



INTERNATIONAL  
INDIGENOUS  
PEOPLES'  
FORUM ON  
CLIMATE CHANGE

International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change (IIPFCC)  
Opening statement for joint opening plenary of SBSTA, APA and SBI  
30 April 2018, Bonn, Germany

IIPFCC recognizes the efforts of Parties to implement paragraph 135 of the Paris Decision establishing the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples' Platform. We call upon the Parties to commit to the work that remains for full operationalization of the Platform and the Gender Action Plan.

Mr. Chairperson, respect for, and observance of human rights and the rights of Indigenous Peoples in the implementation of the Paris Accords are of paramount concern to us.

Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) have a direct and immediate impact on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, as do mitigation actions and National Adaptation Plans. All climate actions must take into account our rights to self-determination as affirmed in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) including our rights to our lands, territories and resources, our cultures and ways of life and our Free, Prior, and Informed Consent (FPIC). The global stock-take must require, and not merely recommend, that parties report on human rights and the rights of Indigenous Peoples in their mitigation and adaptation efforts, so that the UN effectively monitor compliance.

We are encouraged by the adoption of the Green Climate Fund's Indigenous Peoples policy and would urge the parties to take similar arrangements with regard to the governance of the Adaptation Fund. As recent studies demonstrate, Indigenous Peoples' full and effective participation in climate actions, including direct access to financing, only promote their success. The observance of FPIC is fundamental to our full and effective participation.

The charter of the United Nations, article 55 states: "With a view to the creation of conditions of stability and well-being which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, the United Nations shall promote: [*inter alia*] c. universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion."

The right to Self-determination leads the list of *jus cogens* rights, and therefore cannot be pushed aside or ignored. It is an international legal obligation, incumbent on all members of the United Nations that must be reflected throughout the implementation of the Paris Agreement.