Thank you Mister Chair. I am speaking on behalf of the Global Youth Biodiversity Network.

We support the statement by the Global Forest Coalition, the ICCA Consortium and ECOROPA.

With grave concern, GYBN recognizes the massive funding gap for the implementation of the Strategic Plan. All evidence tells us that we are on the brink of failing to achieve the Aichi Biodiversity Targets. **This failure is putting the future of young people and of future generations on the line!** And the lack of adequate resources is one of the key reasons for this failure.

In this context, we cannot emphasize enough how important it is that we initiate the process for the mobilization of resources for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework NOW.

In particular, we are deeply concerned about the lack of progress and political commitment on Aichi Target 3 on Incentives. This is compromising the progress done for all other Aichi Targets. It is of critical importance that we step up our efforts and prioritize progress towards this target.

In this context, we are pleased with the focus on Aichi Target 3 in the document and urge parties to make use of the milestones that were adopted at COP12.

On the other hand, we urge parties to ensure a gender responsive approach in all project proposals, action plans as well as in monitoring and reporting guidelines. In particular we emphasize the importance of gender responsive budgeting. Thus, GYBN would like to remind parties of the GEF guidance to advance gender considerations in GEF funded projects and programs.

GYBN also strongly calls upon countries to support the collective actions and contributions of IPLCs towards the achievement of the Aichi Biodiversity Targets when utilizing resources from the GEF-7 replenishment.

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Thank you Mister Chair