

Agenda Item 4: Human Rights
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Kamakakuokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies(Hawai'i)
Tuvalu Climate Change Network (Tuvalu)
Aotearoa Indigenous Rights Trust (Aotearoa/ New Zealand)
The Koani Foundation (Hawai'i)
Aupuni Hawai'i (Hawai'i)
Clan Hitorangi - Rapa Nui (Rapa Nui)
Kobe Oser (West Papua)
Hale O Haumea (Hawai'i)
Queensland Cultural Heritage and Native Title Management (Australia)
Gugu Badhun Limited (Australia)
Foundation for Indigenous Recovery and Development Australia
National Indigenous Higher Education Network (Australia)
Te Rūnanga o Te Rarawa (Aotearoa/ New Zealand)

Concerning UNDRIP article:

8.2.b: States shall provide effective mechanisms for prevention of, and redress for any action which has the aim or effect of dispossessing them of their lands, territories or resources

To forum Chair Grand Chief Edward John; and to our indigenous brothers and sisters gathered here, especially the original peoples of this land, and to all others, aloha pumehana kakou. My name is Dietrix Jon Ulukoa Duhaylonsod, and I bring greetings from the sands of O'ahu of Chief Kakuhihewa in archipelago of Hawai'i.

Although climate change is not a specific item on the agenda for the 11th Session, it remains a concern regarding our human rights until all nation states fervently implement actions to counter it. We Indigenous Peoples are renowned for our history of good stewardship of our air, land and water, and we would like to express our continued commitment to this global issue. In solidarity, we would like to make the following recommendations:

1. We ask that the United Nations proceed forward in extending the objectives and spirit of the Kyoto Protocol to significantly curtail global emissions and that these emissions reductions be demanded by science and good sense instead of being held hostage by political ambition and unwilling positions;
2. We ask that the next commitment phase of the Kyoto Protocol achieve legally binding emission reductions in Annex 1 countries with no offsets, and consider the indigenous voice in design and application;
3. We ask that indigenous peoples be partners in purposeful decision events such as The 36th sessions of the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI) and of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), the fifteenth session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA), the seventeenth session of the Ad Hoc

Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP) and the first session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action (ADP);

4. We ask that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change consider sufficient conceptual or policy tools for equitable approaches to the issue of climate-related migration; and
5. We ask that Hawai'i be placed back onto the list of nations to decolonize.

More attention should be put by UN member states, with the active assistance of Indigenous Peoples and UN Expert Agencies, on designing and implementing strategies for urgently transitioning out of fossil fuel-based energy systems and into comprehensive renewable energy systems. Nation states must impress upon all governments that they must rise above political agendas and commit to worldwide initiatives such as the Kyoto Protocol and Rio + 20 concerning sustainable development. We must ask countries to present good faith efforts towards our global well-being.

The dangers of global warming are not warnings of future crises; the catastrophe is slowly and surely happening now. There is empirical evidence across the Pacific documenting recent climate change: loss of land and contamination of underground freshwater lenses due to encroaching seas; higher ocean acidity and higher ocean temperatures leading to permanent coral bleaching; more frequent extreme weather conditions such as droughts, heavy rains and floods. These extreme weather events are particularly disturbing as they pose a significant threat to our fragile biodiversity some of which is highly vulnerable due to evolution in isolation. If our islands no longer support life, then our people no longer have a home.

There is potential for increased dislocation of Pacific peoples from their homelands due to the rising sea levels of climate change. As one family of the great Pacific, we request that any relocation of our peoples is complimented by an effective program in the 'host country' of securing full human rights protections for those relocated. This will facilitate the preservation of the affected communities' indigenous identity and status as First Nations Peoples (and all the associated rights connected with their culture, traditional lands and resources) until such time as they can (we hope) return to their homelands. This is necessary to protect cultural diversity and to facilitate political functionality.

As you well know, the threat is not only for Pacific peoples, it is global --- from our small islands to our high altitude zones, from our desert margins to our circumpolar Arctic and Antarctic. We are all in danger. Why must we be reminded that we have only one Earth? It behooves us to remain steadfast and unified in caring for it.

Thank you for your time.