



7<sup>th</sup> Slow Food  
International Congress  
Chengdu, China  
September 29-October 1, 2017

## **Seventh Slow Food International Congress Chengdu, China, 29 September – 1 October 2017**

### **Motion number 4**

#### **Indigenous peoples' knowledge, a key ally in facing global challenges**

Given that:

- Indigenous peoples are primary stewards of biodiversity (67% of the planet's agrobiodiversity is found in their territories) and have been working for centuries to protect it.
- Their knowledge, traditionally undervalued, is essential to addressing global challenges such as climate change, food insecurity and inequalities.
- The gatherings of the Indigenous Terra Madre network, have highlighted the urgent need to promote and protect the indigenous food systems, valuing their holistic approach and strengthening links with the entire Slow Food movement.

We, representatives of the Slow Food and Terra Madre network, having come from 90 countries around the world to unite at the International Congress in Chengdu, China, declare our commitment to supporting and strengthening the voices and participation of indigenous peoples within the Slow Food movement and Terra Madre network.

Specifically, we commit to supporting and facilitating activities and processes aimed at:

- giving strength to the voices of indigenous peoples' within Slow Food communications;
- intensifying advocacy and awareness-raising actions in defense of indigenous peoples and their cultures;
- promoting indigenous peoples' holistic vision of food (closely connected to land, identity, spirituality, traditional medicine and more) and creating opportunities for exchange in which the network can learn from indigenous peoples' practices and visions;
- opposing land grabbing, cultural assimilation and every other action opposing the principle of free, prior and informed consent;
- developing projects in the field together with indigenous peoples' communities defending the food agrobiodiversity and who protects it;
- empowering indigenous youth and their communities to defend and promote their food heritage;
- increasing opportunities for participation, meetings and exchanges, continuing the organization of gatherings of Indigenous Terra Madre network at regional and global levels; with particular attention to ensuring the equal participation of youth and women.
- promoting knowledge transfer and capacity building, with a particular focus on women and youth and the networking at all levels, including other organizations.