

GA: Informal on the outcome of the High-Level Meeting Indigenous Peoples

Last updated: 6/4/2014 // Statement held by Iselin Hebbert Larsen on behalf of Norway June 3d 2014.

Thank you, Your Excellency

Norway would like to express our appreciation to the President that the preparative process has formally started with this first consultation, initiated her today, and in line with the GA Resolution 66/296.

We welcome the appointment of the four advisers to the process, and we want to thank them for taking on this important responsibility to ensure a good process onwards. We appreciate that the four are attending this consultation today.

Let me reiterate what we stated at the last day of the Permanent Forum on Indigneous Peoples. We support the Roadmap put forward on 19 May. The roadmap represents a compromise. It ensures the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples, in accordance with 66/296, and addresses the concerns some member states had put forward. It clearly sets out that the first stages of the drafting and consultation will be carried out with member states and indigenous peoples, but that the final stage will be member states only.

Mr. Chair,

Resolution 65/198 states that the Conference should be held in order to share perspectives and best practices on the realization of the rights of indigenous peoples, including to pursue the objectives of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

For Norway, as a party to the ILO-Convention 169, it is important to secure the full and effective participation of indigenous peoples at a national level through their representative institutions in decision-making processes at all levels of society whenever consideration is being given to legislative or administrative measures, which may affect them directly.

The involvement of indigenous peoples' representatives in the international preparatory process to the Conference, and in the negotiations leading to a, concise, action oriented outcome document, is of fundamental importance.

We have actively supported the indigenous peoples' preparative process leading up to the Alta Outcome Document. This document represents the priorities of the indigenous peoples, and is indeed an important input to the process that starts here today.

We align ourselves with the statement held by my Danish colleague. We will attend the meeting next week in Copenhagen to discuss amongst governments and indigenous peoples of the Nordic countries possible elements for the outcome document.

Norway is ready to be involved in the process and look forward to seeing a first draft of an outcome document soon, which takes into account the elements that is within the framework of the GA resolution 66/296.

I thank you, Mr. Chair.