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**United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
4th Session**

**Joint Recommendation on Human Rights on Indigenous Children, Youth, and Women
By International Indigenous Youth Caucus**

We make this intervention in memory of sixteen year old Juan Jesus Rivera, a young O'odham man who was killed on May 11, 2005 by a U.S. Border Patrol Agent, right here in the United States, a "well developed" country. The local media report was not publicized until Saturday, May 21, 2005. This report does not match the accounts of O'odham community members.

In our militarized world dictated by globalization, indigenous communities face intensified dangers of extinction by hunger, oppression, psychological poverty, as well as cultural and economic deprivation. Those who survive are threatened by cultural and social extinction as a result of being undermined by government mainstream policies. The legacy of the nuclear fuel chain and the poisoning of our lands violate our rights to safety, standard of living, and the future well being of our communities. *Indigenous communities are not extended the basic human rights that all human beings should be afforded in accordance to the Declaration of Human Rights.*

Specifically, as indigenous youths, it is our right to be educated on human rights and the UN system. This education should be able to effectively provide us with the capacity to identify and address indigenous issues and tap into the resources of governments, UN, and NGOs, whether international or local.

Human Rights include the rights of all peoples, regardless of age or gender, to participate in the transmission of knowledge.

Building on and endorsing the recommendations of past Sessions of the Forum that support the participation of Indigenous youth, we propose the following recommendations:

1. We call for the UN and all of its systems, to review, implement and direct resources to the recommendations initiated by Indigenous youth.
2. The Forum, in cooperation with relevant UN agencies, allocate an adequate fund

for human rights training and education. Furthermore, training on how to navigate the UN system to promote human rights;

3. A suitable budget for education of indigenous youth and women on human rights and UN resources should be allocated.
4. A suitable fund for education to increase awareness on the human rights of indigenous youth should be allocated.
5. Special Rapporteurs for indigenous issues, human rights officers and UNICEF representatives must be allowed entry at all times into all regions of all States, whether or not they are members of the UN, to conduct fact-finding missions or other naturalistic research which particularly aims at the specific problems and dilemmas of indigenous youth. Such issues must cover both the exploitation of indigenous youth as a result of economic and social factors, whether from external or internal sources.

Furthermore, Special Rapporteurs should consult and deal directly with the particular communities affected and not with government officials and other entities whose tendency is to minimize the severity of the situation .

6. That all UN agencies and NGOs, whether international or local, strongly pressure all governments and its collaborating agents to ensure indigenous communities with the basic human rights that should be guaranteed to all human beings.
7. We ask that the Forum endorse the call for a meeting dedicated to the human rights of indigenous peoples violated by the nuclear fuel cycle which can be jointly organized by United Nations Programs and Indigenous Peoples to include youth, as we are inheriting this legacy and need to learn about all aspects of it.
8. We call for the UN and all of its systems to review, implement and direct resources to the recommendations from past gatherings of Indigenous Peoples on this issue including the 1994 Declaration of Salzburg (File# E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.4/1994/7 6 June 1994), the 1996 Indigenous Anti-Nuclear Summit Declaration, the 1992 Indigenous Peoples' Earth Charter, La 2003 Tierra Es Vida Declaration, and the 2003 Indigenous Peoples' Declaration on Extractive Industries.