

**Statement by Ms. Joji Cariño**  
**International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity**

Item 5 (f): Dialogue on Indigenous platforms established within United Nations entities.

Wednesday, 19 April 2024 | Conference Room 4 | 3 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Esteemed participants present at this Session of the UNPFII,

I am Joji Carino, Ibaloi-Igorot from the Philippines, speaking on behalf of the International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB). It is an honour for me to participate in this inter-active dialogue with the UNPFII, allowing a reflection on the long-standing partnership which has evolved between the Convention on Biological Diversity and Indigenous Peoples and local communities.

IIFB was recognized at COP5 as an advisory body regarding CBD's programme of work on Traditional Knowledge and relevant provisions of the Convention. In this role, IIFB convenes a caucus consisting of the broad constituency of IPs and LCs for the purposes of coordinating joint statements and making recommendations for parties. Most recently IIFB's work focused on the negotiations leading to the approval of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, a new programme of work of Traditional Knowledge and a proposed permanent Subsidiary Body to take forward its implementation. Also adopted was a Joint Programme of Work on Nature and Culture, highlighting the links between biological and cultural diversity, including science and knowledge dialogue, equivalence of knowledge systems, indicators and monitoring efforts.

In as much as the UNPFII monitors developments under its 6 mandated areas, the CBD likewise, has put in place processes to review progress being made on the contributions of IPs and LCs in the implementation

of its strategic plans, through a suite of traditional knowledge indicators adopted through multiple decisions of the Conference of Parties. The indicators includes status and trends linguistic diversity, land use change and land tenure in indigenous and traditional territories, the practice of traditional occupations and equitable participation in CBD decision-making and processes at all levels. These indicators are complementary to and been integrated into the CBD's ongoing processes of biodiversity planning, monitoring, reporting and review of the CBD.

Data, information and knowledge and stories generated through community-based monitoring are included in the publication of Local Biodiversity Outlooks, which is recognized as complementary report to the CBD's flagship publication Global Biodiversity Outlooks.

I have always been amazed and inspired by the thousands of collective actions by Indigenous Peoples across the world to find solutions to reverse the loss of biological and cultural diversity. Through an integrative approach of harnessing the breadth and creative richness of humanity's cultural intelligence and working with nature's abundance and intelligence, we are rebuilding the linkages between biological and cultural diversity and renewing the futures of nature and cultures.

I propose that the UNPFII lends its fullest support for this all this work being undertaken by the CBD, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the its partnerships with Indigenous Peoples and local communities, including the IIFB.