

14 February 2025

To

The Bureau of the INC,

UNEP HQ, Nairobi, Kenya

Call for assurance of the meaningful participation of Indigenous Peoples at INC Process, and Recognition and Protection of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

Honorable Bureau Members,

Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities Major Group would like to draw the attention of the INC Bureau regarding intentional depriving of Indigenous Peoples' participation in the INC-5 in Busan, Republic of Korea. The INC process is one of the UN processes where the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples must be respected and secured with the active engagement and meaningful participation of Indigenous Peoples.

The authoritarian behaviour of the INC Chair done during the Plenary Sessions of INC-5 has violated the fundamental human rights of Indigenous Peoples including the violation of meaningful participation of the Indigenous Peoples and civil societies as per the principles of the United Nations. In addition, the UNEA resolution 5/14 section 4 (d) ¹that highlights the importance of traditional knowledge, knowledge of indigenous peoples and local knowledge systems has not been fully recognized in the INC process.

Therefore, Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities Major Group would like to kindly request the Bureau to take necessary action against the Chair and guarantee the meaningful participation of Indigenous Peoples at INC process, and recognition, respect and protection of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Indigenous Knowledge, Science, Technologies and best practices of Indigenous Peoples in the global treaty.

We look forward to taking positive action by the Bureau.

Thank you

Yours Sincerely

Mr. Prem Singh Tharu, Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact

Mr. Frankie Orona, Society of Native Nations

Co-Facilitators,

Indigenous Peoples and Their Communities Major Group to the Major Group Facilitating Committee, UNEP

¹(d) The best available science, traditional knowledge, knowledge of indigenous peoples and local knowledge systems