
Statement on Agenda Item 4(b) Environment

Presented by Joji Carino, Tebtebba Foundation

FOLLOW-UP TO THE WORLD SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT


“We reaffirm the vital role of the indigenous peoples in sustainable development.”

(Paragraph 25 - WSSD Political Declaration)

Mr. Chairman,

The Indigenous Peoples Caucus on Sustainable Development, wishes to make some proposals and recommendations towards the Permanent Forum’s contribution to the implementation of the WSSD outcomes. In the light of time limitations, the supporting documents to our recommendations will be attached for the consideration of Permanent Forum members:

1. Indigenous Peoples Global Review of the Implementation of Agenda 21
2. Kimberley Declaration
3. Indigenous Peoples Plan of Implementation on Sustainable Development
4. Indigenous Peoples Kyoto Water Declaration
5. Indigenous Peoples Declaration on the Extractive Industries

Furthermore, we wish to invite everyone to the side-event on this theme that will be taking place today at Conference Room 2 at 1:15 - 2:45.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Permanent Forum

1. Welcomes the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, including the reaffirmation by member states of the vital role of indigenous peoples in sustainable development in the Johannesburg Political Declaration.
2. Welcomes the Kimberley Declaration and the Indigenous Peoples Plan of Implementation on
Sustainable Development as important contributions made by Indigenous Peoples to the global effort towards sustainable development, and transmits these documents to ECOSOC for system-wide distribution and use in the follow-up implementation of the WSSD outcomes.

3. Welcomes the Partnership on Indigenous Rights and Sustainable Development, Capacity-building for Dialogue launched at WSSD to:
   1. promote knowledge on indigenous peoples rights and priorities in development agencies and national governments,
   2. exchange experiences of good practice and
   3. enhance the capacity of indigenous peoples to influence policy processes and decision-making regarding sustainable development

4. Will promote the concrete implementation of these outcomes through attendance by Permanent Forum members in relevant meetings, and through Secretariat actions in the implementation processes under the auspices of the Commission on Sustainable Development.

The Permanent Forum through ECOSOC

5. Invites UN agencies, bodies, funds, programmes to identify areas of work within their mandates for collaborative implementation with indigenous peoples of the Kimberley proposals, in keeping with Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI).

6. Further invites member-States, UN agencies, bodies, funds, programmes to become part of the Partnership on Indigenous Rights and Sustainable Development, Capacity-building for Dialogue and to contribute towards its concrete implementation.

The Permanent Forum in its Work Plan on the Follow-up of the WSSD

Indigenous Peoples and Water

7. On the cluster of issues for focussed consideration under the 2004-2005 work plan - Water, Sanitation and Human Settlements, the Permanent Forum will be informed by the Indigenous Peoples’ Kyoto Water Declaration, which presents Indigenous Peoples’ Relationship to Water, the Conditions of Our Waters, Our Right to Water and Self-Determination, Traditional Knowledge, Consultations and Our Plan of Action.

Indigenous Peoples and the Extractives Industries

8. Under the cross-cutting themes of poverty eradication, changing unsustainable patterns of consumption and production, protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development, sustainable development in a globalising world and health and sustainable development, the Permanent Forum promote understanding of the negative impacts of the extractive industries - oil, gas and mining - on the lives of indigenous peoples.


Indigenous Peoples, Parks and Protected Areas

11. The Permanent Forum notes the preparations of indigenous peoples for the World Congress on Protected Areas, to be held in Durban, South Africa in September of this year. Permanent Forum members consider this an important meeting for their attention and action.

Indigenous Peoples and Environmental Racism

12. The Permanent Forum in supporting the implementation of multilateral environmental agreements, is cognisant of environmental racism and the disparities in the application of environmental protection mechanisms that fail to protect Indigenous peoples, and other communities based upon ethnicity, class and caste.