

Statement of International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change Statement (IIPFCC), Opening 40th Session of SBSTA at UNFCCC

4th June 2014, Bonn, Germany

Thank you co-chairs and distinguished parties delegates, for this opportunity to speak on behalf of International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC).

We would like to acknowledge the Nairobi Work program report on the meeting on the available tools for the use of indigenous and traditional knowledge and practices and adaptation based on gender-sensitive approaches and tools for adaptation and we would like to have the continuation and further improvement of the program.

We also like to reiterate that most of the remaining forests in the world today, are found in indigenous peoples' customary-owned or managed territories, lands and resources. Therefore, any decision on our lands and forests, should not in anyway, interfere to our fundamental rights. In this context, we would like to put forward the following recommendations:

1. There should be full and effective participation of indigenous peoples' representatives in the SBSTA Expert meeting on non-market-based approaches and REDD+, Research Dialogue and event on quantified economy-wide emission reduction targets by developed country parties and issues relating to land use and food security that will be discussed here in Bonn.
2. Non-carbon benefits should be valued properly and should be defined within a human rights framework including respect and recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples to lands, territories and natural resources. It must also take into account our unique world-views, traditional knowledge, customary governance systems and our immeasurable cultural and spiritual values.
3. The methodological guidance on non carbon benefits and Safeguard Information Systems (SIS) must respect, recognize and promote the community based participatory monitoring and information systems based on traditional knowledge, customary laws, forest management systems and practices of indigenous peoples. Technical assistance and capacity building must be prioritized and supported for indigenous peoples.
4. We are encouraged by the inclusion of REDD in the Green Climate Fund. We also note the presence of provisions for Safeguards and Grievance Mechanisms in the Governing Instrument of the GCF. We call on the parties to support our call for the representation of Indigenous Peoples' Organizations (IPOs) as an observer to the Board of Green Climate Fund and our direct access to the fund.
5. Finally, we urge Climate Change activities to ensure that, all climate change adaptation and mitigation policies, strategies, actions and programmes respect the collective rights and ownship of indigenous peoples to forests, land, territories and resources, in line with the international standards and instruments such as UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) and ILO Convention 169.

Thank you.