

INTERNATIONAL INDIAN TREATY COUNCIL
30th ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE
AJUMAWI TERRITORY, FALLS RIVER MILLS, NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
July 8 – 11, 2004

**Resolution of the Commission on Environment, Biodiversity, Traditional Knowledge,
Right to Food, Subsistence and Health**

REAFFIRMING that Indigenous Peoples have a unique relationship with their lands, territory and resources, including water and air;

REAFFIRMING that Indigenous peoples have contributed and continue contributing to diversity, traditional knowledge and culture;

CONCERNED that oil, mining, damming and other forms of non-sustainable energy development have deprived the Indigenous Peoples on this planet of their rights to land, water, air, health and is contaminating food sources;

TAKING NOTE that the objectives of the International Indian Treaty Council include the dissemination of information on human rights and environmental justice for Indigenous Peoples, their struggles, concerns and perspectives;

TAKING NOTE that the Indigenous Peoples have been deprived and dispossessed of their lands and resources such as plants, traditional knowledge, food security and health;

TAKING NOTE that the abuse of natural resources by mining, damming, and non-sustainable farming and forestry directly impacting one tribe, nation or region will also impact adjoining tribes, nations, regions and the planet as a whole. In such cases, Indigenous peoples are compromised, threatened and dominated by corporate financial interests which negatively impact their sovereignty and the wellness of future generations

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

THE INTERNATIONAL INDIAN TREATY COUNCIL will continue to work within the United Nations system to increase its effectiveness in investigating and responding to the concerns of Indigenous Peoples for the protection of their human rights, lands, resources, means of subsistence, traditional knowledge, environment, health and right to food, especially when these vital resources are damaged or threatened;

THE INTERNATIONAL INDIAN TREATY COUNCIL will continue to advocate on behalf of Indigenous Peoples addressing these issues at International Bodies including UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), World Intellectual Property Rights Organization (WIPO) and other relevant forums;

THE INTERNATIONAL INDIAN TREATY COUNCIL urges all Indigenous Peoples' organizations, communities and nations to stand together for sustainable energy and against

oil, coal, gas and nuclear development, resulting in theft of Indigenous Peoples' traditional knowledge, lands and natural resources and destruction their sacred sites; IITC will also continue to oppose geothermal energy development in the Medicine Lake area;

THE INTERNATIONAL INDIAN TREATY COUNCIL reaffirms its opposition to the current National Energy Bill in the United States Senate, which directly threatens the ancestral lands, territories and all forms of life in Alaska and many other areas upon which the inherent sovereignty and self-determination of Indigenous peoples depend;

THE INTERNATIONAL INDIAN TREATY COUNCIL will look for other avenues in addition to the United Nations to address the theft and loss of traditional knowledge, deforestation and inappropriate development on Indigenous Peoples lands, and will work to bring these abuses to public attention through the media and other forms of outreach;

THE INTERNATIONAL INDIAN TREATY COUNCIL will work with all Indigenous organizations, communities and nations to promote the creation of an international environmental network in order to save our planet from destruction for profit;

THE INTERNATIONAL INDIAN TREATY COUNCIL will continue its efforts to ensure that Indigenous Peoples have access to information and forums on the right to food, food sovereignty and food security, including the activities of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), in order to protect and preserve the traditional food resources of Indigenous Peoples;

THE INTERNATIONAL INDIAN TREATY COUNCIL takes a stand against the US and state of Montana governments' hazing, capturing, torturing and slaughter of the Yellowstone Bison herd, the direct descendents of the 60 million buffalo slaughtered by the US in the previous century, as a current example of the destruction of Indigenous Peoples' traditional food resources and cultural relationships with the natural world;

Finally, THE INTERNATIONAL INDIAN TREATY COUNCIL will work to oppose the damming of rivers and streams in California and elsewhere in the Pacific Northwest by energy companies and other interests as another example of such destruction. Large scale dams halt the Creator's intended flow of water, negatively impact the spawning of salmon and other fish and aquatic life which are an essential part of Indigenous Peoples' traditional food resources. They establish the accumulation of large cesspools of rotting matter resulting in great harm to the natural environment within Pit River Nation and many other areas around the world;

THE INTERNATIONAL INDIAN TREATY COUNCIL therefore calls for a halt to dam construction and for the decommissioning of obsolete dams in Northern California and elsewhere in order to revitalize and restore the balance of the natural environment.

Adopted by Consensus July 11, 2004