Interactive Dialogue with Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Francisco Cali Tzay

Statement by the Delegation of the United States of America
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As delivered by Catherine L. Peters

- The Special Rapporteur recommends that states involve indigenous peoples in developing and implementing COVID-19 response measures to address indigenous peoples’ unique needs.

- The United States has consulted Tribal Leaders and urban Indian organizations to coordinate a comprehensive public health response. We held six Tribal consultations and an urban conference on Indian Country vaccinations.

- These discussions helped develop the “COVID-19 Pandemic Vaccination Plan, November 2020.” The Plan coordinates equitable and transparent vaccine distribution to indigenous communities. It prioritizes more vulnerable persons, including older persons and persons with disabilities. It also provides information and monitoring measures on vaccine safety.

- **Question:** The report mentions how the Navajo and Cherokee Nations provided necessities and vaccinations to their most vulnerable members. We welcome hearing more success stories during this interactive dialogue.