

Thank you Mr. Chair for giving us on the floor. I am speaking on behalf of the Global Youth Biodiversity Network.

We strongly believe that effective mainstreaming not just into all sectors of the economy but also all parts of society is the key to achieving the Aichi Biodiversity Targets and therefore must address all drivers of biodiversity loss and should not stop short of making structural changes, including the reform and elimination of perverse subsidies.

Thus, we welcome the efforts of Mexico to focus on mainstreaming during the high level segment of COP13. But as previous statements made by parties, we believe that further actions by all parties should be taken and a focus on mainstreaming initiatives should be extended in the draft guidelines for the 6th national reports.

Parties should be encouraged to establish networks with stakeholders from all relevant sectors with the goal to develop national sector-specific action plans, covering the gaps identified by GBO4 and support initiatives aimed at identifying, highlighting and sharing Best-practices, case studies and lessons learnt as outlined in the Technical series 79.

We also believe that efforts by the Secretariat and parties should be intensified towards mainstreaming biodiversity, the aichi biodiversity targets and the strategic plan within the Sustainable Development Goals framework.

We welcome the statement made by Finland, recognizing the importance of reaching young people with mainstreaming and awareness raising activities, but we would like to go beyond this statement and highlight that young people are not only receivers and end user of mainstreaming and awareness raising initiatives, but we can also actively contribute to this efforts especially within local communities and grassroot initiatives and are a specially strong in replicating this efforts and disseminating information within youth communities all over the world.

Finally, the Global Youth Biodiversity Network would like to reiterate our commitment to support the parties and become your partners in mainstreaming biodiversity and implementation of NBSAPs. We already started moving towards a collaboration and successfully launched the Youth Voices project, in partnership with the CBD secretariat and the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Korea, aiming on mainstreaming GBO4 findings and the Aichi Biodiversity targets within the youth community through innovative and interactive communication tools and best practices examples.