



Consejo Internacional de Tratados Indios  
CONFERENCIA 47<sup>TH</sup> ANIVERSARIO



**International Indian Treaty Council 47<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference**

**March 1 - 3, 2022**

**Panajachel, Sololá, Guatemala**

**CONFERENCE RESOLUTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND FOOD  
SOVEREIGNTY**

Delegates representing 61 Indigenous Peoples and Nations from North, Central and South America, the Arctic and the Caribbean participating in International Indian Treaty Council (IITC) 47<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference in the sacred place called Lake Atitlán, Panajachel, Sololá, Guatemala, after thoughtful deliberations, adopted by consensus the following resolution to defend the inherent rights and ways of life of Indigenous Peoples and support the continuity of life for our future generations:

We reaffirm and endorse the IITC Conference Resolution adopted at the 44th Anniversary International Indian Treaty Conference in June 2018, held at Mato Paha (Bear Butte) South Dakota in its entirety and have built upon its commitments as follows:

1. IITC reaffirms to continue to work locally, nationally and internationally to ensure that the rights of Indigenous Peoples are fully realized, however, we emphasize the need to begin our advocacy at the local/tribal/ Indigenous community level, working up to the addressing the international level and then returning the work and results back to our Peoples.
2. IITC acknowledges and supports the change of the Committee on Food Security Civil Society Mechanism name to that of “Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples Mechanism,” and additionally we commit to increase Indigenous participation in and recognition of this body.
3. IITC celebrates the 2021 of the formation of the International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Food Sovereignty as an independent body for and by Indigenous Peoples, replacing and improving our previous recommendation to achieve, with FAO’s support, the reinstatement of the Global Indigenous Peoples Caucus at the FAO.
4. IITC recommends that recommendations containing the term “Traditional Knowledge” such as those adopted at Bear Butte be changed to “Indigenous Science” in future related resolutions.
5. IITC reaffirms the necessity to challenge the insane policies that threaten our livelihoods and cultures carried out under today’s profit driven economies that are not sustainable and threaten the existence of our future generations. The “profit at all costs” and “business as usual” mentality of the United States (US) and other industrial countries is our greatest challenge. We will continue to call upon the US, Canada and other industrialized countries to move towards sustainable and renewable energy development now, not just for Indigenous Peoples’ survival but for the survival of humanity as a whole.



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IITC further confirms the threat to our lands and territories currently being proposed in the 30x30 Leaders Pledge of Nature Conservation Plan as land grab violating the rights of Indigenous Peoples being erroneously presented as a promotion of conservations and sustainability.

6. IITC recognizes that the United States Trump Administration's energy policies eroded longstanding environmental regulations such as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), Clean Water Act (CWA), the Safe Drinking Water Act, and other such laws to fast-track energy extraction within Indigenous Peoples' territories and in sacred places throughout the US. We call on the Biden Administration to reinstate these policies, noting that some have been restored but there is still more work to be done as this is directly linked to the relationships between States and Multinational Corporations.
7. IITC calls on United States President Biden administration to repeal the section of the 2017 tax-cut law which currently requires 2 oil lease sales in the Arctic Refuge by 2024, take action to close the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil drilling and cancel all existing leases.
8. IITC recognizes and affirms the IITC Board of Directors' resolution opposing the "corporate capture" of UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and their partnership with mega chemical conglomerate CROPLIFE due to the detrimental impacts of their members e on our food systems, health and lands.
9. IITC re-endorses the letter denouncing the CROPLIFE alliance presented to FAO Secretary General in 2021 signed by almost 200,000 Indigenous Peoples, including IITC, and Civil Society organizations from around the world, and call for effective action in response by FAO.
10. IITC re-affirms our commitment to amend the FAO Code of Conduct on Pesticides to include the rights to FPIC as affirmed in Article 29 of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples re FPIC and disposal of toxic materials.
11. IITC also calls upon our allies in civil society opposing the CROPLIFE/FAO Alliance to support our campaign to amend the FAO Code of Conduct on Pesticides, endorsing the amendments proposed by IITC regarding FPIC and Indigenous Peoples but also endorsing an introductory/preambular paragraph modeled after the agreed language adopted by COP 21 in the preamble of the Paris agreement, modified to address the use of pesticides rather than actions responding to Climate Change.

