

DECLARATION OF THE AFRICAN INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' SUMMIT ON CLIMATE CHANGE

NAKURU, KENYA

Recalling the provisions of the General Assembly Resolutions 44/228 of 22nd December 1989 on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and Resolution 43/53 of 6th December 1988, 44/207 of 22nd December 1989, 45/212 of 21st December 1990 and 41/169 of 19th of December 1991 as well as the UNFCCC on the Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind.

Considering the adoption by the United Nations General Assembly of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) with the provision of Article 19 on the right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)

Noting the vulnerability of Indigenous peoples to the adverse impacts of climate change as documented in the Report on the Impacts of Climate Change Mitigation measures on Indigenous peoples on their territories and lands (E/C 19/2008/10) as well as the report of the 7th session of the UNPFII (E/C 19/2008/13)

Acknowledging the diversity of Indigenous peoples of Africa in terms of cultures, livelihoods, language and ecological systems

Recognizing the interconnectedness, interdependence and intimacy between the environment and indigenous peoples' livelihoods

We, representatives of Indigenous peoples of Africa meeting in Nakuru, Republic of Kenya from the 5th - 6th March 2009, agree and declare as follows:

That we will pursue our right to effective participation in the global climate change processes as a united front with a common agenda in preparation for COP 15 in Copenhagen, Denmark and beyond

That we hereby form an adhoc steering committee comprising of sub-regional representatives to coordinate activities prior and post COP 15, the sub regions are Eastern Africa, Western Africa, Central Africa, North Africa and Southern Africa.

That we hereby mandate the said adhoc Steering Committee to coordinate, lobby, advocate and link African Indigenous peoples concerns in all matters relating to UNFCCC processes in the African context

That we are committed to work in collaboration with our respective governments to ensure the inclusion of Indigenous peoples concerns in the forthcoming COP 15 and beyond

That we are committed to network and collaborate in promoting Indigenous peoples' issues on climate change nationally and internationally

That we call upon UN member States, UN agencies, international organizations and foundations to ensure that the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples are mainstreamed in the design and implementation of any programme or project in any Indigenous peoples' land/territory

That we reaffirm that climate change is not only an environmental issue but also a development issue, a livelihood issue, a human rights issue and those formulating policies for adaptation and mitigation strategies must be sensitive to the cultural, spiritual and social wellbeing as well as the social-economic activities of Indigenous peoples

That we call upon States, UN agencies and international organizations to ensure meaningful consultation and the full and effective participation of Indigenous peoples in all processes and activities undertaken at both the national and the global level on climate change in line with the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

That we request States to establish National Strategies on Climate Change issues with the full and effective participation of Indigenous peoples on the basis of the Rio Conventions.

That we request the Danish Government and the secretariat of the UNFCCC to ensure that Indigenous peoples concerns are raised during negotiations at the High Level Segment of COP 15

That we call upon the World Bank as well as other international financial institutions and donor groups to ensure that Indigenous peoples of Africa are at the center of the processes on the REDD programme and that the provisions of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples are mainstreamed in its implementation

That we adopt the statement of Indigenous peoples and NGOs on the occasion of the presentation of the Report of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) on the relationship between Climate change and Human Rights at the 10th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council.

That we call upon African Governments to Ratify ILO 169 as well as ensuring implementation of United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous peoples.

That we call upon States, UN agencies, and other international organizations to ensure that traditional knowledge including local mitigation and adaptation strategies are acknowledged, appreciated and supported.

Finally, we extend our deep appreciation to IWGIA, IFAD and CORDAID for their support as well as MPIDO for the organization of this summit.