

## **First Meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework**

### **Agenda Item 4 (Overview)**

Thank you, Chair. This is a statement on behalf of FOEI and the ICCA Consortium.

We want to thank the co-chairs for their work, listening to a divergence of ideas in all the participatory workshops.

We want to express some concerns though, as leaving out some important elements out of the scope, can have long-lasting effects for the whole post 2020 framework.

In the first place, we are missing the mention of a compliance mechanism. Yet, the current decade has made clear that without compliance there is no implementation. This discussion should be included under cluster 3.

In the second place, we are missing a section on principles, we suggest this can be added in cluster 1. Amongst the principles, there need to be: a human rights approach, non-regression and the precautionary principle.

Most importantly, we are not clear where and how the discussion on transformative change will take place. All the importance given to this issue at preparatory talks and in the IPBES report seems to miraculously disappear once we get into the planning of the scope for the post 2020 framework.

We understand that transformative change can be achieved through tackling the drivers- hopefully as a continuation of strategic goal B under the Aichi Targets. However, the current setup of thematic workshops - very limited in scope as well as participation - does not give us the reassurances we need that all the drivers for destruction of biodiversity will be changed in a transformative way. We insist this must be the case and sufficient working time needs to be allocated to this issue, and this must be done in a very participatory way.

We are also worried about the current way of handling the drivers are being addressed under the mainstreaming work. The exercise seems to be oriented to what corporations deem acceptable to implement - not to what is needed for biodiversity. Accountability for corporations is key.

We want to further reiterate that voluntary commitments are not the way to go, as planetary boundaries are already being surpassed, we need to act with all that what is needed.

Regarding the process, we have stated before - and will insist - that we cannot build a new and effective global biodiversity framework, without analysing why the current strategic plan didn't give the expected results. We act according to these lessons learned.

Thank you, Chair.