

**International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC) Statement
Informal Consultation on Issues Relating to Agriculture
4 June 2015**

Indigenous peoples have been nurturing and managing the forests sustainably with the traditional knowledge that we have cultivated and transferred through generations. We get everything from the forests for our daily needs and survival. The traditional foods of indigenous peoples, either cultivated in the shifting cultivation field or collected from the forests, are rich in vitamins, minerals, proteins and calories. The traditional foods are crucial for our health and wellbeing. The subsistence livelihoods of indigenous peoples such as traditional shifting cultivation, hunting, fishing and gathering are key to our livelihoods, to biodiversity conservation and enhancement; and to ensuring food security for millions of indigenous peoples, as well as contributing to the food security of many non-indigenous people.

Climate change is severely affecting the food security of indigenous peoples. Indigenous peoples have the right to continue our traditional food systems and to have access to nutritious, safe and culturally appropriate traditional foods. It is the responsibility of the states to respect and protect our ways of living, traditional food systems and subsistence livelihoods such as shifting cultivation, hunting, fishing and gathering.

Indigenous women play a key role in sustainable resource management and food security of communities using their traditional knowledge and multitude of skills, as well as transferring knowledge, cultural practices and indigenous values to children and the future generations. They play key roles in ensuring the livelihood and survival of community members and take utmost care in selecting and preserving seeds to ensure food availability in the changing climate.

So we encourage all the parties in Bonn discussing agriculture to acknowledge, respect and promote the traditional livelihoods of indigenous peoples as sustainable agriculture practices. Our livelihoods need to be acknowledged as part of the solution.