The Indigenous Committee on Climate Change (CIMC) is an initiative of the indigenous movement of Brazil, supported by partner institutions, which aims to follow debates on climate change at national and international level, and to further dialogue with the government in order to increase the incidence of indigenous matters on the subject. CIMC is the result of a process of discussion and training entitled “Climate change from the perspective of the Indigenous Peoples of Brazil”, which took place in the 2nd semester of 2014, at the National Indian Foundation (Funai – Fundação Nacional do Índio). This process, which consisted of three seminars, was facilitated by a partnership between the Coordination of Indigenous Peoples of Brazil (APIB - Articulação dos Povos Indígenas do Brasil), the Amazon Environmental Research Institute (IPAM - Instituto de Pesquisa Ambiental da Amazônia), and Coordination of Environmental Policy, linked to the General Coordination of Environmental Management of the Funai (COPAM/CGGAM/FUNAI), with support from The Nature Conservancy (TNC). Given the demand by seminar participants for the continuation of the initiative, with a view to ensuring ongoing and qualified training as well as the incidence of indigenous peoples on the subject, CIMC was established in September 2015, when five indigenous leaders from different regions of the country, appointed by APIB and by the Coordination of Indigenous Organizations of the Brazilian Amazon (COIAB - Coordenação das Organizações Indígenas da Amazônia Brasileira), met to discuss the issue. On the occasion, indigenous participation in discussions on climate change, as well as making it a national debate, and the joining of forces regarding other indigenous initiatives on the issue, were all given importance. Members of the CIMC represent the different biomes and regions of Brazil and base regional organizations of APIB: Coordination of Indigenous Peoples of the South Region (ARPINSUL), Coordination of Indigenous Peoples of the Northeast, Minas Gerais, and Espírito Santo (APINDEXE) and COIAB. In addition to this regional representation, there is a representative for gender issues and a member of the REDD+ National Commission (CONAREDD+).
Who is CIMC?

Ana Patte
South Region Representative – from Jul 2016
Ibirama-LaKlánô IL, Xokleng People
Masters in Social Anthropology, Federal University of Sta. Catarina
Age: 24

Domingos Nunes de Oliveira
Southeast Region Representative
Xakriabá Cacique IL, Xakriabá People
Age: 42

Elcio Machineri
Representative COIAB/APIB
Mamoadate IL, Machineri People
Chairman of the Council Deliberation and Fiscal COIAB - CONDEF
Age: 48

Estevão Taukane
Centre-West Representative – since Jul 2016
Teresa Cristina IL, Bororo People
Educator, part of the Environmental and Sociocultural Monitoring initiative of Teresa Cristina IL
Age: 37

Rodrigo Titiah
Northeast Representative
Caramuru-Paraguaçu Indian Reservation, Pataxó Há Hão People
Develops agro-ecology and reforestation; participates in Engajamundo
Age: 25

Sinéia do Vale
North Region Representative
Malacacheta IL, Wapichana People
Environmental Manager, Department of Environmental and Territorial CIR coordinator
Age: 43

Past CIMC members:
Diana Nascimento
South Region Representative – between 2015 and Jul 2016
Nonoai IL, Kaingang People
Master’s degree in Sustainability and Indigenous Peoples and Lands, University of Brasília
Age: 27

Lindomar Ferreira
Centre-East Region Representative – between 2015 and Jul 2016
Cachoeirinha IL, Terena People
Age: 43

Telma Marques
Gender Representative
Araçá IL, Taurepang People
Secretary General of the CIR Indigenous Women’s Movement
Age: 44
**Dec 2014**: participation in the largest-ever commission of indigenous representatives at the COP20/UNFCCC

**Nov 2015**:  
2nd CIMC meeting – Discussion about the formation of the Technical Board on Climate Change in the PNGATI Managing Committee / CIMC commentary on the National Adaptation Plan (PNA)

**Apr 2016**:  
3rd CIMC meeting: Discussion of the Paris Agreement, indigenous participation in CONAREDD+ and technical debate on REDD+; Establishment of the Technical Board on Climate Change in the PNGATI Managing Committee (CT MC/CG PNGATI)

**Aug-Dec 2014**: “Climate change from the perspective of indigenous peoples in Brazil” Training Seminars

**Sep 2015**: 1st meeting – Founding of CIMC

**Dec 2015**: CIMC participates in the COP21/UNFCCC

**Aug 2016**: 4th CIMC meeting - Member registration for the Thematic Advisory Boards of CONAREDD+; Meeting with the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; 1st Meeting of the CT MC/CG PNGATI
What is happening with the climate in our regions?

