



**IUHPE – UIPES**

INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR HEALTH PROMOTION AND EDUCATION  
UNION INTERNATIONALE DE PROMOTION DE LA SANTÉ ET D'ÉDUCATION POUR LA SANTÉ  
UNIÓN INTERNACIONAL DE PROMOCIÓN DE LA SALUD Y EDUCACIÓN PARA LA SALUD

## **OPENING STATEMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION FOR HEALTH PROMOTION AND EDUCATION (IUHPE)**

### **CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY, FIFTEENTH MEETING KUNMING, CHINA (Part 2)**

Excellencies, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

The state of our natural environment as a key determinant of health is increasingly and explicitly recognized by the field of health promotion. I speak on behalf of the International Union for Health Promotion and Education to call on all Parties to:

- Recognize the interdependence of the natural environment, human health and all life, and to adopt a long-term, equitable and holistic view, for instance the One-health approach and a planetary health lens, throughout your deliberations.
- Support, through policy action, the implementation of the Geneva Charter for Well-Being, building on the Ottawa Charter for Health Promotion. Specifically, well-being societies require that we value, respect and nurture planet earth and its ecosystems, and that human development take place with respect for planetary and local ecological boundaries.
- Make space for and privilege Indigenous peoples' voices and knowledges. Indigenous health promotion sustains biodiversity, food sovereignty, and ecological integration, as per the Tiohtià:ke Statement of the 24th IUHPE World Conference on Health Promotion held in Montreal this past May.
- Make space for the voices and actions of youth and civil society actors dedicated to planetary health. They contribute to sustaining natural ecosystems in ways that improve quality of life for local people, and to engaging people as responsible inhabitants of those ecosystems. Indeed, growing awareness of the impacts of climate change on all aspects of societies, and awareness of the value of planetary resources, has galvanized many to co-create positive, collective, equity-enhancing actions that deserve to be shared and replicated.
- Give equal weight to communicable and non-communicable diseases, including mental health problems. Threats to the health of ecosystems contribute to the global burden of a wide range of diseases. Conversely, healthy ecosystems contribute to the prevention of disease and to health and well-being.