



Vicepresidencia del Estado  
Presidencia de la Asamblea Legislativa Plurinacional  
**BOLIVIA**

## OPEN LETTER TO THE GOVERNMENTS AND PEOPLES OF THE WORLD

Sisters and brothers:

Those of us who sign this letter wish to reaffirm our commitment to the development of a Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework that is inclusive, participatory, country driven and that enable a plurality of visions, approaches, perspectives and instruments to achieve the vision of the Convention on Biological Diversity, which is to "Live in harmony with Nature" and its objectives of achieving the conservation of biological diversity, the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable participation and the benefits derived from the use of genetic resources.

We are witnessing with concern the efforts to advance the negotiations of the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) through the creation of a small informal group of negotiators that only includes a limited number of countries per region. This has led to a selective and non-inclusive process, moving away from the interest of countries seeking to contribute constructively in the formulation of the GBF in an integral manner, aspect which the Plurinational State of Bolivia has been keen to express throughout the process. In this sense, Machiavelli's "divide and rule" premise seems to prevail in the negotiation process of the Convention on Biological Diversity. Furthermore, Bolivia has declined its participation in the informal group because it has led to an unnecessary and harmful confrontation between the countries, in addition to the fact that a process has been opened that is not inclusive, non-transparent, impeding a country driven process, and thus contrary to multilateral practices.

It is imperative to strengthen the rules and procedures that constitute the framework for multilateral negotiations and allow through broad consensus the inclusion of all perspectives and the realities of the countries and peoples that establish a plural and legitimate means to reach solutions that the crisis of biological biodiversity and the other planetary crises urgently require. More so, we prevent some countries from trying to impose their visions and development models on the rest of the countries.

The recognition of the Rights of Mother Earth to achieve Harmony with Nature in the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework is of great importance to build a different and fairer world, considering and respecting the different visions of the peoples with regards to Nature and Living Well, understanding that the



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strengthening of ecosystems, biodiversity and the environmental functions of Nature will only be possible if all living beings live in harmony and complementarity with Mother Earth.

Likewise, it is necessary to incorporate the recognition that cosmobiocentric approaches are vital to achieve the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the objectives and goals to be defined in said Global Framework. Both aspects have already been recognized in the assessment document "Diverse Conceptualization of the Multiple Values of Nature and its Benefits" approved by the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES).

However, some countries continue with a colonialist vision of imposing their truth on other views, and reinforcing the vision that more anthropocentrism and more capitalism is the solution to the crisis of biodiversity in the world. We categorically affirm that more anthropocentrism and more capitalism are not the solution to the biodiversity crisis that has been caused by anthropocentrism and capitalism.

Finally, Bolivia highlights the content of the Report of the Secretary General of the United Nations, Harmony with Nature A/75/266, which includes among its conclusions that the UN has the responsibility to champion a non-anthropocentric paradigm and assume the voice of Mother Earth, as well as to lead in the 21st century a global transition centered on the Earth in which all living beings are given importance. In particular, we highlight paragraph 87 which requests that "...the General Assembly should consider the possibility of convening in the role of an Earth Assembly, in which the evolving non-anthropocentric or Earth-centred paradigm continues to unfold and finds a home in multilateralism".

Sisters and brothers,

We sincerely believe that the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework must clearly incorporate an explicit reference to the following aspects:

- The recognition of **Living Well in harmony and balance with Mother Earth**, as a way to achieve a fair, equitable, supportive world that respects all forms of life on Mother Earth. Likewise, the need to advance and strengthen **actions centered on Mother Earth** to strengthen the complementary coexistence of all living beings in harmonious coexistence with Mother Earth, for the happiness of present and future generations.



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- The recognition of the **rights of Mother Earth** to live in Harmony with Nature. A groundbreaking introduction to international law that promotes that rights can no longer be exclusive in the protection to human beings, but must now move forward in granting protection to all life forms, amplifying a world vision still present in many cultures of the world. All life need to become “subjects of law”. Thus, Nature is not an object, it is a subject and it is a living being that feels, that is happy, that gets excited and that goes out of its way to always give more life to its daughters and sons. Human beings are daughters and sons of Mother Earth.
- The recognition of cosmobiocentric visions in face of the anthropocentric paradigm that is divorced from life, which has separated human beings from Nature, which devalues all wealth to exclusively material-economic wealth, must give rise to a cosmobiocentric horizon of life. Advancing towards Harmony with Nature must mean the reunion with Mother Earth as the source of life.

Finally, within the framework of the multilateral negotiations of the United Nations General Assembly, we ask countries to support the invitation of the Secretary General of the United Nations to approve and convene the Earth Assembly to discuss from a non-anthropocentric and cosmobiocentric vision, the solutions to face the multiple planetary crises so that humanity and Mother Earth, and all living beings, fully advance in Living Well in Harmony with Nature.

We invite all countries and all brothers and sisters who defend Mother Earth who feel identified with this call by Mother Earth to sign this letter.

La Paz, 12th of august 2022

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