for measuring business impact and dependence on biodiversity;

(e) To strengthen engagement and collaboration with business and financial sectors and other actors, including indigenous peoples and local communities, **WOMEN, YOUTH**, consumers, non-governmental organizations, international organizations and academia, to address gaps in knowledge and the application of knowledge, as described in the assessment, and to engage in conservation restoration or the sustainable use of biodiversity;

3. *Encourages* business and financial actors to identify and use appropriate existing methods to measure and manage the impacts and dependence of businesses on biodiversity and to use that information to guide decision-making and actions aimed at improving biodiversity outcomes, in line with Target 15 of the Framework;

4. *Invites* the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services to implement the recommendations from the midterm review under the rolling work programme of the Platform up to 2030, in particular recommendations to increase the policy relevance of assessments and to strengthen collaboration between the Platform and the Secretariat of the Convention.

5. *Requests* the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice to consider the outputs of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services according to the schedule contained in the annex to the present decision;

Annex*

Schedule of assessments of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services and of their consideration under the Convention on Biological Diversity (2024–2030), as updated after the twelfth session of the Plenary of the Platform**

<i>Session number and date of consideration by the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services^a</i>	<i>Assessment</i>	<i>Meeting number and date of consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity</i>
Twelfth session (2026)	Methodological assessment of the impact and dependence of business on biodiversity and nature's contributions to people ("business and biodiversity assessment") ^b	Twenty-eighth meeting of the Subsidiary Body (2026)

¹ IN THIS FRAMEWORK, FREE, PRIOR AND INFORMED CONSENT REFERS TO THE TRIPARTITE TERMINOLOGY OF "PRIOR AND INFORMED CONSENT" OR "FREE, PRIOR AND INFORMED CONSENT" OR "APPROVAL AND INVOLVEMENT"

<i>Session number and date of consideration by the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services^a</i>	<i>Assessment</i>	<i>Meeting number and date of consideration by the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice and the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity</i>
Thirteenth session (2027)	Methodological assessment on monitoring biodiversity and nature's contributions to people ("monitoring assessment") ^c	Meeting of the Subsidiary Body to be held before the eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (2028)
	Methodological assessment of integrated biodiversity-inclusive spatial planning and ecological connectivity ("spatial planning and connectivity assessment") ^d	Eighteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (2028)
Fourteenth session (2028)	Second global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services ^e	Meeting of the Subsidiary Body to be held before the nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties Nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (2030)
Fifteenth session (2029)	Potential assessment topic to be determined at the thirteenth session of the Plenary of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services	Meeting of the Subsidiary Body to be held before the nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties Nineteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties (2030)

^a The dates of future sessions are indicative.

^b See www.ipbes.net/business-impact.

^c See www.ipbes.net/monitoring-assessment.

^d See www.ipbes.net/spatial-planning-assessment.

^e See www.ipbes.net/second-global-assessment.