



JUNE 25, 2022

Ref.- Different treatment given to delegates/representatives from the global North and global South.

Dear Ms. Elizabeth Mrema, CBD Secretariat, Co-Chairs and Co-Leads of the Open Ended Working Group on Post 2020 GBF

We wish to take this opportunity to communicate to you our position on several issues that have arisen during this meeting on the different treatment given to delegates/representatives from the global North and global South.

We note a concerning pattern in which developing country parties were requested not to input new text, after which developed country parties were allowed to do so. There were also instances of inputs from delegates from the global South being dismissed or the delegate pressured to speak more quickly while no Northern delegate was instructed to do the same and some preference was shown towards delegations from the Global North.

We further note that at least one meeting ran late into the night and it was pointed out several times that there were very few delegates in the room and also noted how tired everyone was, and yet the meeting continued until after lam.

We were also informed that a delegate from the global South worked very hard to get a particular text into a document but when the delegate left the room for a while, probably due to exhaustion, the text was removed.

This demonstrates a pattern of behaviour which is clearly unacceptable and discriminates against a few countries from the global South who were able to bring only very small delegations to this negotiation, sometimes with only one person present. Additionally, the participation of some of these small delegations may be limited by their health and/or age.

We express our deepest concern and hope to see a change in the negotiations in such critical times.

Sincerely,
CBD Alliance