



2017 Winter Convention Grand Mound, WA

RESOLUTION # 17 – 08

“UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (UNFCCC) CONFERENCE OF PARTIES (COP) 21 PARIS AGREEMENT ON THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' PLATFORM”

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians of the United States, invoking the divine blessing of the Creator upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants rights secured under Indian Treaties, Executive Orders, and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and constitution of the United States and several states, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise to promote the welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (“ATNI”) are representatives of, and advocates for national, regional and specific tribal concerns; and

WHEREAS, the ATNI is a regional organization comprised of American Indians/Alaska Natives and tribes in the states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Nevada, Northern California and Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity, and preservation of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives of the ATNI; and

WHEREAS, Indigenous peoples in the U.S., including 567 federally-recognized Tribes, are facing immediate and significant impacts from climate change which are

documented in a growing body of literature, including the recently developed Primer on Climate Change and Indigenous Peoples, Guidelines for Considering Traditional Knowledges (TKs) in Climate Change Initiatives, and the special issue of the peer-reviewed journal Climatic Change, “Climate Change and Indigenous Peoples in the United States: Impacts, Experiences and Actions;” and

WHEREAS, the federal government is beginning to acknowledge the disproportionate threats of climate change to Indigenous Peoples through administrative and congressional reports such as the 3rd National Climate Assessment and the 2014 President’s State, Local, and Tribal Leaders Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience (Task Force); and

WHEREAS, in 2015 the ATNI approved ATNI Resolution #15-52 “TRIBAL CLIMATE CHANGE PRINCIPLES: RESPONDING TO FEDERAL POLICIES AND ACTIONS TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE” which sets forth eight principles to guide the federal government in the development and implementation of administrative and legislative actions related to Indigenous Peoples and climate change; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Executive Order 13175, U.S. federal agencies have a legal obligation to effectively engage in Government-to-Government consultations with, and consent from, Tribes on all climate change issues, including representation in international organizations, formal consultation in the extraction, transport and export of coal, oil and natural gas, and representation on federal climate change adaptation and mitigation initiatives including UNFCCC Conference of Parties 21 Paris Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the COP21 agreed to adopt an incremental approach to developing the local communities and indigenous peoples platform, referred to in decision 1/CP.21 paragraph 135, with a view to ensuring its effective operationalization; and

WHEREAS, in this regard, Parties and relevant organizations are invited by UNFCCC – “Call for Submissions on the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples' Platform” to submit their views on the purpose, content and structure of the platform by 31 March 2017; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, in response to this call for submissions, ATNI supports the development of a multi-tribal platform statement focused on:

- 1) Tribal Climate Change Policy Principles,
- 2) Free, Prior and Informed Consent,
- 3) Ethics for Access and Protection of Traditional Knowledge,
- 4) Direct representation of tribal governments,
- 5) Indigenous relations with Nation States,
- 6) Integration with UN Initiatives and
- 7) Communications Policies and Programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, this statement and submission would be consistent with and based on previous actions taken by ATNI in previously approved resolutions, including:

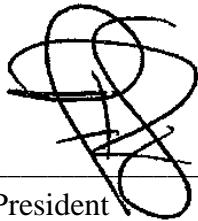
- #16-52: United States Federal Agency Consultation, Consent, Funding and Actions to Address Climate Change Impacts to Tribal Treaty and Trust Resources
- #15-52: Tribal Climate Change Principles: Responding to Federal Policies and Actions to Address Climate Change
- #11-77: Traditional Knowledge and Climate Change; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ATNI endorses this submission to the COP and encourages ATNI member tribes to adopt support resolutions and become signatories; and

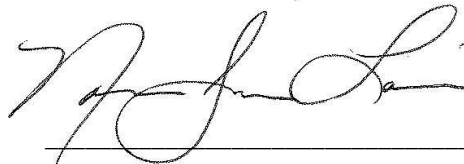
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that ATNI requests that the National Congress of American Indians also adopt a resolution in support of this ATNI Resolution at the February 13-16, 2017 NCAI Executive Council Winter Session in Washington D.C.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2017 Winter Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, held at Great Wolf Lodge in Grand Mound, Washington, on January 23-26, 2017, with a quorum present.



Fawn Sharp, President



Norma Jean Louie, Secretary