

Dear Excellences,

The International Indigenous Peoples' Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC) appreciates that the Fijian Presidency opened the COP with a traditional ceremony. We encourage that Parties continue to channel this "Indigenous Spirit" throughout all the discussions during, and after, this COP.

In that spirit, we reiterate the importance that Parties respect the interrelated, interdependent, and indivisible rights of Indigenous Peoples including those reaffirmed in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) when implementing the Paris Agreement. This is an essential starting point to ensure the full and effective participation and contributions of Indigenous Peoples..

As the Parties continue to develop the "additional guidance" to NDCs, we encourage them to follow the commitments mentioned above, particularly Indigenous Peoples full and effective participation. This includes in the development of guidance that recognizes our collective rights to lands, territories and natural resources, autonomy, self-representation, exercise of customary law, non-discrimination and customary land ownership and use.

Indigenous Peoples cannot be sidelined in the Global Stocktake. Instead a clear and transparent process must focus on the respect, recognition, and inclusion of Indigenous rights. Our knowledge is a critical part of the solution to this climate crisis and we encourage Parties to reflect this in the design of the Global Stocktake's modalities, procedures and the guidelines. The reporting on Parties' actions allows an objective assessment of their compliance with their obligations to Indigenous Peoples' rights. This cannot be achieved without full and effective participation of us.

The National Communication Report including report on mitigation and adaptation measures must include information on how indigenous peoples are included in decision making on adaptation measures based on their self-determined contributions and rights. .

The forth seeing Rule Book and the implementation of Paris Agreement must ensure every element including preamble section of the Agreement be respected in a holistic and integrated manner.

We encourage the states to raise your ambition and commitment.

Thank You