



CARIBBEAN ANTILLES INDIGENOUS PEOPLES CAUCUS & THE DIASPORA (CAIPCD)

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14 May 2007

United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Sixth session

New York, 14-25 May 2007

Agenda item 9 Future work of the Forum, including emerging issues.

Half-day discussion on SIDS

Collective RESOLUTION/Recommendation submitted by the:
Caribbean Antilles Indigenous Peoples Caucus & The Diaspora
Indigenous People (Betheschilokono) of Saint Lucia Governing Council
THE ALDET CENTRE-SAINT LUCIA
International Indigenous Peoples Think Tank
Small Island Developing States 2005 Mauritius Initiatives

Special theme: "Territories, lands and natural resources".

RESOLUTION / Recommendation:

Given that Small Island Developing States, mostly inhabited by Indigenous Peoples are vulnerable to climate change, the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues request the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to allocate a Half-day discussion on Small Island Developing States and the effects of Climate Change on Indigenous Peoples, during the Seventh Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in 2008, inviting the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and other specialized United Nations Agencies, Governments and Indigenous Representatives from Small Island Developing States to participate at the special session.

The RESOLUTION / Recommendation is being presented, bearing in mind the conclusions of the Working Group II Contribution to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change/Fourth Assessment Report; Climate Change 2007: Climate Change Impacts Adaptation and vulnerability.

"Small Islands, whether located in the Tropics or higher latitudes, have characteristics which make them especially vulnerable to the effects of climate change, sea level rise and extreme events."

Deterioration in costal conditions through erosion of beaches and coral bleaching affect fishing stocks, threatens vital infrastructure, settlements and facilities that

support the livelihood of island communities and reduce the value of these destinations for tourism.

Climate change by 2050 will reduce water resources in many small islands, in particular in the Caribbean and the Pacific which will increase negative impacts on small holdings, substance farmers and fishers. The health of the populations will be at greater risks.

Higher temperatures will also increase the potential for invasive species.

Vulnerable Small Islands face multiple stresses that affect their exposure and sensitivity as well as capacity to adapt which may impede their ability to meet the Millennium Development Goals.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Albert DeTerville".

Albert DeTerville, Executive Chairperson