



**North Australian
Indigenous Land &
Sea Management
Alliance**

Media Release

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Indigenous people want a seat at the table on Climate Change

The North Australian Indigenous Land and Sea Management Alliance is calling on the Australian government to engage the expertise and knowledge that Indigenous people have when negotiating the Kyoto 2012 agreement.

NAILSMA is sending a delegation to the Climate Change Conference in Bali. In addition to making a presentation at a side event organised by the Inuit Circumpolar Council relating to Indigenous peoples contribution toward the future of the Kyoto 2012 process.

The Executive Officer of NAILSMA, Joe Morrison said, "the delegation will be significant in providing an Indigenous perspective around the growing issues of climate change, adaptation and mitigation strategies and the subsequent economic development and policy opportunities".

"It is paramount that Indigenous people have a strong say in how climate change strategies and policies are developed and implemented, to ensure that the most disadvantaged section of our society is informed and can take up appropriate opportunities" he said.

Indigenous people across the north are in a primary position to contribute towards global targets of reducing greenhouse gas emissions using highly refined Indigenous Knowledge systems, which have developed through changed environments over millennia. Tackling climate change will also require management of intact ecosystems, not just emissions by industries as the savannas and deserts of northern and central Australia are global assets that require a holistic management approach.

"Engagement with Indigenous people at the policy, research and implementation levels will require urgent collaborative approaches in order for multiple aspirations to be met, our attendance will signal Indigenous peoples intent to be firmly engaged in the development of new and innovative industries, how they are framed and delivered across northern Australia" he said.

For more information about NAILSMA and the initiatives it works on, visit the website:
www.nailsma.org.au

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