



STATEMENT BY BRAZIL

12th Session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
Item 5 - Indigenous people's rights and safeguards in projects related to reducing
emissions from deforestation and forest degradation

New York, May 2013

(Please, check against delivery)

Mr. Chair,

Brazil is now taking the floor to acknowledge the positive provisions of the REDD+ Programme. I would like to note that the Brazilian Federal legislation has not yet internalized such provisions, specifically in what concerns rules for standard models of REDD+ agreements. Brazil has made all necessary efforts to advance internally on this issue. Bearing in mind its constitutional obligations to provide for the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples, the Brazilian Ministry of Justice and its official unit for indigenous issues (FUNAI) have been closely monitoring all agreement proposals in that respect, with a view to avoid any attempts to violate the rights of indigenous peoples in our country.

In what refers to policies for environmental and territorial management, I would like to recall that Rio+20 outlined the two broad concerns of the international community: eradicating poverty and promoting sustainable development.

In this regard, I am proud to refer to the recent launching of the National Policy on Territorial and Environmental Management of Indigenous Lands in Brazil, which came into force by a decree established on the World Environment Day last June.

This Decree aims at guaranteeing and promoting the rehabilitation, conservation and sustainable use of indigenous land and territorial natural

resources, ensuring the integrity of the indigenous land property, the improvement of the quality of life and the whole conditions of physical and cultural reproduction for present and future generations of indigenous populations, respecting their socio-cultural autonomy, according to the enforcing legislation.

My delegation is assured that, by granting land rights and the access to natural resources to indigenous peoples, Brazil plays an essential role regarding poverty eradication and sustainable development, as it allows them to generate the necessary conditions to improve hygiene, protect and manage natural resources, and provide for the quality and the maintenance of their traditional lifestyles.

Thank you Mr. Chair.