

Closing Statement
from the Open-ended Network of IPBES Stakeholders (ONet)
IPBES-8 Closing Session – 24 June 2021

Thank you chair for giving us the floor, this is Ismael Ocen from Ocean One Social Research Centre, Uganda, speaking on behalf of the Open-ended Network of IPBES Stakeholders (ONet).

We THANK IPBES for their excellent organization of this plenary in an online format.

We CONGRATULATE State Members delegations, all IPBES bodies, authors and reviewers, and the large community of stakeholders, for their perseverance and dedication in keeping this science-policy platform alive and meaningful.

We want to NOTE the under-representation of valuable regions of the world, most of which are in the Global South, at this plenary and EXPRESS concern for the robustness of the IPBES processes in such a context.

We should BE MINDFUL of the context of pandemics: while online settings made it easier for young delegates to participate, it was more difficult for them to fully commit to the meetings, and there were less opportunities to network for all. We RECOMMEND a hybrid approach in the future.

We CALL ON IPBES member states to enhance capacity-building efforts and encourage them to have inclusive consultations with relevant stakeholders at all levels. We ASK regional meetings to be open to stakeholders.

We WELCOME the IPBES-IPCC workshop report and URGE IPBES members to address and deal with Climate Change and Biodiversity crises simultaneously.

We RECOGNIZE the inclusion of freshwater and marine environments in the scoping reports of Nexus and Transformative Change assessments. We RECOMMEND IPBES authors to fully consider marine issues, building on existing material such as the UN World Ocean Assessments to avoid duplication of efforts.

Finally, we RECOMMEND properly investigating within the Nexus assessment fair and equitable access and benefit-sharing as an option for delivering sustainable approaches to finance.

Thank you Chair!

PROCESS

1st writing part from 8 pm to 9 pm CEST

0-Vote of thank OK – Serena - Flore

First part (Niklas – Isimeme – Ismael – Flore - Shivani)

4-Participation to IPBES plenary + 8-Geographical representativity OK -

2-Capacity-building I III III OK -

1-Responsibilities of State Members I III III I combined OK -

Second part (Carla Ellif – Carla Casas – Camille – Giovanni - Albaluz)

3-7 Marine realm/oceans *substance* I III III III OK -

7-CC and biodiversity crises *substance* I III I OK -

6-Access and benefit-sharing *substance* OK I combined I III I aside -

Final writing/adjustments - Team meetings 9 pm CEST

Carla Ellif – Ismael – Serena – Miguel

XXX

5-Selection of IPBES authors – call for practitioners aside III

9-Accessibility of IPBES website OK aside I III III combined III

Not kept:

language/terminology issues

accreditation for observers

We would like to EXPRESS our appreciation to the IPBES Secretariat for providing an opportunity for consultation prior to and during the IPBES 8 Plenary, and for the opportunity for broader engagement with the stakeholder community.

We CALL on IPBES member states to urgently create and improve diverse, equitable and inclusive capacity building mechanisms, including communication technologies, that promote and foster the relevance and reach of IPBES assessments, work programs, and products with a focus on the Global South, breaking down cultural, economic, and gender barriers.

We URGE IPBES members for the protection and restoration of natural resources and the conservation of species to be fair within and between countries. To change the paradigms of economic growth, we need just and systemic changes in policy, the economy, and civic engagement for more inclusive, transparent political participation.

We WELCOME and ENCOURAGE the steps taken by IPBES to work closely with the social sciences and humanities to acknowledge the inseparable linkages between nature and culture.

We ENCOURAGE IPBES members to improve multidisciplinary approaches into efforts aimed at building decision-making capacities that contribute to bend the curve on biodiversity and ecosystem loss.

*We ENCOURAGE IPBES members and donors to secure the necessary funding for biodiversity data, **research** and monitoring, information, knowledge generation and communication through direct support to experts and knowledge holders at national and local levels.*

Finally, addressing the biodiversity conservation funding gap is needed for transformative changes. We CALL on IPBES members to mobilize the global community, especially the private sector, to step up and extend financial resources.

Thank you Chair!