

International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC)
Statement in the Opening Plenary of the 42nd Session of SBSTA
1 June 2015, Bonn, Germany

Thank you chair for this opportunity, to speak on behalf of the International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate change.

Indigenous peoples' territories are home to many of the world's remaining diverse ecosystems and 80% of the planet's biodiversity. Millions of indigenous peoples around the world depend on forests and other natural resources for their subsistence, livelihoods, cultural survival and overall wellbeing. Because of this close relationship with nature, indigenous peoples are adversely affected by the impacts of climate change. As the parties have arrived in Bonn to negotiate on the draft text, we indigenous peoples would like to make the following recommendations to the 42nd session of SBSTA:

1. Parties shall ensure a human rights-based approach, which respects indigenous peoples' rights in the 2015 climate change agreement.
2. We demand additional guidance on safeguards information systems.
3. There should be an international guidance on the methodological issues of non-carbon benefits.
4. The traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples should be at the heart of discussions on early warning systems and agriculture.
5. Parties should recognize and protect the sustainable practice of shifting cultivation as a sustainable agro-forestry practice that enhances biodiversity, provides food security and livelihoods to millions of indigenous peoples.
6. Parties should support the representation of indigenous peoples as active observers to the board of Green Climate Fund and ensure direct access to the fund.