



**CBD Informal SBI3 Virtual Session
8-12 and 13 March, 2021**

March 9, 2021

Agenda Item 5. Assessment and review of the effectiveness of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety

Statement of the CBD Women's Caucus

Thank you, Chair,

Cartegena Protocol on Biosafety, does not address gender issues specifically. It is important that the Protocol recognizes that the impact of introducing LMOs could be gender-differentiated because men and women have different knowledges, needs and vulnerabilities. Women worldwide, and specially women from indigenous groups and local communities, need to have access to information, skills, equipment, regulatory frameworks, and procedures. This will allow them to understand the issues, make informed decisions, manage, or avoid any potential risks associated to LMOs, have the capacity to implement the Protocol, and have an arena where their needs and concerns are heard and valued³¹ and the need to systematically consider and address their needs and identify and deliver gender-responsive technology driven by gender specific technology demands.

The monitoring elements should consider the mainstreaming of gender in the Cartagena Protocol and the National Biosafety Action Plans.

We request that the socio-economic considerations take into account the impacts on women including in identifying gender-responsive indicators to complement it, including impacts of cultures and traditional knowledge of rightsholders (IPLCs, women, peasants, fisherfolks).

During the informal SBSTTA24 session, we had delivered our statement under Item 5 on Risk Assessment and Living Modified Organism (LMO) and we had shared some of our concerns which we request Parties to also take into consideration, including in further deliberation.

We also support the recommendations presented by IIFB and of the other Major Groups.

Thank you