

16th Session of the UN PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES

Item 11: Follow-up to the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples:

Aima walara sut ra laikula yamni daukiswa! Sister Mariam, on behalf of my organization, YAMATA, I would like to address Item 11 of the agenda: "Follow-up to the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples". As is known, in general there are currently no spaces at the country level for governments and their institutions to interact with indigenous peoples and their organizations. Therefore, it is urgent for the Permanent Forum to encourage the creation of real spaces for dialogue in our countries with the aim of forging participation and collaboration relationships among the stakeholders. In the specific case of my country, Nicaragua, and within the framework of:

a) Implementation of national action plans, strategies or other measures,
we propose:

The immediate creation of an action plan commonly agreed between the Government and the Indigenous Peoples' organizations, including a good faith dialogue between the Government and the Indigenous Peoples on:

- *Implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- **Saneamiento*¹ of Titled Indigenous Territories in accordance with Law 445.
- *Implementation of the ruling of the International Human Rights Court in the YATAMA vs. Nicaragua case of 2003.
- *Extensive reform of the Statute of Autonomy, Law 28, in light of internal regulatory advances and the right to self-determination enshrined in Article 4.
- *Draft Bill on Indigenous Peoples' Territories.
- *Investigation and punishment for the killing of the leader Mario Lemán and the military attack on Rommel Constantino.
- *Socio-economic rehabilitation program for indigenous communities.

With regard to:

b) Ways to enhance the participation of indigenous peoples at the United Nations:

A plan to facilitate the direct participation of indigenous leaders and representatives in United Nations bodies and activities through:

- *Selection of beneficiaries on a rotating basis, taking into account the categories of: peoples, countries, regions, generations and gender.
- *Training on UN structure and functioning.

¹ Trans. Note: "Saneamiento" refers to the "cleansing", or removal, of colonists and industries from Indigenous and Afro-descendant territories.

- *Integration of indigenous experts and technical specialists within the UN.
- *Government contributions to the funding for indigenous delegations from their respective countries attending the Permanent Forum and EMRIP sessions.
- *Promotion and expansion of the Voluntary Fund to increase grants for indigenous delegates.

With regard to:

c) Implementation of the United Nations System-Wide Action Plan on Indigenous Peoples

- *Design of a UN Agencies Support Program for Indigenous Peoples at the country level and at the geographic regions level.
- *Implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- *Monitoring of the Outcome Document from the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.
- *Implementation of the recommendations from the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- *Implementation of the works of research and studies of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Many thanks.