

**42<sup>nd</sup> Session of the HRC, Geneva**

**18 September 2019**

**Clustered ID: Item 3 & 5**

**Speaker: Alfredo Muscia**

Oral Statement submitted by  
**IIMA – Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice**

Co-sponsored by  
**VIDES International – International Volunteerism Organization for Women,  
Education, and Development**

Thank You, Mr. President

IIMA and VIDES International welcome the Report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples.

We greatly appreciate the efforts of the States to implement the rights of indigenous peoples. However, further efforts are still needed by States to ensure the full and equitable enjoyment of the human rights of all indigenous peoples who remain vulnerable to discrimination, exploitation, violence, and are the most affected by climate change and its related activities.

To guarantee the rights of indigenous people to self-determination, to favorable living conditions and to sustainable development

IIMA and Vides recommend that States:

- Prioritize legislations which guarantee the participation of indigenous children in mainstream schools from early childhood.
- Adopt policies that ensure indigenous children and youth have access to free, quality, inclusive education that incorporates indigenous language, history and culture into the school curricula.
- Equip and prepare educators so as to enable and empower indigenous children and youth to find their voice and place in society.
- Provide funding for school buildings and infrastructures in remote indigenous areas
- Promote women's empowerment through health education, vocational training programs, and microcredit projects.

Thank You, Mr. President.