

Intervention of Kandi Mossett of the Indigenous Environmental Network

16<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

April 26, 2017

Agenda Item 4

Thank you, Madame Chairwoman.

I'll do my introduction in my language of Hidatsa, for which there is no translator – In Hidatsa: Hello Relatives, my name is Eagle Woman. My English name is Kandi Mossett and I'm a Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara woman - I grew up in the tiny town of New Town in North Dakota.

The special theme of this session is the “Tenth Anniversary of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: measures taken to implement the Declaration”. In this regard it is relevant to note that during the events that occurred at Standing Rock in North Dakota the United States has violated every single article in the declaration.

The fundamental right to Free Prior and Informed Consent was violated; consultation is NOT consent.

Article 22 on the rights of Indigenous Women was violated as we were treated violently at Standing Rock. The violence against women and violence against mother earth and the things that occurred there were humans rights abuses perpetuated by the United States, by our US military and by the police forces.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- I want to reaffirm the recommendations that were presented by Brenda White Bull from Standing Rock yesterday in this session.
- I urge the United States to immediately implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and to stop hurting and raping our Mother Earth and hurting Indigenous Peoples.
- I reiterate that the special theme of the next session should be water and the violence against water and the water protectors. We should not be violated for protecting water!

Mni Wiconi!  
Mni Wiconi!  
Mni Wiconi!

Mod-zi-gidaz (Thank you)