

Statement

International Forum of Indigenous Peoples on Climate Change (IIPFCC) On AWG-KP, Agenda item 5

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I am taking the floor on behalf of the International Forum of Indigenous Peoples on Climate Change.

Mr. Chairman, we are profoundly concerned about the potential environmental, socio-economic, culture and spiritual consequences including spillover effects, of tools, policies, measures and methodologies of Annex I countries for our peoples and our ancient lifestyle.

First and foremost, developed countries need to increase their reduction target to as much as 80% of emissions of 1990 levels until 2050. Secondly, Indigenous Peoples are already suffering the very adverse impacts of climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies and projects and adamantly oppose any continuation or expansion of Clean Development Mechanism. A growing number of CDM projects in all regions of the world violate Indigenous Peoples' rights and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, as well as the right to free, prior, informed consent and the right to full and effective participation and the right to say "no".

For example, the indigenous Ngobe community of Charco de la Pava, of the Bocas del Toro Province of Panamá has been invaded and suffered other abuses because construction of the CHAN 75 Hydroelectric Dam Project. We are very concerned about the human rights violations committed by the police against the Charco de la Pava community including loss of housing, destruction of food crops and other abuses such as the excessive use of force and the detention and abuse of women and children that are opposing the construction of the hydroelectric dam project.

In North America, carbon trading regimes and CDM projects create toxic hotspots within Indigenous Peoples' territories where fossil-fuel production are expanded and given carbon credits. In West Bengal, India, the JINDAL factory which is receiving CDM credits has displaced Indigenous Peoples and 400 people have suffered abuses. Four dams are planned on the River Madera endangering Indigenous Peoples in Brazil and Bolivia which may be CDM projects.

But CDM is not the only problem. Another false solution to climate change is agro fuels. In Colombia, the aerial spraying of glyphosate on indigenous territories displaces Indigenous Peoples from their territories which are then turned into African oil palm plantations for agro fuel production. Throughout the world, plantations cause displacement of indigenous peoples from our territories, the loss of land, biodiversity, culture, spirituality and food sovereignty.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, we strongly oppose all future projects of CDM given how we have already suffered from existing CDM projects and false solutions to climate change. Real solutions honor our spiritual relationship with nature and do not destroy nature nor threaten Indigenous Peoples.

Thank you.