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harms inflicted by armed conflict on the territories they inhabit. Such consultations and cooperation must continue for as long as it is necessary to cure the existential harms inflicted by armed conflict on the natural environments to which indigenous peoples are so closely linked.

Micronesia wishes to state however that there is a serious understanding in international law

that attention must be paid to the needs and interests of so-called “local communities” along with indigenous peoples. This is the language used in, for example, the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Nagoya Protocol as well as in the Paris Agreement on climate change. It is Micronesia’s view that there is an important distinction between indigenous peoples and local communities, in the sense that an indigenous people typically descends from a population that inhabited a country at the time of settlement by non-indigenous peoples.