

**Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues  
Twelfth session**

**New York, 21-31 May 2013**

**Item 7(a)**

**Implementation of the United Nations Declaration  
on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

**Joint Statement  
of International Public organization  
Foundation for Research and Support of  
Indigenous Peoples of Crimea  
And Crimean Tatar People's Front**

**Dear Mr. Chairman!**

**Brothers and Sisters, Ladies and Gentlemen!**

We really appreciate the information, which is submitted here by the range of Indigenous Peoples and international agencies as well as by some governments about constructive and positive developments in a course of the implementation of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

We see how important and productive is this instrument for the guaranteeing of the liquidation of the consequences of many centuries of injustice, genocide and oppression against Indigenous Peoples. At the same time that

Declaration is a solid basis for internal dialog and reconciliation at different countries. This is very notable that we are speaking about implementation but not only realization of the Declaration, which means that Declaration is in fact legal document of not only moral but utmost legal strength for whole world.

The evidence of that is the change of the position of all member States, who voted against the Declaration at 2007. The same thing two abstained States did. Unfortunately there exists the pillar of shame, near which still 9 states take a place, who abstained at the voting for Declaration on September 13, 2007. The Ukraine is among them.

Our State rejects the Declaration by all means. In internal propaganda State officials declare that so far as Ukraine abstained the Declaration has not a force for it. Another argument is that UN declarations generally are not legally binding documents so Ukraine may ignore it.

Of course here at the session of PFI representatives of Ukrainian State wouldn't dare to declare those things. But they just do not attend the sessions of PFI during years. They are absent today as usually.

This obvious and public disregard by Ukraine of the basic international instrument on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and International Community position as a whole is a starting point for systematic, brutal and gross violations of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples of Crimea at the domestic

policy of Ukraine beginning from land, educational, cultural heritage protection and preservation, labor rights, legislation on the Indigenous Peoples etc. particularly about the rehabilitation and restoration of the Rights of Crimean Tatar People deported en-masse t 1944 and ending with the Right to Self-Determination. In order to oppress he struggle of Indigenous Peoples Ukraine uses all ways including police and military actions.

We kindly ask the PFII to pay the attention to that fact and to use its plenipotentiaries in order to influence to member States, which abstained at the time of the voting of Declaration by UN GA to implement this adopted and approved on the highest international level legal document.

Thank you very much!