

## **IIPFCC Opening Statement COP 20, 1 December, Lima**

We, the indigenous peoples from all over the world are in the **frontline and pay the highest** price of climate change. Climatic aggression threatens indigenous peoples' individual and collective human rights and life ways including the right to life, the right to food, the right to health, and the right to lands, territories and resources. It is unacceptable that, without being at all responsible, indigenous peoples remain major victims of climate change, and climate change continues to cause further imbalance and degradation to indigenous peoples' multiple land use systems. This is further aggravated by the pressure of **commercial and extractive interests on our lands such as agribusiness operations, oil palm, biofuel, livestock, hydroelectric, logging, mining and oil megaprojects.**

The threat to our survival is a threat to humanity that depends on the integrity of ecosystems that we have been managing, preserving, and protecting for millennia. Scientific data shows that the collective ownership and integral titling of land, territories and resources of indigenous peoples, as well as the respect for its usage and traditions are the most effective ways of protecting fragile ecosystems (such as forests and glaciers) and thereby contributing to adaptation and mitigation.

Parties shall ensure a **human rights-based approach** which respects Indigenous Peoples' rights and related safeguards in any future climate change programmes, actions and agreements including those that will be adopted in COP21 in Paris. Any agreement should build and expand on the language contained in Cancun Climate agreement that represents an initial step towards recognizing the rights of indigenous peoples established in the **UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples** and other relevant international human rights instruments and standards (expand this for all document).

States, at the HLPM/WCIP, recognized the role of sustainable agricultural practices, and traditional ecosystem management. The Conference also reaffirmed that Indigenous Peoples' knowledge and strategies to sustain their environment should be respected and taken into account when governments and the international community develop national and international approaches and programmes of climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Indigenous women have contributed to taking care of life and family for millennia; and in this climate change process, they are not only victims but active participants in the mitigation and adaptation processes, ensuring the food of future generations. This knowledge should be recognized and respected.

For the reasons above, these are the key demands of indigenous peoples to States and Parties:

**RECOGNITION OF A HUMAN RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH WHICH RESPECTS INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RIGHTS IN CLIMATE-CHANGE AGREEMENTS AND RELATED ACTIONS**

**RESPECT OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RIGHTS TO LANDS, TERRITORIES AND RESOURCES**

**RECOGNITION OF, AND RESPECT FOR, INDIGENOUS TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND THE ROLE OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION**

**RECOGNITION AND SUPPORT OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' COMMUNITY- BASED MONITORING AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS (CBMIS)**

**RESPECT INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RIGHTS TO FULL AND EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION IN ALL CLIMATE CHANGE ACTIONS AND UNFCCC INSTITUTIONS**

**ENSURE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DIRECT ACCESS TO FINANCE AND CAPACITY BUILDING**