

Post-2015 Intergovernmental Negotiations Interactive Dialogue with Major Groups and other Stakeholders, June 24, 2015, UN Headquarters

Indigenous Peoples Major Group (IPMG) Statement

Please see IPMG Response to the Post-2015 Zero Draft here:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Kzo3db-7Xq4UNpZq0pJxmikx8QtAE5qXhfQMT5HWquw/edit?usp=sharing>

Check against delivery

Respectful greetings to all.

The Indigenous Peoples Major Group appreciates that the zero draft acknowledges ‘wide consultation with stakeholders’ and the ‘special effort to listen to the voices and concerns of the poorest and vulnerable’ (para 5, 43). However, it seems that the voices of indigenous peoples, who are in many cases among the poorest and most marginalized, have not been heard. Reviewing the document holistically, there is little recognition of the role and right of participation of indigenous peoples in the agenda.

As a reminder, Indigenous Peoples are rights-holders whose traditional territories “encompass up to 22 percent of the world’s land surface” and “coincide with areas that hold up to 80 percent of the planet’s biodiversity.” Therefore, the zero draft needs to acknowledge Indigenous Peoples as active agents of change, rather than just vulnerable beneficiaries.

Indeed, the success of this agenda will depend on the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples, as well as children, youth, women and girls, persons with disabilities, older persons, volunteers, and others who find themselves among the poorest and most marginalized, at all levels of its implementation, follow-up, and review. This understanding is critical to ensure that post2015 agenda is based on human rights, and that national strategies and various partnerships put peoples first.

We have prepared a full, detailed reaction to all aspects of the zero draft available online, but I will highlight just a few of our recommendations:

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1. The Preamble should be more balanced referencing all 17 goals and could state that this agenda will count on “**full and effective participation of all peoples**”.
2. In the Declaration, we call for a new paragraph consistent with commitments already made by States made in the Future We Want (para 49) and World Conference on Indigenous Peoples (WCIP para 33, 37), which highlight the special situation of Indigenous Peoples.
3. The application of **Free Prior and Informed Consent** should be ensured as a safeguard against “wrong” development interventions, for example, in para 17.
4. Consideration and monitoring of **rights to land and natural resources** needs to be a priority, for example, in para 15, 18, 24, 26, 33, & 39.
5. The **Implementation** section should make specific mention of Indigenous Peoples as key stakeholders, for example, in para 33 & 37.

Thank you.