

SBSTTA-24, Convention on Biological Diversity (February 2021) | Statement from Avaaz  
**Moving beyond the Zero Draft to meet the urgency of the Zero Hour**

Distinguished delegates and observers:

We all know what we need to do. The time has come to move beyond the Zero Draft and meet the urgency of the Zero Hour of this moment.

Renewing targets should be about doing what has not yet been done.

*In situ* conservation is a major element not only to tackle biodiversity loss, but also climate change, and desertification and land degradation as well.

And this has already been done by Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities around the world for thousands of years.

That's why they must be part of the planning, designing, discussing, negotiating and agreeing on a Global Biodiversity Framework. Only this would make their participation full and effective. And this is what we mean about doing things differently.

The Avaaz's Citizen Plan, which is drawn up from active listening, especially since the pandemic was declared, is built on this and other major changes which we all know are needed.

More than 66 million Avaaz members are demanding this.

We urge distinguished delegates and observers to listen.

As we, the people, are done with talking.

Thank you