

***Indigenous Peoples' Statement at the 10th FCPF Participants Assembly
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Thanks so much for this opportunity to speak on behalf of Indigenous Peoples. First, may we greet everyone on this 10th anniversary of the FCPF, and parallel to this, may we also report that this is the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the UNDRIP, which is a very significant milestone on the recognition of rights of Indigenous Peoples all over the world!

We greatly appreciate the progressive developments and transformational achievements of the REDD+ countries based on the readiness package reviews and the midterm progress reports; and we congratulate all the countries that have presented reviews and reports that generally indicate high standards for REDD+ but also for contributing to the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the broader sustainable development goals. We also acknowledge countries who have seriously considered to address the REDD+ safeguards and other relevant guidance from the UNFCCC, specific to the respect of Indigenous Peoples rights, including addressing land tenure rights and the crucial contribution of our traditional knowledge and natural resource management systems, and enhancing livelihoods and innovations; as well as, the effective and meaningful participation of indigenous peoples, local communities, and women in the REDD+ processes. And we look forward to further enhancing these partnerships at national and subnational levels. However, we also observed that some countries mentioned or reported very general stakeholder engagement, without clarity on the extent and effectiveness of participation of IPs, women and local communities; and we call upon them to raise the bar of effective participation and meaningful engagement; and most specifically, on the clarity of forest and land tenure concerns that we had been raising over the years. We also emphasize, as reported by the FMT, on the need for further reiteration of gender-related reports, assessments, and giving importance on the role and contributions of women in the REDD+ processes. We also emphasize on the monitoring and evaluation reports, as well, as in the progress and review reports, on the further development on data disaggregation in terms of ethnicity and gender-related indicators.

On our part, in addition to what was reported, may we also take this opportunity to report on the progress of work and our implementation of the FCPF Capacity Building Program dedicated for Indigenous peoples and Southern CSOs. For the Phase 2, after a long process of undergoing the necessary due diligence and tedious fiduciary requirements of the Bank, the IPOs/CSOs serving as regional recipients of the fund have now provided direct support for selected and qualified IPOs/local communities/SCSO based on the criteria and limits of the fund. We are also grateful on the approval of PC 23 for the additional allocation of US\$5 million to the IPs and CSOs Capacity Building Program, and we hope to make more progress in reaching out to more IPOs/LCs and Southern CSOs from this Program which will run up to 2020.

As reported by the FMT, allow us also to reiterate some important concerns from the October 2016 workshop. We consider this a very fruitful stakeholder engagement workshop with experts from Indigenous Peoples and southern CSOs on forests/REDD+. This workshop gave us also the opportunity to further discuss on how IPs/SCSOs will be participating in the process of the design of ERPs for the Carbon Fund, as well as for the other World Bank REDD+ initiatives, including the Forest Investment Program (FIP) and the BioCarbon Fund (BioCF) Initiative for Sustainable Forest Landscapes (ISFL).

From this workshop, we recommended the development of participatory monitoring systems by IPs/local communities (LC)/CSOs at the national and subnational levels; and to institutionalize the preparation and submission of parallel IP/LC /SCSOs reports. However, to be able to do this, we further encourage the support from REDD+ Readiness country programs to be able to reach out to our networks and organizations at the subnational/local levels for the preparation of such reports.

We would also like to reiterate that we have a pending request to the FCPF to provide support for regional and global self-assessment and evaluation workshops of IP/CSO engagement in REDD+ readiness at the national and subnational levels for the past years. In line with this, as reported by the FCPF-FMT, there will be a global workshop on social inclusion/safeguards and stakeholder engagement planned before June 2018. As planned, this global workshop would bring together REDD+ country participants, IPs/CSOs and donors with the aim of sharing knowledge and good practices on land tenure, benefit sharing, grievance mechanisms, SESA/ESMF, gender issues and stakeholder engagement. However, may we also further recommend that before the global workshop, the IPs/LCs/CSOs should be supported to enable us to conduct our own internal process to make our own self-assessments at regional levels with results to be fed-in into this global workshop. A specific concern that will be considered is also an assessment of the self-nomination process of IP observers in the FCPF which had been done regionally, and we want to learn from our experience and processes to recommend further improvements for the coming periods.

Finally, may we also report that Indigenous Peoples are actively engaging in the process of the implementation of the Paris Agreement, specific on how our countries are addressing the integration of the respect of human rights, including the rights of indigenous peoples and women in all climate change actions. Another crucial decision under the Paris Agreement /COP 21 and COP22 decision, that we are following through is specific on the:

Decision 1/CP.21 Paragraph 135 on the implementation on (1) the need to strengthen knowledge, technologies, practices and efforts of local communities and Indigenous Peoples related to addressing and responding to climate change, and (2) the establishment of a platform for the exchange of experiences and sharing of best practices on mitigation and adaptation in a holistic and integrated manner.

We are currently into the process on the operationalization of this local communities and Indigenous Peoples (LCIP) knowledge platform under the UNFCCC through dialogues with State Parties on the adoption of a decision item on the LCIP platform under the upcoming UNFCCC COP23. We hope for the support of State Parties on the implementation of this decision at global and country levels.

Again, thanks for this opportunity to share this progress on work in partnership with all of you.