



9th session of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
Item 5: Follow-up to the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples including the review of the mandate of the Expert mechanism
Delivered by First Secretary Jarrod Clyne
11 July 2016

New Zealand would like to express our appreciation to OHCHR for the Expert Workshop on the review of the mandate of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that was held in early April, and the summary report. The report lists a diverse range of options that will enable us to fulfil the commitment made in paragraph 28 of the outcome document of the 2014 World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.

New Zealand is committed to a timely, effective, and efficient review process and would like to offer our position on the review in light of the report.

- The review should/must be finalised by amending resolution 6/36 at the 33rd session of the Human Rights Council in September 2016.
- Any changes should be aimed at creating a more effective, efficient, and fully representative mechanism that coordinates and interacts better with relevant agencies and mechanisms.
- The revised mechanism must reflect the precise legal status of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- We do not consider that radical modifications, for example, to make EMRIP similar in nature to a treaty body, are appropriate

We also believe that the mandate must remain complementary to the mandates of the other indigenous specific UN mechanisms, i.e. the Special Rapporteur and the Permanent Forum and that where possible we eliminate duplication.

In our view, potential changes to the mandate could include:

- A more focused mandate with explicit reference to achieving the ends of the UNDRIP
- Task EMRIP to offer general policy recommendations, including offering their interpretations of the articles of the UNDRIP and collect best practice.
- Task EMRIP to assist in the follow-up on recommendations to Member States from indigenous-specific mandates and the broader UN human rights system, including identifying possible technical assistance
- Task EMRIP to facilitate dialogue between States and indigenous peoples at country level.
- Consider expanding the number of members to include one from each of the seven indigenous sociocultural regions

We look forward to further discussion on the review during the EMRIP session, and to concluding negotiations during the 33rd session of the Human Rights Council.

Thank you Mr Chair.