

ANDREA CARMEN



Andrea Carmen, member of the Yaqui Nation, lives in Tucson Arizona. She became a staff member of the International Indian Treaty Council (IITC) in 1983 and its Executive Director in 1992. Andrea has many years of experience working as a human rights representative, trainer and observer in crisis situations around the world, and was IITC's team leader for work on the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. In 1997 was one of two Indigenous representatives invited to formally address the UN General Assembly for the first time at the UN Earth Summit +5 and regularly participates in UN sessions representing Indigenous Peoples as a delegation of the IITC.

Andrea has been an expert presenter at UN bodies and seminars addressing Human Rights, Treaties and Treaty Rights, Cultural Indicators for Biological Diversity and Food Sovereignty, the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's), Indigenous Peoples' Right to Participate in Decision-making, Indigenous Children under State Custody including impacts of Boarding and Residential Schools, Climate Change, Reproductive and Inter-generational Health, International Repatriation and Cultural Rights, Indigenous Languages and Rights of the Child including Indigenous Children's right to Environmental Health. In 2006, Andrea was selected to serve as Rapporteur for the UN Expert Seminar on Indigenous Peoples' Permanent Sovereignty over Natural Resources and their Relationship to Land, the first Indigenous woman to serve as Rapporteur for an UN Expert Seminar.

Andrea has served on a number of non-profit Boards and from 2010 -2018 was a member of the Indigenous Peoples Global Steering Committee for coordination of work at the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. In 2019 Andrea was selected to represent North America Indigenous Peoples on the Facilitative Working Group for the UNFCCC Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform in its first three years of operation and served as its 2nd co-chair from June 2020 through May 2021. In August 2022 Andrea accepted the invitation to become a member of the Global Steering Committee of the newly formed International Union for the Conservation of Nature Climate Crisis Commission.

She has a bachelor's degree from the University of California at Santa Cruz in Women Studies and has three sons and two grandchildren.

IITC was founded on the Standing Rock Reservation in South Dakota in 1974 to be an international voice and advocate for the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. In 1977 IITC was the first Indigenous Peoples organization to receive Consultative Status from the UN Economic and Social Council and in 2011 it was the first to be upgraded to "General Consultative Status"