

## **Statement from the Indigenous Peoples Major Group for Sustainable Development (IPMG)**

### **Informal Consultation on the Ministerial Declaration of the 2024 High Level Segment of the Economic and Social Council and the High Level Political Forum April 19, 2024**

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Achievement of the SDGs are indeed regressing not only due to the factors mentioned in the proposed structure and elements of the ministerial declaration but also because of the overall development paradigm being implemented which is too profit oriented, exploitative, and extractive.

For Indigenous Peoples, the recognition of the historical injustices committed against our peoples and the need to address them by implementing the UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) in policy and practice is critical if sustainable development is to be achieved and for no one, including Indigenous Peoples, to not be left behind.

Indeed peace and security is impacting the achievement of the SDGs and this is a serious concern for Indigenous Peoples as we face militarization, development aggression, and criminalization of our peoples defending their territories among others. This is compounded by the lack of an effective and accessible grievance mechanisms for the redress of our grievances.

Despite the challenges we face, we persist in protecting our territories and resources for the future generations. It is important that the declaration recognize the critical role and contributions of Indigenous Peoples in advancing sustainable development and in addressing the current climate crisis we are facing including the recognition of Indigenous Peoples knowledge as part of scientific knowledge.

A more holistic approach to development is needed. One that is more targeted, inclusive, and sustainable, not the fast and large scale that most often results to further marginalization of already vulnerable communities.

Financing for development should include direct access to financing for Indigenous Peoples in line with our self determined development.

Finally on the Voluntary National Review, we support the call for a more evidence based reviews to also include citizen generated data and a more participatory approach with the conduct local reviews that ensures the meaningful participation of Indigenous Peoples to development planning, implementation, and reporting.