

Session 7. Regional Roadmap

Presented by Patricia Wattimena, AIPP, Indigenous Peoples' Constituencies

Mr. Chairman,

In the spirit of strengthening the Road Map on the implementation of the 2030 Development Agenda, please let us deliver our intervention and recommendations on behalf of indigenous peoples' constituency.

Mr. Chair,

Despite the reality that the Asia and the Pacific has more than 250 million indigenous populations across the region and play critical role in realizing the sustainable development, we are dismayed with the fact that there is no single mention of "indigenous peoples" in the current draft of the roadmap.

We are deeply concerned on the emphasis and focus on the "resource efficiency" under the theme of management of natural resources. Indigenous peoples in this region have been, for centuries, severely impacted by massive land and resource grabbing. We demand the government of Asia Pacific region to recognize our collective rights to our lands, territories and resources and to recognize the importance of our traditional livelihoods and occupations in the regional roadmap. Management of natural resources is not only about resource efficiency. In fact, we shall ensure the recognition and protection of indigenous peoples collective rights to lands, territories and resources if we are to achieve and realize the sustainable agriculture development goals in this region.

Mr. Chairman,

How will we leave no one behind if indigenous peoples as part of those who are furthest behind is not even mentioned in this respective regional roadmap? Well... looking ahead to 2030, there is a great deal of work and significant scope to address multi-dimensional issues among millions of people in the Asia-Pacific region who, because of their ethnicity, social status, gender, sexual orientation or gender identity, disability and any other factor, have historically been discriminated and 'left behind'.

Therefore, we are fully committed and ready to work together with the governments in the region. We are ready to work hand in hand to realize development justice for the survival of indigenous peoples, the poorest among the poor, those who have always been left behind.

I thank you!