



WG8J 10

Montreal, Canada, 13-17 December 2017

Agenda Item 8 of the provisional agenda

Recommendations of the UNPFII

Thank you, Mr. Chair

The IIFB would like to call the attention to apply the COP decision XII/12 F and use consistently the terminology of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in the documents of the 10th Meeting of the Article 8j, as supported by the PFII.

In the report of the UNPFII 16th session, paragraph 24, the The Forum requests Governments of Finland and Norway to renegotiate the fishing agreement for Deatnu (Teno/Tana) river. These regulations are a clear violation of indigenous peoples' right to FPIC, and they make Saami customary sustainable use of salmon nearly impossible and are a threat to the transfer of traditional knowledge. We remind the states of Finland and Norway, that the article 10(c) is not to be implemented just "subject to national legislation", but despite of national legislation. Still, Saami customary sustainable use is limited much more than recreational fishing. Because of these regulations I am myself nowadays a criminal when I fish in my home. So we strongly encourage Norway and Finland to follow up on this PFII recommendation, and start new negotiations immediately, with full and effective participation of Saami rights holders.

The topic of next year's PFII is: "Indigenous peoples' collective rights to lands, territories and resources". This is an important indicator especially for traditional knowledge and customary sustainable use, and protecting these rights is protecting biodiversity. The application of IPLC's rights to FPIC in relation to their lands therefore also is a relevant indicator for biodiversity, and we encourage the operationalisation and reporting of these indicators.

Regarding the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the IIFB and the Indigenous Women Network on Biodiversity from Latin America and the Caribbean, RMIB-LAC would like to recognize the important and complex role of our sister Maria Eugenia Choque from Bolivia who in her capacity of Indigenous expert of the Permanent Forum and as the RMIB-LAC Focal point from the South made several efforts to include the biodiversity issues in the annual meetings of the Permanent Forum. In that regard she made case studies in Colombia, Bolivia and Guatemala region on Traditional Knowledge and Indigenous Peoples, document that is in the database of the Permanent Forum with the number E/C.19/2014/11.

Thank you.