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Joint Consensus statement by :Khoisan Cultural and Heritage Council ,First  
Indigenous Nations Civic Association of South Africa,Southern Africa Climate  
Change Watch,Youth 4 Change South Africa

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Indigenous Youth and Children

Coming from South Africa we have our concerns and problems in terms of taking corrective steps > Our Khoisan Peoples were the first in South Africa that was dispossessed of our land by the Colonist. We also fought the first war in 1510 in which 67 European Soldiers died including their General Dealdemaide near our mountain Hoerikwaggo ( Table mountain).Cape Town

In 1652 Jan Van Riebeeck from the Nederland's set foot on table bay and occupied our land . Since then our cultures and language slowly disappearing as our people around were forcefully adopt to their cultures ,like the saying goes amongst our people,"they came with the bible in one hand and the gun in the other hand."

Our youth and children of the past and the present had to endure all onslaughts against them . Through Colonial times, apartheid and currently in our democratic dispensation little has being done to correct the injustice of the past by Government .Visiting a Primary School in our indigenous area which is called the Cape Flats which was forced upon us to live when the Colonialist graped our prime land. A teacher commented to us that the education system was designed to fail. We were also forced to remove,like the desert and rock areas where the San communities lived to make way for the Defence force and to dump Nuclear waste during Apartheid. This result in force migration upon our people . The delay of Government Systems have the following impact :

- Teenage pregnancy is rive 9 to 12 years even ,alcoholism amongst our youth is a great concern .
- The dropout rate of our youth is very high eg. At grade six their might be six classed starting high school and ends up with two classes at the end of their high school career with plus minus forty in a class. The rest stay at home with no jobs and those that find job is minimal. Let us remind the UNPFII that we have a policy that states that children should go to school after the age of sixteen but there is no is no law enforcing the policy.
- The above result in that the youth becomes gangsters where we have over 80 different gangs with over 120thousand gang members which age between 12 and 26 years which is by far the majority.
- Drugs is also a major concern amongst our children and youth we have a new drug that is in existence for about three years which is called Tik and it is poisoness. It makes the youth insane and even kills. What is strange is that