

International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC)
Statement to the ADP
3 June 2015

Distinguished Co-chairs

We would like to use this opportunity to reiterate our call on you and Parties to ensure that a truly rights-based approach that recognizes and respects the rights of Indigenous Peoples is adopted in the Paris Agreement that you are currently discussing. We note the reference to the rights of Indigenous Peoples in the paragraph on human rights that appears in section C. Section C and its reference to Indigenous Peoples' rights must remain in the document, and Parties must ensure that any new iteration of that paragraph retains and strengthens the reference to the rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Furthermore, any COP decision at Paris negotiated by the ADP should acknowledge the obligation to guarantee full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples in all processes, programs and actions at all levels, including *inter alia* access to funding mechanisms, financing, capacity building, MRV and guaranteed and enforceable safeguards and all other evolving climate change-related mechanisms.

The Fifth report of the IPCC recognizes that our traditional knowledge systems and our holistic vision of community and environment are key resources for global mitigation and adaptation to climate change. The General Assembly of the United Nations has repeatedly recognized the importance of Indigenous Peoples' traditional knowledge and the need to respect and take it into account when developing national and international approaches to climate change mitigation and adaptation. *See Outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, 36; Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, 24(i), 36(a)(v).* The negotiating text must retain and strengthen its references to indigenous traditional knowledge.

Any outcome of the negotiations currently being held and the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) submitted by Parties should include indicators on the extent to which Indigenous Peoples' rights and safeguards are respected, and non-carbon benefits are ensured. INDCs should also include indicators for reporting on national progress to ensure collective land titling, concrete measures to control mega drivers, the allocation of public funding to the management of indigenous lands, territories, and resources, and finally, the adjustment of REDD+ to indigenous proposals/initiatives that look beyond carbon benefits and market-based approaches. They should further recognize that indigenous traditional practices and livelihoods are not drivers of deforestation but rather contribute to mitigation and adaptation. Clear and robust safeguards, subject to community-based monitoring and information systems, should be established so that Indigenous Peoples' historical marginalization and exploitation is not compounded through unsafeguarded climate change intervention measures. We support as well the joint mitigation and adaptation approach for the sustainable management of forests.

Parties should establish a specially dedicated fund to be directly accessed and managed by Indigenous Peoples from developing and developed countries to enhance and further develop our adaptation capacities and to strengthen our traditional knowledge and livelihoods, which we have sustained for generations but are now threatened by the climate change. Parties should also ensure direct access to already existing climate funds including the Green Climate Fund.

Any action undertaken by the private sector in relation to climate change must respect the rights of Indigenous Peoples, including the rights to lands, territories, and resources, and the right to free, prior, and informed consent.