Financial mechanism

Given the substantial contribution and the unique context-specific needs of the indigenous peoples’ and local communities, we would strongly urge parties, in the work on Financial mechanism, to include explicit provision for indigenous peoples and local communities to identify and contribute their own needs and priorities to the 4-year framework of programming priorities for GEF-7. This could be done as part of country submissions to the expert team, demonstrated effective participation, for the inclusion in the report to COP13 as a complementary but distinct set of needs and priorities for GEF-7.

As a basis for the following recommendations, we would like to recall the following existing CBD decisions that specifically refer to funding priorities, GEF and indigenous peoples:

- Decision VIII/18, para 29(e) and decision VIII/24, para 22(e), which invites GEF to support community conserved areas and the immediate, full and effective participation of Indigenous People’ and Local Communities in the development of relevant activities
- Decision VIII/24, para 18(f)(vii) which invites Parties to consider funding Mechanisms to support Indigenous Peoples’ and Local Communities conserved areas, as part of Financial plans for protected areas.

On indigenous peoples’ and local communities’ needs and priorities (para 5):

Following the above points regards the importance of including Indigenous Peoples’ and Local Communities’ needs and priorities in the programming Priorities for GEF-7, we encourage Parties to add the following text to what is currently para 5:

“Encourages the expert team to take into account the comments emanating from the first meetings of the Subsidiary body on implementation and further submissions from recipients; including indigenous peoples and local communities and other relevant organizations, and to finalize the assessment report, including terms of reference.....”

Thank-you Mr Chair.