



INTERNATIONAL  
INDIGENOUS  
PEOPLES'  
FORUM ON  
CLIMATE CHANGE

***Statement of the IIPFCC to the Ad Hoc Working Group for the Paris Agreement (APA)***

*May 26, 2016 Bonn*

The International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC) welcomes the determined efforts by the Parties to limit global warming to below 1.5 degree celcius. After listening carefully to proceedings so far, we have some pertinent observations and recommendations.

First, we support the statement of the EU urging the participation of non-party stakeholders in the APA process. It is crucial that Indigenous Peoples and civil society have the opportunity to make our important contributions to this crucial process. Indigenous peoples bring a unique and crucial perspective based on our long tradition as caretakers of the environment and as holders of valuable indigenous knowledge acquired from our reliance upon the land and natural resources. The mechanism established under Article 15 of the Paris Agreement aimed at facilitating implementation of, and promoting compliance with, the provisions of the Agreement must take into account the perspectives and concerns of Indigenous Peoples.

Second, recognition, respect and promotion of human rights, including the rights of Indigenous Peoples by all parties is an over-arching requirement of the Agreement. Nevertheless, so far there has been little or no mention of the rights of indigenous peoples in discussions of the APA agenda items. The rights of Indigenous Peoples are seriously implicated in these matters and must be taken into account under all APA Agenda Items. Development and implementation of NDCs for example, must be undertaken with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples; must not include false solutions such as building large-scale hydro-electric dams that displace the indigenous peoples from our territories and must incorporate social and environmental safeguards.

Finally, NDCs must encompass commitments on Mitigation, Adaptation, and Means of the Implementation.

Thank for your attention!