IITC proposes that the new introductory/preambular paragraph could read as follows:

*"Parties should, when taking action to use, store, dispose of import and export pesticides, respect, promote and consider their respective obligations on human rights, the right to health, the rights of indigenous peoples, local communities, migrants, children, persons with disabilities and people in vulnerable situations and the right to development, as well as gender equality, empowerment of women and intergenerational equity,"*



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In addition as the basis for future work, the 47<sup>th</sup> Treaty Conference adopts the following recommendations and commitments:

12. IITC affirms the right to food as an integral part of self-determination and emphasizes the right to clean food as the basis of a healthy life.
13. IITC emphasizes the need to share information on the pyramid of pesticide companies, such as CropLife, and their tactic to use smaller companies to hide the names of companies and products to confuse consumers and further contaminate our lands, waters and Peoples.
14. IITC reiterates and reaffirms its previous call for a moratorium on all forms fossil fuel development on or impacting Indigenous Peoples' lands and waters and push for a just transition to sustainable energy use based on FPIC of the Indigenous Peoples concerned.
15. IITC commits to contributing to the UNFCCC COPs (Conferences of the Parties) to push States to phase-out Fossil Fuel development and use, including coal mining and burning, oil drilling, fracking, pipelines and Tar Sands. We call on the UNFCCC to commit to building direct and meaningful participation by Indigenous Peoples in climate policy development at all levels including national and international, and in particular to include the inputs of Indigenous Knowledge Holders including all genders, elders, youth and traditional Indigenous food producers.
16. IITC recognizes the need to promote traditional ancestral medicine to combat malnutrition and the impacts of chemical pharmaceuticals, and the role of Indigenous women as holders of our Indigenous scientific medical knowledge
17. IITC commits to participate in organize to build Indigenous Peoples' participation at the next Indigenous Peoples Food Summit in 2023, which will be Indigenous led but with include all sectors, emphasizing the involvement of Indigenous youth and women as knowledge holders.
18. IITC commits to fully address malnutrition, its structural causes and consequences for Indigenous Peoples and call for multilateral action to address malnutrition holistically to include its nutritional, spiritual, physical, cultural and moral aspects.
19. IITC commits to promote the natural way of cultivating and using Indigenous seeds, creating seed sanctuaries (as opposed to "seed banks") and capturing water based on original Indigenous methods and practices for taking care of edible plants, fruit trees, forests and cactus, recognizing that these practices bring together our families and communities.
20. IITC commits to promote and support traditional farmers, herders, hunters, fishers, gatherers and pastoralists, acknowledging and affirming the spiritual relationships with the plants, animals, lands and waters that form the basis of their ways of life.
21. IITC will continue to promote the Indigenous perspective of Agroecology through workshops addressing soil and water conservation and cultivation of healthy foods by rotating crops and using other methods to mitigate pests and halt the use of agrochemicals that are harming the earth, environmental and human health.
22. IITC commits to ensure that Agroecology addresses Indigenous perspectives on protecting Mother Earth, biodiversity and holistic sustainable Indigenous food systems of all kinds, ensuring that Indigenous concepts are all included and reflected including Food Sovereignty as a rights-based approach and prerequisite to food security.



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23. IITC commits to do capacity building trainings on Indigenous perspectives on Agroecology. We state the importance and meaning of Indigenous Peoples' sciences and technologies. We cannot neglect that, emphasizing Article 31 of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples regarding our technology and science.
24. IITC recognizes and affirms each of our roles as responsible consumers, recognizing that Agroecology speaks to ancestral relationships between healthy sustainable food sources and the ecosystems that support them; and that this concept was taken from Indigenous Peoples. We commit to strengthen the ability of Indigenous Peoples, social movements and small-scale producers to secure their rights to food sovereignty and food security based on adequate access to healthy, culturally appropriate foods produced in and by our own families, communities and Nations .
25. IITC will continue to push at the international level to halt the manufacture, use and transport of harmful pesticides and to highlight their detrimental impacts in our territories, emphasizing that corporations find ways to circumvent restrictions on banned chemicals such substituting the use of Paraquat for Roundup, and noting that although Mexico committed to cut in half the use of banned pesticides, they are currently importing 111 different restricted, banned and extremely harmful pesticides.
26. IITC recognizes and will promote the health systems of Indigenous Peoples, value and support our Indigenous healers, therapists and midwives, and defend the rights of Indigenous to receive health services based on our own concepts, knowledge, science and understandings. We affirm that the practices of Indigenous midwives (comadronas) differ from Western practices culturally, spiritually and medically. Our midwives and other Indigenous health practitioners should be respected on the same level as practitioners of Western medicine, and sweat lodges other ceremonies providing health to our Peoples must be protected.

***Adopted by consensus in Paxil Kayala, Ixim Ulew (Panajachel, Sololá) Guatemala  
March 3, 2022***