INDIGENOUS DISASTER RISK REDUCTION: Thursday May 16th, Rm 7/8. 12:30 – 2:00 pm

Organizer: Dr. Simon Lambert, Dept. Indigenous Studies, University of Saskatchewan, Canada.

Objectives
1. This session will coordinate the Indigenous Peoples Statement communicating Indigenous positions on vulnerability and resilience in the context of sustainable DRR.
2. We will provide guidance for future collaborative efforts between Indigenous communities regarding capacity and governance improvements regarding DRR.
3. The session will also establish a working group that will identify and apply for funding to support future collaboration for Regional and Global Platforms.

Overview
Indigenous communities around the world have similar histories of marginalization and exclusion from political power, leaving these communities vulnerable to disasters. Paradoxically, however, Indigenous Peoples exhibit resilience through their highly localized knowledge systems, community unity and cultural practices. This side event will bring together Indigenous practitioners, community leaders, researchers and allies to unpack assumptions of vulnerability and reassert collective Indigenous resilience in building capacity for managing disaster risks.

Beyond this session, participants and other supporters are invited to meet and strategize before the closing ceremony to enable a collective debrief of experiences that will further inform the opportunity to collaborate for Indigenous DRR governance at multiple levels. A working group will plan future collaborative efforts between selected indigenous communities to build capacity and embed Indigenous voices at future regional and global platforms.

Speakers
Madeline Redfern, Mayor of Iqaluit, Nunavut, Canada.
Melanie Mark-Shadbolt, Director, Māori Biosecurity Network.
Pavel Partha, Bangladesh Resource Centre for Indigenous Knowledge (BARIK), Coordinator of Diversity, Interdependency, and Pluralism.
Dr. Ciro Ugarte, Director of Health Emergencies Department, Pan American Health Organization.
Todd Kuiack, Indigenous Emergency Manager, Indigenous Services, Canada.

Format
5 minutes: Dr. Simon Lambert. Introduction to Session and Panelists.
12 minutes: Madeline Redfern. Arctic DRR.
12 minutes: Melanie Mark-Shadbolt. Māori DRR and Biosecurity.
12 minutes: Dr. Ciro Ugarte. The integration of Traditional Indigenous Knowledge into DRR.
12 minutes: Todd Kuiack. Canadian Indigenous emergency management.
12 minutes: Pavel Partha. Traditional knowledge and coping mechanisms among Indigenous communities in Bangladesh on DRR.
25 minutes: Q&A.