

International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change Statement on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP) at COP 19

Warsaw, Poland

12 Nov. 2013

Thank you chair for this opportunity to speak on behalf of International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC).

There is no doubt that Climate change is in reality a profound crisis and climatic aggression against the rights of Mother Earth, the right to life, the right to food, the right to health, in the end, to human rights and especially the collective rights and life ways of indigenous peoples who are also under threat. It is unacceptable that, without being at all responsible, we are major victims of climate change and climate change causes further imbalance and degradation to our multiple land use systems.

We encourage developing country parties and emerging economies to adopt development pathways consistent with the goals of the convention for emission reductions guided by the principles of historical and common but differentiated responsibility.

An overarching human rights based approach must be integrated into the climate change regime, recognizing the value of indigenous cosmo-vision and knowledge, technologies, practices, customary institutions and governance. We therefore call for urgent action that takes into account and respects the rights of our peoples as well as our traditional knowledge, throughout the climate change processes, prioritizing adaptation activities within indigenous peoples' territories.

The outcome document of the Durban platform must operationalize the Cancun Agreement as it explicitly recognize that UNFCCC Parties have human rights obligations, and that they should fully respect human rights in all climate change-related decisions including the rights of indigenous peoples. It should 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, MRV and guaranteed and enforceable safeguards and all other evolving climate change-related mechanisms.

Thank you Chair