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**COLLECTIVE STATEMENT MADE BY
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INDIAN CONFEDERATION OF INDIGENOUS AND TRIBAL PEOPLES (ICITP)
10TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES
(UNPFII)
NEW YORK, MAY 18, 2011
AGENDA ITEM 4(a): IMPLEMENTATION OF UNDRIP**

Dear Madam Chair,

Indian Confederation of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples (ICITP), an umbrella organisation of 310 diverse Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of India representing 100 millions of IPs of India would like to congratulate you for your election as the Chairperson for the current session of the UNPFII. We bring cordial greetings to you from our peoples.

Madam Chair,

We are pleased to inform you that after 64 years of India's post Independence, the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of India had a historic All India Indigenous Peoples' Grand Assembly on 28th, 29th and 30th of March 2011 at Talkatora Indoor Stadium, New Delhi to decide collectively their future, where we had participations of more than 2500 representatives from more than 500 tribes for inclusive open ended consultations on various issues affecting our lives including land, Forest, Water, Health, Education, Migrant Domestic Workers, Socio-Economic Problems, Culture, Traditional Knowledge, Human Rights including implementation of UNDRIP.

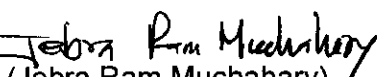
On behalf of the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of India, we have this great privilege to submit the resolutions adopted by the Grand Assembly for your kind information and necessary action please. Among many others, the resolution no. 60 has its direct relevancy with the Implementation of UNDRIP in India which does read as, "Government of India is a party to the United Nations Declarations on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), which was adopted on the 13th of September 2007 in the 61st session of the UN General Assembly in the UN Headquarters, New York and therefore, the UNDRIP must be respected and implemented in India for the welfare of the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of the country and promote awareness of all UN instruments for Indigenous and Tribal Peoples by providing the means for translation and dissemination to them everywhere in their own language;"

ICITP has under taken translation of UNDRIP in tribal languages to disseminate its information but no encouragement is seen from the government side and despite consistent lobby and advocacy for adoption and implementation of the UNDRIP by the government of India, we have been experiencing the lack of political will of the government to recognise the rights of the Indigenous and tribal Peoples in the country.

We, therefore, urge this august forum to impress upon the government of India to urgently take up the issues in the forthcoming monsoon Parliament session of India to be held in July 2011.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Sincerely yours,


(Jebra Ram Muchahary)
Chief Advisor and National Chief Coordinator, ICITP


(Meenakshi Munda)
National Youth Coordinator, ICITP