



WARE that indigenous peoples, peasants, and small farming communities, and other local, small-scale forms of organisation around the world have played and continue to play a key role in providing almost 80% of food for humanity and overseeing 80% of global biodiversity;

RECOGNISING, in this respect, the necessity to incorporate these communities as key players in the work to guarantee global food security and, at the same time, to recognise their issues with food insecurity expressed, mainly, in malnutrition, health problems and a growing impact on their environment, including agroecosystems, due to the effects of major changes in climate patterns and industrial agricultural activities;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that Aichi Biodiversity Target 3, which was supposed to be met in 2020, acknowledges the adverse effects of global agricultural and fishing subsidies on biodiversity and the environment, and that this threatens the ability of indigenous cultures and peasant communities to maintain their livelihoods and achieve food security;

OBSERVING that indigenous peoples and



of other environmental problems, including deforestation, soil degradation, increased greenhouse gas emissions, extinction of species, and pollution of freshwater sources. Moreover, our industrial food system often impoverishes small-scale farmers, and displaces rural communities and indigenous peoples.

An alternative exists that supports economically-viable development and increased prosperity for small-scale farmers, while conserving biodiversity and preserving the integrity of local ecosystems. Peasant movements from around the globe are advancing a model oriented toward peasant-based agriculture that prioritizes local markets and uses agroecological production methods to facilitate the transition to more sustainable and inclusive food systems. This model underscores the rights of indigenous, rural, and traditionally-underrepresented peoples to define their own agricultural systems and policies, also known as the right to food sovereignty.

We now have a powerful legal tool to help ensure peasants' rights and elevate this model. In December 2018, the U.N. General Assembly adopted the landmark U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas ("UNDROP"). The result of nearly 20 years of mobilization by the social movement La Via Campesina and its allies, and six years of negotiation at the U.N. Human Rights Council, UNDROP is a response to the ongoing violations of the rights of peasants and other rural communities who help protect biodiversity and build sustainable food systems but are themselves disproportionately affected by extreme poverty and hunger.

UNDROP upholds peasant farming as an alternative to industrial agriculture. It also champions women's rights and affirms peasants' rights to land, seeds, and food sovereignty, as well as their right to maintain biological diversity through the use of traditional practices and knowledge. When their rights are recognized and protected, peasants inherently shore up the ecological infrastructure needed to conserve biodiversity, build sustainable food systems, and protect rural and urban communities against climate shocks. Notably, the IPCC 2019 Special Report on Climate Change and Land states with high confidence that agricultural practices that include indigenous and local knowledge can help overcome the combined challenges of climate change, food insecurity, and biodiversity conservation.

The need for transformative action, including in the realm of agriculture, is reflected in IUCN's views on the preparation, scope and content of the Post-2020 global biodiversity framework. Indeed, if we are to stem the significant biodiversity loss that is occurring alongside mass species extinction, we must reject destructive agricultural practices and embrace more sustainable food pathways. This, in turn, requires global recognition of the rights of peasants and respect for traditional agrarian knowledge.



recognizes this right. We therefore see this paragraph as critical to understanding and effectuating the motion as a whole.

Amendment 3, Relating to



*Requested amendment:*

4. CALLS ON states and other stakeholders active in agrobiodiversity issues to:

a. ~~{call for compliance with the right to}~~ ~~{ensure}~~

free, prior and informed consent

territories

~~mainly inhabited by indigenous~~

~~peoples as set out in~~ the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), in order to strengthen local governance, autonomy in agrobiodiversity issues, and the protection of traditional knowledge, ~~{respecting the sui generis regime}~~;

*Explanation:*

This language issues a strong call to action and importantly, acknowledges that free, prior and informed consent is a right of indigenous peoples (as articulated in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples). Acknowledging and ensuring the rights of indigenous peoples and peasant communities is critical to fulfilling the intent of this motion which is to strengthen food sovereignty and food security of indigenous peoples and peasant communities, and to acknowledge and support the role that