



**AUSTRALIAN MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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**Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

ENH422001055

**Seventh Session – 7-11 July 2014**

**World Conference on Indigenous People**

Australia strongly supports the convening of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples on 22 and 23 September 2014 with the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples.

Genuine engagement is critical to improving outcomes for indigenous people. Not only is it important for the credibility of the World Conference to carry the support of indigenous peoples, it is also vital to ensure the outcomes are practical and sustainable.

Australia was pleased to co-sponsor the initial United Nations resolution to establish this event. Australia notes that the World Conference is the first high-level meeting of its kind convened by the United Nations to share perspectives and best practices on the realisation of the rights of indigenous peoples.

We acknowledge the efforts made by the President of the General Assembly, Member States and indigenous peoples to enable the World Conference to take place as planned and we are pleased that the preparations for the World Conference have progressed.

Australia welcomed the opportunity to listen to the range of voices at the Interactive Dialogue on 17-18 June 2014 and the diversity of opinions expressed. We also welcomed the appointment of two Indigenous advisers and two State advisers.

We recognise the need for the World Conference to result in concise, action-oriented, practical and sustainable outcomes for indigenous people. The World Conference presents a unique opportunity to share, learn and draw on collective experiences to improve life outcomes for indigenous people.

Australia looks forward to the development of an actioned oriented and practically focused outcome document which will readily complement, and build on, the existing commitments.