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United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, Fourteenth Session
April 20 - May 1, 2015
Global Indigenous Womens Caucus

Agenda Item: 6 and 3(b) Comprehensive dialogue with United Nations agencies and funds on the post-2015 development agenda with special focus on Food, Hunger and Disease

Honorable Madame Chair, Esteemed Expert Members of the Permanent Forum (PFII), Representatives of Indigenous Peoples and Nations, Sisters and Brothers of the World, thank you for the honor of addressing you all on this agenda item.

The Global Indigenous Women's Caucus congratulates you on your selection as Chair for this fourteenth session of the Permanent Forum and wish you well in the discussions and deliberations of this body.

We ask the PFII to work with the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP) in partnership with Indigenous Peoples, and women in particular, and relevant academic institutions to study development-related conflict, utilizing Indigenous-generated and led documentation, to better inform the post-2015 process. Such a study will allow Sustainable Development Goals to be implemented in a way that avoids, mitigates, and ends development-related conflict, from which Indigenous Peoples and in particular Indigenous peoples suffer globally.

Madame Chair, the Global Women's Indigenous Caucus recommends that the PFII strongly advocate to ECOSOC that the post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) outcome document expressly center all 17 Sustainable Development Goals on the foundation of human rights laid by all the UN Human Rights instruments;

We further recommend that Permanent Forum urge member states to work with Indigenous Peoples and Nations, for a collaborative definition of a "green economy". Thus beginning the process of eradication of the effects of climate change, that affect Indigenous Peoples' food security, homelands, and ecosystems, and which fully recognizes Indigenous Peoples' rights. Such a definition shall not commodify nor privatize forests, water, biodiversity, or other aspects of the Natural World and force them into culturally and ecologically-destructive market based resource systems.

Indigenous Peoples need urgent capacity building on the Nagoya Protocol, this new instrument is related to our resources and traditional knowledge, therefore has a close relationship with food, hunger and disease. We call upon the Permanent Forum to strongly advocate to ECOSOC to provide such capacity building for the benefit of Indigenous women and peoples.

We thank you Madam Chair for your full consideration and implementation of these recommendations.