



INTERNATIONAL
**INDIGENOUS
PEOPLES'**
FORUM ON
CLIMATE CHANGE

Al Hairat, B8
Resume of High Level Segment
Saturday December 9, 2023

Intervention by Sara Olsvig, Inuit Circumpolar Council

Qujanaq.

Excellencies, State leaders, Indigenous leaders,

My name is Sara Olsvig, I am the Chair of the Inuit Circumpolar Council. I speak on behalf of the Global Indigenous Peoples Caucus.

The Arctic is warming four times faster than the global average. Compared to pre-industrial times, our region has already warmed 2,2 degrees celsius. These are not just numbers. Our reality is, that as the ice melts, permafrost thaws and coastal erosion occurs, our livelihoods, rights and cultures are deeply impacted. These days, the sea ice has not formed in the northernmost part of Greenland, resulting in loss of access to hunting, thus to foods and incomes, putting families and children at great risk.

We call on all state parties to take action on the Paris Agreement commitment to keep global temperature increases below 1.5 degrees Celsius. This is the point of no return. If we overshoot it, the disasters we have witnessed this year will only increase - putting human rights, including the rights of Indigenous Peoples, further at risk.

Dear friends - this COP must be the COP where we not only act on climate tipping points, but also firmly act on democratic tipping points by ensuring a human rights approach, the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples as in line with the Paris Agreement, and as affirmed in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, all of which must be fully reflected in all outcome documents. This includes ensuring a non-conflation of Indigenous Peoples with local communities as well as the distinct recognition, and equitable and ethical use of the knowledge of Indigenous Peoples.

The conflation of local communities and Indigenous Peoples devalues our rights as Peoples, and must be corrected throughout all documents, including the texts on the Global Stock Take.



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Lastly, excellences, let's make sure that all climate finance initiatives are directly and equitably accessible to Indigenous Peoples from all regions of the world. Loss and damage is not only economic and tangible. Intangible values such as our cultures, food and knowledge systems must be included.

Qujanaq.