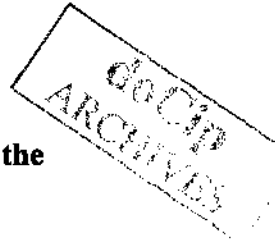


ALBERTO SALDAMANO - IITC



**Recommendations to the Permanent Forum by Indigenous Peoples and their organizations attending the 3rd Regional Consultation for Latin American and the Caribbean, FAO and NGOs/Civil Society, conducted in Guatemala City, Guatemala, 23 to 25 April 2004.**

In proclaiming the International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples, the General Assembly defined its goal as "the strengthening of international cooperation for the solution of problems faced by indigenous people in such areas as human rights, the environment, development, education and health."<sup>i</sup> Clearly, the Decade was not meant to address international cooperation for the solution of the problems of Indigenous Peoples only for ten years. As the Secretary General reported: "Implicit in the theme of the Decade, 'Indigenous Peoples: partnership in action,' and the proposal to create a permanent forum is the notion that indigenous people and organizations should have recognized rights of participation in the United Nations decision-making bodies and a formal or institutional role in international policy-formulation and policy-making in area affecting their lives."<sup>ii</sup>

Within the framework of the Decade, as reported by FAO to the Permanent Forum, FAO has created a structure of Focal Points for Indigenous Issues constituted of representatives of each department and regional office within its structure.

**Therefore, Indigenous Peoples meeting in Guatemala City, a the Guatemala City FAO/NGO/Civil Society Consultation recommend to the Permanent Forum that it recommend to ECOSOC:**

- 1. That FAO organize a regional consultation for the Americas between FAO Indigenous Focal Points and Focal Points representing Indigenous Peoples to exchange information, views and perspectives on the work of FAO.**
- 2. That FAO's internal system of Focal Points for Indigenous Issues be reinforced and that Indigenous Peoples' focal points be identified in each region: The Permanent Forum recommends that the FAO sponsor regional consultations in order that FAO and Indigenous Peoples exchange information and points of view and develop a work plan for Indigenous Peoples within FAO.**
- 3. That FAO sponsor an international conference on Indigenous Peoples and food security and food sovereignty as followup to the Focal Point network. Both regional and international consultations should be held with the active participation of Indigenous women and youth.**

We believe that this system of regional focal points of FAO and Indigenous Peoples could be replicated by other UN agencies and programs, to begin to provide follow up to a major goal of the Decade, of true and effective participation by Indigenous Peoples within the United Nations system.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.

Las Organizaciones Indígenas en apoyo a estas recomendaciones:

1. CONAVIGUA Coordinadora Nacional de Viudas de Guatemala
2. Defensoría Maya (Guatemala)
3. Asociación Pro-Desarrollo Integral de la Mujer Lanel (Guatemala)
4. Movimiento de la Juventud Kuna, (Panamá)
4. Consejo Indígena de Centro América
6. Consejo Internacional de Tratados Indios
7. Asociación de Desarrollo Integral Conte-Burica de Costa Rica
8. Enlace Continental de Mujeres Indígenas
9. Asociación de Mujeres Indígenas de la Costa Atlántica (Nicaragua)
10. Asociación Cultural CHIRAPAC (Perú)
11. Asociación de Jóvenes Indígenas de Argentina
12. YATAMA (Yapti tasba masraka nanih asla takanka= la Org de los hijos de
13. la Madre Tierra (Nicaragua)
14. MIN, Movimiento Indígena de Nicaragua
15. Taypi Cege (Bolivia)
16. Decenio Maya (Guatemala)
17. Coordinadora de Sur Occidente de CADISOC (Guatemala)

---

<sup>i</sup> International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples, General Assembly resolution 48/163 of 21 December 1993, A/RES/48/163, Operative paragraph 2.

<sup>ii</sup> Id, at para. 11.