

**Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP)**

**Item 7: Proposals to be Submitted to the HRC**

**for its Consideration and Approval**

**Statement by the Delegation of the United States of America**

**Thursday, July 11, 2013**

The United States welcomes the opportunity to discuss proposals that EMRIP could submit to the Human Rights Council for its consideration and decision.

We suggest that in the future, EMRIP could usefully devote attention to best practices with regard to how indigenous women contribute to the economic development of their communities, including as entrepreneurs and business leaders; the preservation of Indian cultures; and tribal governance. EMRIP could prepare studies or engage in research on these topics. Another subject EMRIP could explore is the rights of indigenous persons with disabilities.

We note that EMRIP has devoted time in recent years to issues involving the human rights of indigenous individuals and the collective rights of indigenous peoples and the impact of businesses on those rights. As we heard from Special Rapporteur Anaya this week this will also be a focus of his next report to the Human Rights Council. Moreover, the UN Working Group on the Issue of Human Rights and Transnational Corporations and Other Business Enterprises is also in the process of preparing a report on the impact of businesses on indigenous communities for the General Assembly. Special Rapporteur Anaya also devoted a recent report to that topic. If EMRIP remains interested in the subject, we

recommend that it liaise with the Working Group on Business and Human Rights and the Special Rapporteur.

The Working Group on Business and Human Rights is uniquely placed to leverage the multi-stakeholder nature of its work to develop a set of best practices with respect to indigenous peoples. The Working Group can help identify solutions to challenges by considering a broad array of business activities and consulting relevant stakeholders.

Thank you for your attention.