Opening Plenary Statement on Agenda Item 4 Preparation of an International Instrument

Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP) and Indigenous Peoples

Indigenous Greetings to All

Dear Chair,

Excellency, Distinguished Delegates, and Ladies and Gentlemen
I am Prem Singh Tharu, belong to the Tharu Indigenous Community of Nepal, representing Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP) and speaking on behalf of the Indigenous Peoples. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the INC Secretariat, the Government of Kenya and the entire team of the INC for hosting and organizing the INC3 at UNO, Nairobi, Kenya.

We thank the chairs and co-chairs, INC secretariat and entire team for the zero draft, the Co-Chair's reflection note, and the report of the INC2 for acknowledging and recognizing the Indigenous Knowledge, Innovations, Technologies, and Practices. We would like to request for consideration of the following points in the instrument:

- The Preamble must ensure the Indigenous Knowledge Systems as the primary element of the instrument.
- Human rights-based approach with rights to self-determination and Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC) need to be ensured in the instrument.
- The use of Indigenous Knowledge, innovations, technologies, and practices must be well recognized and respected following the due diligence of collective consent from the particular Indigenous Communities.
- The instrument also must ensure the rights to land, territories and resources of the Indigenous Peoples while extracting the resources for plastic production and sound waste management of the plastics.
- The instrument must ensure the meaningful and effective participation of the Indigenous Peoples, farmers, youths and women who are the rightholders, knowledge holders and practitioners of the knowledge systems across the process.

Later during the sessions of the Contact Groups, we Indigenous Peoples will be highlighting our concrete points in the texts of the zero draft.

Last but not least, we would like to wish the INC 3 for its the grand success with desirable outcomes.

We Thank You Dear Chair!