“‘There are external threats but also internal ones; if people are not ready, they will suffer more from the impacts and won’t be able to respond to external threats.’” (Rodrigo Titiah)

“Our children learn to swim in the river. Today there is no river, there is a dam. Children don’t normally swim in dams, so they don’t learn to swim. This year, 2 children fell in the dam and died. If there was a river, they would know how to swim, and wouldn’t have died.” (Domingos Nunes)

Northeast (South of Bahia):
- Increased deforestation in areas of springs located on farms surrounding indigenous lands;
- Breeding of livestock within indigenous land has caused environmental degradation in the area;
- In 2016, the Água Vermelha river dried up for the first time.
  Account by Rodrigo Titiah

Southeast (Minas Gerais):
- Livestock breeding in areas surrounding indigenous land have been using spring water for years; many villages suffer from a lack of water, hindering production and harvest;
- For the first time, the source of the river that runs through the indigenous land dried up.
  Account by Domingos Nunes

South (Santa Catarina):
- Many fires;
- Neglect of riparian forests (tobacco plantations near rivers) in regions near lands inhabited by settlers;
- Large soybean and corn plantations in the West of Santa Catarina: pesticides used in the plantation directly affect rivers in the area.
  Account by Ana Patte

North (Roraima):
- In the last year, the situation regarding food production has become critical – little rainfall, lack of water, high temperatures, and fires spreading. Due to lack of food, last year’s plantation had to be mechanized. The crops grew but the pests ate everything. There is regional demand for research and identification of seeds resistant to climate change and creation of a bank of traditional seeds.
- Drawing from local experience, four axes have been identified as priorities in the debate between indigenous peoples on climate change: food security, land rights, environmental management, and the development of indigenous plans for facing climate change.
  Account by Sinéia do Vale
Interview: Sônia Guajajara

"Climate change for us, Indigenous Peoples of Brazil, means a direct and negative interference in the flows of natural life cycles that exist in Indigenous Lands. This direct and negative effect, this interference, this alteration of Mother Nature, is a worrying sign for us, since the preservation and reproduction of our traditional ways of life necessarily depend on the conservation of natural resources for guaranteeing climate balance on the planet”.

Why is it important that indigenous peoples follow discussions on climate change?
We are directly affected by the consequences of climate change on the planet. We also believe that the synergy of traditional knowledge from indigenous peoples and scientific knowledge is a strategy which must necessarily be developed. We believe that one of the paths to be followed in this strategy must be the formulation of propositions with joint solutions. We need to sensitize the rest of the world about the need to take on their responsibilities on climate change. Global society must be encouraged to act locally, but thinking of the planet, of all life on the planet, thinking of present and future generations.

How has the indigenous movement in Brazil followed these discussions?
The leaders of the Indigenous Movement of Brazil are gradually being trained to more aptly discuss the subject of climate change. We have been supported by and are coordinated with organized civil society in Brazil and internationally in going deeper into this subject. We have participated in world conferences on climate change, we have partnered with indigenous peoples from all over the world, sharing experiences, influencing decision-making. An example is the Indigenous Committee on Climate Change (CIMC), which has held several forums for discussion, reflection, and decision-making on climate change.

What is the role of CIMC?
The Indigenous Committee on Climate Change (CIMC) is responsible for following national and international debates on climate change. It converses with the State, influencing the formulation and implementation of public policies of mitigation, adaptation, and compensation for impact generated by climate change, and guarantees a greater indigenous incidence in relation to this subject.

It promotes partnering with government and non-government organizations that deal with the subject by facilitating the dialogue between the base and these organizations. It participates in events related to the subject and of interest to the committee, supporting exchanges and the sharing of experiences on climate change and its interfaces, seeks partnerships for the development of case studies on the impacts of climate change in different regions, and supports the dissemination of studies by indigenous peoples on climate change with the purpose of giving value to traditional knowledge.
21/10: 1st meeting of the Thematic Advisory Board of CONAREDD on the Federative Pact, in Brasília

24/10: preparatory meeting for COP22, open to civil society, supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in Brasília

26/10: 1st meeting of the Thematic Advisory Board of CONAREDD on the Raising and Distribution of Non-Refundable Resources, in Brasília

1st until 10/11: 1st module of “Climate Change and Political Advocacy – ISA/RCA”, in Brasília

07 until 18/11: COP22, in Marrakesh

5/12: CIMC meeting in Brasília

6/12: Meeting of the Technical Board on Climate Change of the Managing Committee of PNGATI, in Brasília
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