

## Statement of International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC)

Opening Plenary of the 40<sup>th</sup> Session of the Subsidiary Body on Implementation (SBI), UNFCCC, 04 June 2014, Bonn

Thank you Chair for allowing me to speak on behalf of the International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change.

Firstly, the IIPFCC would like to acknowledge decisions adopted by COP 19 in relation to the advancement of the ADP, the Warsaw International Mechanism for loss and damage associated with climate change impacts, and the various decisions to support the full implementation of activities in the forest sector. We also acknowledge the decision on the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change and for having organized the meeting of the Adaptation Committee on this.

In relation to all these decisions and reports, the Indigenous Peoples reiterate to the SBI and State Parties the following recommendations:

- An integrated and holistic approach in the implementation of adaptation and mitigation work plans that fully respects and promotes indigenous peoples' rights, cultures, traditional knowledge systems and governance, institutions, livelihoods and technologies, which have sustained our diverse ecosystems;
- Ensure the protection of and support for indigenous peoples' rights over our land, territories and resources; and shall be safeguarded from further devastation brought about by extractive industries and industrial plantation expansions;
- In the further development of the structure, effectiveness and workplan of the International mechanism for loss and damage associated with climate change impacts, it must have inclusive participation of indigenous peoples who can contribute and provide recommendations on how to reduce the vulnerability of indigenous peoples to the impacts of climate change;
- The full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples in all decision-making processes including at the sub-national levels, that ensures participatory and transparent processes, including our free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) in all decisions, policies and projects affecting Indigenous Peoples lands, resources and territories;

- Dedicated fund mechanism to be directly accessed by indigenous peoples to enhance and further develop our adaptation capacities and to strengthen our traditional knowledge and livelihoods.

We further call to the attention of the SBI, States and policy makers to the contribution of the Working Group II to the Fifth Assessment Report of the IPCC, on *Climate Change 2014: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability*, noting that “Indigenous, local and traditional knowledge systems and practices, including the indigenous peoples’ holistic view of community and environment, are a major resource to adapting to climate change, but these has not been used consistently in existing adaptation efforts. Integrating such forms of knowledge with existing practices increases the effectiveness of adaptation.” We strongly believe that our knowledge systems, customary institutions, and best practices are vital contributions to climate change adaptation and mitigation actions, including the “loss and damage” mechanisms and actions.

Thank you Mr Chair.