

Thank you Mr. Chair for the opportunity to share our position. I am speaking on behalf of the Global Youth Biodiversity Network.

We are here to speak on behalf of our children and youth, which is half of the world population and their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren yet to come.

Our concerns regarding geoengineering technologies intensified. It is clear now that there is no scientific research on the impacts of some of these technologies on biodiversity. We are deeply concerned that the IPCC's 5th Assessment Report is now considering Bioenergy with Carbon Capture and Storage (BECCS) as one of the main approaches for climate mitigation, even though the impacts on biodiversity are not being taken into account.

In this sense, we are particularly concerned about the potential adverse impacts of BECCS. This method would not only require massive land use changes, risking a near total loss of unmanaged forests, it would also fail to meet its objectives and could even result in more carbon emissions. It should be matter of common sense to ban the application of BECCS.

We are also concerned that geoengineering is distracting parties and economic sectors from real emission reduction efforts. We believe that before countries have really delivered on the commitment to drastically reduce their emissions through structural changes in energy, production, consumption and waste management activities; climate-related geoengineering technologies such as BECCS, SRM, Ocean Fertilisation and other technofixes - which consider our earth as a machine and not as a living cooperation of ecosystems and people - should not be pursued.

Young people around the world feel threatened by technologies such as ocean foaming, cloud spraying and would like to recall the precautionary principle of the convention and urge parties to support ecosystem-based approaches to climate mitigation and adaptation.

The report that we have before us also notes that there is "no emerging common understanding on "how" international regulatory and control mechanisms should work and address the relevant geoengineering activities".

This proves that the adoption of decision X/33 8 (w), which created a de-facto geoengineering moratorium, at COP10 in Nagoya was right and put the CBD into a leadership position on this issue. And it has to remain there.

In accordance with the Convention's precautionary principle, we urge parties to make this moratorium permanent and to ensure that violators are being prosecuted.