

**Yachay Wasi (NGO – ECOSOC & DPI) – Major Groups: Indigenous Peoples, NGOs  
Member of the Mountain Partnership  
In Consultative Partnership with UNESCO  
Accredited with UNFCCC**

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## **Statement to the 13<sup>th</sup> Session of the Open Working on Sustainable Development Goals**

### **Yachay Wasi proposes the following changes to the Zero Draft Rev.1**

**1** - Yachay Wasi has strongly advocated the Sustainable Tourism issue since 1999 when CSD-7 focused on Tourism for the first time. CSD-7 defined “Sustainable Tourism”, particularly: “If more Indigenous ownership could be developed, the perception of tourism as a foreign-dominated sector would be reduced”.

*(Secretary-General Report, 21 January 1999, E/CN.17/1999/5/Add.2 Chapt. III, Parag. 30).*

The 29 April 1999 resulting Draft Decision “Tourism and Sustainable Development” re-enforced the social and ethical aspects of Sustainable Tourism. *(E/CN.17/1999/L.6).*

Tourism in Indigenous regions often brings international visitors to Sacred sites which unites Spirituality and Biodiversity and must be protected by the Indigenous communities involved. Crafts and arts, local products, ceremonies and ways of life are not just eco-touristic tokens free to be exploited but must be protected thru the World Intellectual Property Organization.

In March 2012, during CSD negotiations, “Sustainable Tourism” paragraphs 130, 131 were added to the Rio + 20 Zero Draft Document at the request mostly from the G-77 Countries. These 2 paragraphs were kept in the Future we want Outcome Document and in the Final Report of Rio + 20.

Since then, Yachay Wasi participated only in OWG-12 this past June and was shocked by the document presented then, but was not in a position to act on it.

Yachay Wasi is now proposing the following change to paragraph 12.d:

**12.d** by 2030, **promote and develop long term sustainable tourism which safeguards the world’s cultural and natural heritage. Assist, financially and in capacity building, Indigenous and local communities to implement, control and benefit from their own Sustainable tourism, in mountain areas and other parts of the world. Tourism industry currently takes advantage of the intellectual properties of Indigenous peoples.**

**2** – As Yachay Wasi is a member of the Mountain Partnership, we are including their statement:

We believe that if the future agenda is to promote sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development and environmental protection, the sustainable development of mountains must be adequately accounted for in the goals. Covering 22 percent of the earth’s land surface, mountain ecosystems have universal importance. They provide 60-80 percent of the world’s freshwater and are sources of food, income and energy.

Mountain environments were deemed essential to the survival of the global ecosystem in Chapter 13 of *Agenda 21*, the outcome document of the Rio ‘Earth Summit’ in 1992; by seven UNGA resolutions – including one in 2013; and by *The Future We Want*, the outcome document adopted at Rio+20 in 2012.

The revised Zero Draft of the Sustainable Development Goals does not adequately reflect the vital role that mountains have in sustainable development. It is crucial that the targets be amended to ensure that mountains remain a priority through to 2030.

To better reflect the economic, social and environmental importance of mountains to people today, we believe that the following modifications should be made:

**On water and sanitation (Goal 6)**

6.5 to be revised as follows: by 2030 implement integrated water resources management at all levels, in particular through the sustainable management of mountains which provide 60-80 percent of the world’s freshwater resources, and through transboundary cooperation as appropriate

**On terrestrial ecosystems, desertification, land degradation and biodiversity (Goal 15)**

15.1 to be revised as follows: by 2030 ensure conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems, in particular wetlands, mountains and drylands, for the provision of ecosystem services of global importance

15. d to be added as follows: Mobilize significant resources from all sources and at all levels to finance the conservation and sustainable use of ecosystems, in particular wetlands, mountains and drylands