

**Human Rights Council
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Items 3 & 5 *Clustered* ID with: SR on indigenous peoples and Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP)

Statement of the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP)
by Joan Carling, Secretary General

Thank you Mr. Vice President. The Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP) wishes to express its sincere gratitude to the Special Rapporteur on Indigenous Peoples, Prof. James Anaya, for his substantive reports on the results of the Asia Regional Consultation and on the extractive industries and indigenous peoples. The reports reflect the realities, issues and challenges faced by Indigenous Peoples in Asia.

We commend the Special Rapporteur for his clear and concise recommendations to address the concerns brought to his attention during the consultation. AIPP fully supports his recommendations and we urge the Human Rights Council to seriously look into these reports and to act on the recommendations with a sense of urgency.

We wish to emphasize that as contained in the report, the non-recognition of indigenous peoples by many Asia states as distinct peoples with collective rights remains a big challenge. The violations to the rights of indigenous peoples to their lands, territories and resources in the context of extractive industries and militarization of indigenous communities are among the key issues faced by indigenous peoples in Asia. Adding to this is the lack of access to accountability and grievance mechanisms for indigenous peoples and their communities on the systematic violations committed against them and their communities and the resolution of conflicts relating to lands and resources

We further raise our concern that the influx of investments in Asia and plans for economic integration by the ASEAN in 2015 without the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples will lead to the further marginalization of indigenous peoples in the region.

We further urge the Human Rights Council to give due consideration to all recommendations proposed by the EMRIP. This shall include the continuation of the study on access to justice in the promotion and protection and protection of the rights of indigenous peoples with focus on restorative justice and indigenous judicial systems which will assist the Council in addressing peace and reconciliation for indigenous peoples.

Finally, we also call on the Asian governments to engage in good faith dialogues with indigenous peoples in their respective countries to address the concerns and recommendations raised in the report of the Special Rapporteur on Indigenous Peoples.

Thank you for your attention.

