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Gender equality and women's empowerment are essential for the sustainable use of biodiversity. Understanding and exposing gender-differentiated biodiversity practices contributes to successful conservation and makes efforts more effective and efficient because women and vulnerable groups are empowered to participate as equals.

Lamentably, gender inequality is ingrained in the existing social structures that manage and impact Sustainable Development, the current draft of the GBF under the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) is not gender-responsive, and therefore falls short. It has significant gaps, limiting it from fulfilling gender-responsive and transformative goals and does not fully take into account women and girls' unique roles and contributions to conservation and sustainable use

of biodiversity. The GBF should not miss its chance to include gender-responsive language and actions throughout, to take advantage of key opportunities for strengthened biodiversity conservation action and to contribute to achieving existing goals and outcomes. Doing so will also ensure that the GBF does not contribute to, and exacerbate, discriminatory and harmful practices.

The new GBF, designed to guide actions worldwide through 2030 to preserve and protect nature and its essential services to people, is missing vital components, preventing it from being gender-responsive. All CBD Parties are urged to support the inclusion of the following in the Post-2020

***Upholding Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework***

, among others, to ensure gender equality and the empowerment of women and