



24th Human Rights Council Interactive Dialogue on the World Conference of Indigenous Peoples

Thank you Madam Deputy High Commissioner,

We acknowledge the Human Rights Council recommendations have full and effective participation of Indigenous peoples throughout all preparatory, planning and follow-up stages of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, as well as during the World Conference itself.

We also note the importance of ensuring the sufficient financial and technical support required to enable the participation of Indigenous peoples at all stages. We urge member States to ensure that support for Indigenous peoples to actively engage in, and advocate for action-oriented outcomes of the World Conference is provided, with significant focus on adopting appropriate mechanisms to oversee the implementation of the rights outlined in the Declaration.

Some States are yet to fully recognise the full rights of Indigenous peoples as set out under the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples through statutory means such as including Declaration principles in relevant legislation.

The New South Wales Aboriginal Land Council calls on all States in the lead up to the World Conference, in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Peoples to fully implement the principles outlined in the Declaration, with specific focus on establishing national legislative frameworks and policies for Indigenous Peoples' individual and collective rights, within the context of achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

It is essential that all member States develop processes to ensure that provisional and national laws, policies and procedures comply with international standards including the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Consideration should be given by States that have not yet done so for the ratification of International Labour Organization Convention 169 (ILO 169) and strengthening mechanisms to monitor the implementation of the Convention. This must include the review of national laws to eliminate discriminatory provisions with the full and effective participation of Indigenous experts to ensure equality and non-discrimination.

In conclusion, we would encourage States and all United Nations agencies to support the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, especially through technical and financial contributions in line with Article 39 of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.