

DoCip

Indigenous Peoples' Center for Documentation, Research and Information
Centre de documentation, de recherche et d'information des peuples autochtones
Centro de Documentación, Investigación e Información de los Pueblos indígenas

INTERVENTION A LA DEUXIEME SESSION DE L'INSTANCE PERMANENTE SUR LES PEUPLES AUTOCHTONES

Point 6 de l'Ordre du jour : Travaux futurs de l'Instance permanente

M. le Président,

Permettez-moi de prendre la parole pour rappeler les services que le doCip a apportés et continuera à apporter à la bonne marche de l'Instance permanente. A cette deuxième session, le doCip a, en moins de 8 jours ouvrables, traduit plus de 230 pages en anglais, français, espagnol et russe, fournit près de 90 heures d'interprétation dans les mêmes langues et photocopié au moins 60'000 pages de documents, entre autres services. Le doCip soutient et continuera à soutenir très activement et très concrètement la bonne marche de l'Instance permanente comme il l'a toujours fait aussi pour le Groupe de travail sur les peuples autochtones, le Groupe de travail sur le projet de déclaration ainsi que les points à l'ordre du jour consacrés aux questions autochtones dans le cadre de la Commission des droits de l'homme et la Sous-Commission de la promotion et protection des droits de l'homme.

Etant donné notre longue histoire avec les délégations autochtones auprès des Nations Unies – qui date de 1978 – permettez-moi également de me faire l'écho du consensus régnant entre les délégations participant au Caucus des peuples autochtones sur l'Examen des mécanismes des Nations Unies concernant les peuples autochtones. En juillet 2002, le Caucus des peuples autochtones a adopté à l'unanimité une Déclaration et un Plan de travail élaboré lors du XXe Anniversaire du Groupe de travail en juillet 2002 allant dans ce sens.

Le doCip pense que le Groupe de travail sur les peuples autochtones doit être maintenu. En effet, l'Instance permanente sur les questions autochtones n'a pas pour mandat d'élaborer des normes internationales, élaboration qui est l'une des compétences spécifiques du Groupe de travail. Il joint à cette intervention, celle conjointe que 13 organisations disposant du statut consultatif auprès de l'ECOSOC ont déposé auprès de cette instance.

Merci Monsieur le Président

Pierrette Birraux-Ziegler
Directrice scientifique du doCip

Proposed provisional agenda for the substantive session of 2003 ECOSOC meeting

(E/2003/3 January 2003)

General Segment

Item 14 (h) : Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

(Council decisions 2000/22 and 2002/285)

Report of the Secretary General on the information concerning Indigenous issues requested in paragraph (e) of Council decision 2001/316 of 26 July 2000.

(Council decision 2002/286).

Geneva, May 6 2003

Mr Secretary General,

The undersigned Indigenous and non governmental organizations in consultative status with ECOSOC wish to present their position on the Review of UN Mechanisms, Procedures and Programs Regarding Issues of Indigenous Peoples (ECOSOC Resolution 2000/22; Decision 2001/316).

Currently, the main mechanisms are:

The Working Group on Indigenous Populations (WGIP) whose mandate includes (a) the review of the situation of Indigenous peoples; (b) the development of standards regarding their human rights.

The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (PF) which consists in (a) furnishing special advice and recommendations on Indigenous issues to ECOSOC as well as to other UN programs, foundations, and institutions; (b) heightening awareness and promoting the integration and coordination of activities concerning Indigenous issues within the UN and (c) developing and distributing information on Indigenous issues.

The Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of Indigenous Peoples (SRHR) whose mandate is to (a) receive information regarding violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms of Indigenous peoples; (b) formulate recommendations and proposals of appropriate measures to prevent or remedy such violations, and (c) work in close consultation with the other pertinent bodies of the Commission and the Sub-Commission on Human Rights.

The Special Rapporteur on Permanent Sovereignty of Indigenous Peoples over Natural Resources recently appointed.

All these bodies originated in work carried out by the WGIP since 1982. They complement one another, both in their mandates and in their function and decision-making power.

In fact :

- ✓ Unlike the WGIP, the PF has no ability to set standards.
- ✓ The WGIP can conduct studies that draw the attention of subsidiary bodies such as the WHO, WIPO, and others on subjects specific to Indigenous peoples (for example, studies on land, heritage and treaties), but only the PF can ensure that these bodies implement those studies adequately.

Numerous international standards are still lacking in the area of land rights, heritage preservations, codes of conduct for the private sector, as well studies on the concept of prior, free and informed consent.

Finally the exceptional openness of the WGIP serves as a model to other international forums. The OAS, for example, contemplates following the example of the WGIP.

Indigenous peoples have been subjected to colonialism, genocide, assimilation, dispossession, discrimination, marginalization, and exclusion, which has left a legacy of severe impoverishment and a host of debilitating social, economic and cultural challenges. As this legacy continues, we urge the United Nations to continue to support the few mechanisms which they have created to improve this ongoing legacy, in particular the WGIP and the PF.

American Indian Law Alliance

International Organization of Indigenous Resources Development (IOIRD)

Innu Council of Nitassinan

Tebtebba Foundation

Comisión Jurídica para el Autodesarrollo de los Pueblos Originarios Andinos (CAPAJ)

International Indian Treaty Council

Inuit Circumpolar Conference

Indigenous World

Association of the Indigenous Peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East of the Federation of Russia (RAIPON)

Association Tamaynut

Indigenous Peoples and Nations Coalition

Foundation for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Research Action

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