

## Agenda Item 4.9(e)

### Women's Caucus

Thank you Chair.

Distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen, I am speaking today on behalf of the Women's Caucus at the CBD COP-10. We speak today to support item 4.9(e) on gender mainstreaming acknowledging the Gender Plan of Action document UNEP/CBD/COP/9/INF/12/Rev.2 (Decision IX/24 of the 9<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the CBD Conference of Parties). While parties have welcomed progress on the implementation of the Gender Plan of Action and have encouraged implementation of the Gender Plan of Action through financial and other support we call for the establishment of a core post on gender within the CBD Secretariat to support parties in their efforts to fully implement the Gender Plan of Action. This would help member states achieve the plan's four strategic objectives:

- To mainstream a gender perspective into the implementation of the Convention and the associated work of the Secretariat
- To promote gender equality in achieving the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the 2020 Biodiversity Target
- To demonstrate the benefits of gender mainstreaming in biodiversity conservation, sustainable use and benefit sharing from the use of genetic resources; and
- To increase the effectiveness of the work of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

In addition, we believe it will create the opportunity to develop formal mechanisms to consult with women's networks at all levels; enhance gender analysis in the design of strategies and action plans of the CBD; implement CBD Technical Series No. 49 "Guidelines for Mainstreaming Gender into National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans"; promote funding and capacity building for gender mainstreaming within all CBD processes. Furthermore, it will support the improvement of gender parity within the decision-making bodies, the secretariat, participatory stakeholder engagements, and delegations. Gender equality is crucial to achieve biodiversity goals and targets, poverty eradication and sustainable development.