

## **SUBMISSION FROM INDIGENOUS PEOPLES ORGANIZATIONS ON STRATEGIC PLAN TO THE GREEN CLIMATE FUND**

Indigenous Peoples organizations and representatives of the Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change, following and participating in Green Climate Fund board meetings wish to bring to the attention of the Board the following key requests for consideration in the text of the Strategic Plan.

- 1 The Strategic Plan of the GCF should include a separate paragraph on Indigenous Peoples, referencing their special situations and vulnerability to Climate Change. Historical marginalization and vulnerability of indigenous peoples the world over, often associated to their overreliance on nature-based livelihoods systems, make them more susceptible to the impacts of Climate change than any other single social group or sector within their respective nation states. (Decision b.11/03 para c)
- 2 Secondly, The Strategic Plan should recognize Indigenous Peoples' positive contribution to mitigation and adaptation efforts through their traditional and indigenous knowledge systems, which is an accepted fact by the recent IPCC AR5 and a number of UNFCCC COP decisions, including Cancun and Warsaw decisions and the Outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples Issues (WCIP).
- 3 The Strategic Plan is calling for the identification of policy gaps, opportunities and challenges in operationalizing the GCF guidelines. We want to highlight that one of our key requests for the GCF is the development and adoption of the Indigenous Peoples' policy, that would contain provisions and criteria aimed at the implementation of international human rights standard and obligations such as the ILO 169 and UNDRIP. We are asking for inclusion of the commitment and the timeline for development and adoption of this important document in the text of the Strategic Plan. We see that the absence of an IP policy at present is a major gap at the GCF. However, we also would want to underscore that this is an opportunity for the GCF to create one and be guided in relating with indigenous peoples.
- 4 The present Observers space, multi-stakeholder engagement and country ownership under Readiness of the GCF, and the draft Strategic plan document, for example do not mention, least of all provide meaningful avenues for engagement of indigenous peoples, despite the reality that a significant portion of climate change intervention projects to be supported by the GCF will be undertaken within IPs' territories. Therefore, it is crucial that the GCF board: a. includes a consideration in the Strategic Plan a discussion and a potential decision to allocate an Active Observer status for Indigenous Peoples representatives; b. includes a language that further develops clearly elaborated guidelines and criteria to ensure the effective engagement and participation of indigenous peoples and their Free Prior and Informed consent on projects that would affect them, both in the GCF activities and at country and regional level (such as with the Nationally Designated Authority and the Implementing Entities);

For further Information and clarification kindly Contact:

Galina [Angarova:angalya@gmail.com](mailto:angalya@gmail.com); Helen Magata: [len@tebtebba.org](mailto:len@tebtebba.org) and Kimaren Riamit – [rkimaren@gmail.com](mailto:rkimaren@gmail.com)