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FORUM ON
CLIMATE CHANGE

Intervention proposal for discussions on [document](#) SBSTA 62 agenda item 5(a) SBI 62 agenda item 11(a) Matters relating to the global goal on adaptation. Version 24/6/2025 9:20

Thank you, Co-Facilitators.

I deliver this intervention on behalf of the Indigenous Peoples Constituency.

We note with appreciation the inclusion of specific references to Indigenous Peoples, notably in paragraph 11 and paragraph 15(d). However, we must firmly stress that this recognition must be consistent and accurate throughout the document. We also urge Parties and Co-Facilitators to ensure that the clear and necessary distinction between *Indigenous Peoples* and *local communities* is maintained across all paragraphs. This distinction is enshrined in international human rights law and already upheld in other draft texts, including the Just Transition Work Programme. **We therefore call for the consistent use of a comma after “Indigenous Peoples,” and for their separate recognition in all relevant paragraphs of the draft.**

Also, in accordance with Article 7.5 of the Paris Agreement, adaptation indicators must be guided not only by assessment of vulnerability or exposure, but also by the recognition of the *contributions of Indigenous Peoples* to adaptation. These contributions include traditional knowledge systems, customary early warning mechanisms, and collective territorial governance—systems that have proven to be effective over generations. **These must be explicitly reflected in the indicators and methodologies developed under the Baku Adaptation Road Map, in alignment with paragraph 21 of decision 3/CMA.6.**

We are also concerned by the current framing of the technical process to refine indicators. While we recognize the role of technical experts, we caution that many of them may not be equipped with the necessary understanding or access to Indigenous knowledge systems. If the indicators are to reflect the true scope of adaptation, they must be informed by the full and direct participation of Indigenous Peoples, and supported by inputs that reflect our diverse ways of life, governance, and adaptation strategies. In that sense, **different edits are needed to ensure that technical experts have all the sufficient and available information to reduce and refine these indicators, while taking into account Indigenous Peoples rights and knowledge.**

To that end, we recommend the following adjustments to the draft:

1. In **subparagraph 9(d)**, we propose the addition of the following reference after “UNESCO”: **“the Monitoring Framework of the Kunming-Montreal Global**



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Biodiversity Framework.” This will allow coherence with existing global biodiversity indicators and metadata. However, we request to avoid any confluence between "Indigenous Peoples", and "local communities," that should always be separated at least by a comma.

2. In **subparagraph 9(j)**, we request the deletion of the brackets and retention of the paragraph. Therefore, the paragraph reads **“Data availability should not restrict the development of new indicators that are needed to address gaps, and additional capacity may be required to report on such indicators”**.
3. In **subparagraph 9(k)**, after **“[...] climate change”**, we request to add **“as well as the roles and respect of the rights of Indigenous Peoples, Afrodecendant peoples, local communities, women and youth”**.
4. In **paragraph 11**, we ask the removal of the brackets and the retention of the paragraph, with the following addition at the end of the text **“and respecting their roles and rights.”** Therefore, the paragraph should read: **“The SBSTA and the SBI agreed that the final outcome of the United Arab Emirates– Belém work programme should reflect cross-cutting considerations related to Indigenous Peoples and ~~and~~, [add a comma] local communities, women and girls, people of African descent and others disproportionately affected by climate change, recognizing that reducing vulnerability is central to the global goal on adaptation, and respecting their roles and rights.”**
5. In **paragraph 12**, to ensure that Indigenous Peoples' inputs are adequately considered in the refinement of indicators by technical experts, we propose the addition of the following sentence at the end: **“Observers, and constituencies, may submit inputs to the secretariat in advance of the meeting of the experts referred to in paragraph 1 above [and Parties], including proposed indicators and relevant considerations, with a view to informing the discussions and review process.”**
6. In **paragraph 16 (c) and (d)**, add reference to Indigenous Peoples knowledge and rights. Therefore, the text should read:
 - a. In subparagraph 16(c): After **“Enhancing knowledge-sharing”**; add **“including the knowledge of Indigenous Peoples”**.
 - b. In subparagraph 16(d): After **“developed countries,”** add **“including of Indigenous Peoples, Afrodecendant peoples, local communities, women and youth,”** in accordance with Articles 9, 10, and 11 of the Paris Agreement;



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7. In **paragraph 19 (c)**: add a text that calls for the effective participation of Indigenous Peoples during the workshop. Therefore the text should read: “[...] includes an organized workshop, expert meeting and support sessions, **with the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples, Afrodescendant peoples, local communities, women and youth**, to share knowledge and scale up adaptation action, **guided by the best available science, traditional knowledge, the knowledge of Indigenous Peoples**.
8. In **paragraph 21 (b)**: we propose the addition of a new sub-item (iii) under this paragraph, which reads: (iii): **the knowledge of Indigenous Peoples and their governance system, with a view to integrating their knowledge and governance systems into relevant socioeconomic and environmental policies and actions.**”
9. In **paragraph 29**: We propose the addition of the following clause at the end of the paragraph: “[...] **ensuring the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples, Afrodescendant peoples, local communities, women and youth.**”

Finally, we emphasize that the outcome of this process must not perpetuate historical patterns of exclusion. It must guarantee the full and direct participation of Indigenous Peoples—as rights-holders, not merely stakeholders—in every stage of the refinement of indicators and the development of guidance, including through dedicated spaces in technical meetings and reporting mechanisms.

We stand ready to contribute our knowledge, our governance systems, and our lived experience. Let us be clear: adaptation will only be effective, equitable, and transformative if it is shaped by the leadership, priorities, and rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Thank you, Co-Facilitators.