

**The 51st Session of the Human Rights Council
12 September 2022 – 7 October 2022**

Item 3 & 5: Interactive dialogue with the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples on its annual report

28 September 2022

Statement of Meezaan Center for Human Rights and Geneva International Centre for Justice

Delivered by Isabelle Despicht / GICJ

Thank you, President,

We thank the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous People for its update and commend all progress made by states to elevate the rights of indigenous communities across the globe.

Indigenous people comprise 6% of the global population and are among the most marginalised societies. Often overlooked, their role in preserving and disseminating indigenous knowledge and culture is paramount to modern societies.

Indigenous communities continue to be discriminated against and are often unable to fend for themselves. Most notably, they are too frequently unable to access appropriate legal remedies when their rights have been violated.

We regret that, as noted in the report of the Expert Mechanism, **only two states** contributed to the completion of the study on Treaties and Agreements between States and the Indigenous population.

Meezaan and Geneva International Centre for Justice urgently call this Council for a renewed and concerted effort to include these groups in multilateral decision-making processes. States should make use of the mechanisms made available to them.

We further join the call of the Expert Mechanism for States to ensure prompt and effective investigations and, most importantly, to ensure accountability for crimes committed against these communities, guaranteeing the principle of non-repetition.

I Thank you.

FACEBOOK POST -

A renewed call for the self-determination of Indigenous people

On the 28 of September 2022 the Human Rights Council held a Panel discussion on the Rights of Indigenous People, followed by an Interactive Dialogue with the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, experts presented their annual report.

During the Interactive dialogue, Isabelle Despicht, on behalf of GICJ and Meezaan Center for Human Rights, delivered an oral Statement.

She highlighted

Finally, she reaffirmed...

**#HRC51 #HumanRightsCouncil #Expertmechanism #Indigenouspeople #minorities
#landrights #selfdetermination #HumanRights #Geneva
#GenevaInternationalCentreforJustice #Geneva4Justice #GICJ**