

**GYBN Intervention on Item 4 Biodiversity and Climate change**

*Montreal, November 2019*

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

For young people, climate change is a particularly worrying issue, given that we are going to be inheriting its consequences. There is no room for hesitation, actions need to be taken now.

While direct drivers, such as resource extraction, commodity production, mining, transportation, and energy, are addressed in the documents prepared for this meeting, we strongly call for immediate re-focus on indirect drivers, such as consumption and production patterns, negative incentives for economic activities, and population dynamics.

We also acknowledge the significant effect on children, future generations, the elderly, women, Indigenous peoples, local communities, and the world’s most vulnerable and impoverished communities. These populations specifically depend on ecosystem functions and services for subsistence, livelihoods, and health, as stated in par. 74 and 83.

We also want to stress the importance of intergenerational transmission of local and indigenous knowledge. One of the reasons being that it increases the resilience of these communities as they experience the impacts of climate change.

We are committed to promoting the profound societal changes that we need to solve the biodiversity and climate change crisis, including addressing the indirect and direct drivers and the unfair impacts they have on [those most] vulnerable [populations].

Thank you Chair.