

Intervention by
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Clustered Interactive Dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights
of Indigenous Peoples and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of
Indigenous Peoples
27th Session of the Human Rights Council
Wednesday, 17 September 2014, 9.00-12.00 hrs.

Mr. President,

We would like to begin by thanking the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples for her dedication to the work under the new mandate. Her first report clearly elaborates her vision as well as how she intends to advance on it. We are also very much interested in the issues that have been picked up by the Expert Mechanism, such as the rights of indigenous peoples in the context of disaster risk reduction, which we consider to be important.

Thailand is pleased that attention of the Special Rapporteur's first report has been drawn to the obstacles to the enjoyment of the human rights of indigenous peoples. We strongly believe that, clear identification of the obstacles will lead to a tangible improvement of the promotion and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples, which we would like to see in the following years, especially after the convening of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples in New York next week.

We concur with the spirit and intent of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples which aims to protect the rights of indigenous peoples around the world.

Thailand is a homogeneous society with a high degree of assimilation among peoples of different ethnic origins. Although, we do not have indigenous peoples according to the description often referred

to in the Special Rapporteur's recent report, Thailand attaches great importance to respecting and protecting the rights of all in the country including ethnic groups in a non-discriminatory basis. We work in various areas to ensure that peoples are entitled to their fundamental rights, ranging from birth registration and citizenship documentation to access to education, health care, and social security.

We would like to end by wishing the Special Rapporteur a fruitful and successful endeavor as she carries out her mandate and assure you of Thailand's full support.

Thank you, Mr. President.