

INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON GLOBALIZATION

PRE-CANCUN CONVENING ON RIGHTS IN REDD

24-26 September, 2010 Hotel Esquivél, Felipe Carillo Puerto, Quintana Roo, México

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

At the UN Climate Conference in Cancun (or COP 16, November 29 – December 10, 2010), the host government, Mexico, aims to prioritize decisions on finance and forests. Such decisions could certainly impact the livelihoods of many of the world's 370 million indigenous peoples who live in forests, as well as many more forest-dependent communities. Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD) is an essential element of any global climate solution, as nearly 20% of all greenhouse gas emissions originate from tropical deforestation (as much as China or the US each).

Mexico's lead climate diplomat appears to be playing a constructive role in advancing indigenous rights in any COP 16 decisions. Mayan forest communities are interested in projecting their voices into the process, highlighting both today's harsh impacts from climate change but also the prospects for positive outcomes for indigenous peoples. Mayans mobilized thousands in 2003 for the WTO summit in Cancun, which set a scene in the streets that was felt in the negotiating suites.

At the same time, the rights of indigenous peoples and forest dependent communities are at risk of being runover if REDD actors do not consolidate support for their rigorous application. Strategic questions are in play that could be decisive in showing strong support for protecting both the forests and the people who protect the forests.

Our objective is to ensure ways of working together in Cancun, especially by: 1) keeping the pre-Copenhagen consensus among non-indigenous NGOs to follow the lead of the Indigenous Caucus in policy issues involving their rights; and 2) informing and inspiring increased and effective participation from forest communities surrounding Cancun in decision-making that impacts their rights.

PROPOSED AGENDA

24 SEPTEMBER, 2010

9am – 12pm ARRIVE at Cancun airport

1:00pm DEPART Cancun airport in vans for the Zona Maya

4:00pm ARRIVE in Felipe Carillo Puerto at Hotel Esquivél
6:00pm RECEPTION
6:30pm INTRODUCTIONS
7:00pm PANEL I: THE CONTEXT OF OUR CONVENING:
Why we are here

Victoria Santos, Organización Ejidatario de Productores Forestales de la Zona Maya
Welcome: Climate change impacts in the Zona Maya, the role of community control over forests, local capacities for projecting indigenous interests in Cancun

Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, Tebtebba Foundation, The Philippines
What's in play for indigenous rights at Cancun, the role of UNDRIP, working together

Victor Menotti, IFG
Challenges for collaborations between indigenous and non-indigenous groups

7:30pm OPEN DISCUSSION

8:00pm DINNER

25 SEPTEMBER, 2010

9:00am PANEL II: HOW REDD WOULD WORK IN MEXICO?

Moderator: Ivan Zuniga, Consejo Civil Mexicana de Silvicultura Sostenible (CCMSS)

Presenters (10 minutes each):

Community Representative from Zona Maya Pilot Project

Claudia Gomez-Portugal, Centro Mexicano de Derecho Ambiental (CEMDA)

Alejandro Villamar, Red Mexicana Frente el Libre Comercio (RMALC)

Respondents (5 minutes each):

Gustavo Sanchez, Red Mexicana de Organizaciones Campesinas Forestales (MOCAF)

Jaqueline Berumen, Oxfam-Mexico

OPEN DISCUSSION

11:00am PANEL III: RIGHTS IN REDD: IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

Moderator: Dennis Mairena, Center for Indigenous Peoples Autonomy and Development (CADPI), Nicaragua

Presenters (10 minutes each):

Liliana Davila, WWF-Mexico: Operationalizing UNDRIP within NGOs

Johnson Cerda, Conservation International: How to ensure effective safeguards

Kate Horner, Friends of the Earth-US: Liability, complaint mechanisms, and other issues

Respondents (5 minutes each):

Rebecca Vonada, Forest Trends, US

Bill Barclay, Rainforest Action Network, US

OPEN DISCUSSION

1:00pm LUNCH

2:00 PANEL IV: PLANNING FOR CANCUN SCENARIOS:

How might we react in certain situations? What if rights are reduced? How could decisions on finance impact our approaches? What other issues should we expect? Where can we cooperate effectively, employing inside-outside strategies where possible?

Joseph Ole Simel, MPIDO, Kenya

Maria Rosario Savia, CIDOB, Bolivia

OPEN DISCUSSION

4:00pm PANEL V: COLLABORATIVE ACTIONS TOWARD COP 16

Plans are already underway for buses, camps, trainings, workshops, and other activities. What is possible and desirable and viable for influencing governments decisions that could impact indigenous interests and the future of forest communities worldwide?

Cecilio Solis Librado, RITA / Punto Focal en Mexico (invited)

Gustavo Dominguez, Union Nacional de Organizaciones Regionales Campesinas Autónomas (UNORCA)

Representative, Cancun Welcoming Committee

OPEN DISCUSSION

5:30pm SUMMARY: key outcomes and agreements

6:00pm CLOSE OF CONVENING

8:00pm DINNER

26 SEPTEMBER

9:00am SPILLOVER DISCUSSION, IF NEEDED.

OR....EXCURSION TO SEE LOCAL IMPACTS FROM CLIMATE CHANGE, CENOTES, OR PYRAMIDS, ETC.

1:00pm LUNCH

2:00pm DEPART Zona Maya in vans for Cancun

5:00pm ARRIVE Cancun; some depart for airport

6:00pm Cancun Press Preview of Agreements and Activities for COP 16
(Indigenous Caucus Members, Mayan community leaders)