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4(b) Data collection and disaggregation of data on indigenous peoples

Collective Statement on behalf of the Caribbean Antilles Indigenous Peoples Caucus & the Diaspora.

Recommendations:

(1) The Caribbean Antilles Indigenous Peoples Caucus & the Diaspora recalling a recommendation to "inter-governmental organizations, funds and programmes to launch a coordinated data collection exercise in one or more countries, with the aim of developing a common approach and of maximizing the impact of development assistance concerning indigenous and tribal communities and peoples," in particular in the Caribbean, among others, call on the Forum to examine the existing collective system structure of data collection in the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States.

(2) Cognizant of the fact that data collected for and on behalf of the Indigenous Peoples of the Caribbean Antilles, should be in accordance with provisions on human rights and fundamental freedoms, that guarantee respect for confidentiality, the Caribbean Antilles Indigenous Peoples Caucus & the Diaspora, call on the Forum and other relevant UN Agencies to commence dialogue with the Caribbean Antilles Indigenous Peoples Caucus & the Diaspora, in the use of the Saint Lucia model approach as a pilot project for the implementation of a coordinated data collection mechanism for the territories of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States.

(3) Recalling a 2004 United Nations Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues sponsored Workshop on data collection and disaggregation for Indigenous Peoples recommendations to Member States, "concerning all relevant data collection exercises, to include questions on indigenous identity with full respect for the principle of self-identification; and to develop multiple criteria with local indigenous peoples' active and meaningful participation to accurately capture identity and socio-economic conditions." The Caribbean Antilles Indigenous Peoples Caucus & the Diaspora call on the Forum to recommend to the United Nations the holding of an Americas Hemispheric Workshop on data collection and disaggregation for Indigenous Peoples, in the Caribbean Antilles in 2006.

(4) Following the principle of free, prior and informed consent and as equal partners, taking into account both the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics as established by the United Nations Statistical Commission in Decision 47 of 1994 (Appendix V) and the collective rights of indigenous peoples providing for the participation of indigenous communities in the conceptualisation, implementation, reporting, analysis and dissemination of such data; and that since "data collection is critical for the empowerment of Indigenous Peoples for identifying their needs, the Caribbean Antilles Indigenous Peoples Caucus & the Diaspora, request the Forum to call on the relevant United Nations Agencies to provide technical and financial support for the training of a cadre of Indigenous Peoples data collectors from the Caribbean Antilles.

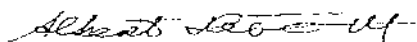
(5) Since within the Caribbean Antilles, the two indigenous languages constitute the second largest grouping (approximately 9 million speakers), **the Caribbean Antilles Indigenous Peoples Caucus & the Diaspora, proposes that future data collection in the Caribbean Antilles be conducted in Kreyol and Papiamentu**, and that policy makers and those designing data collection exercises should be sensitized and trained regarding the nature of the populations being surveyed and the purposes for which data is being sought.

(6) The Caribbean Antilles Indigenous Peoples Caucus & the Diaspora, **call on the Forum to request relevant United Nations Agencies to consider providing structural and financial support in the planning of and implementation of data collection exercises as they are useful in policy articulation and prescription and in measuring the process and the outcome of development activities**, so as to promote social dialogue at the national and regional levels.

(7) Concerned about the situation of indigenous children and youth in the Caribbean, on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, and issues relating to the trafficking and sexual exploitation of indigenous girls, **the Caribbean Antilles Indigenous Peoples Caucus & the Diaspora call on the Forum to invite UNICEF and WHO to initiate a Caribbean Antilles specific situation analyses on indigenous children and youth in countries with indigenous communities, in 2006.**

(8) Recognizing the vulnerability of a substantial number of indigenous women migrants within and beyond national borders, as well as the lack of adequate data and attention to their problems, the Caribbean Antilles Indigenous Peoples Caucus & the Diaspora call on the Forum to recommend launching a new initiative involving various stakeholders, including the Inter-Agency Support Group, the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), in collaboration with the Caribbean Antilles Indigenous Peoples Caucus, the convening of a workshop on the theme "**Migration of indigenous women in the Americas**" to be held in the Caribbean in 2006, in order to highlight the urgency and scale of the issue, including the alarming trend of trafficking indigenous women within and across national borders, and the development of recommendations and guidelines for addressing the problems faced by indigenous migrant women.

The Caribbean Antilles Indigenous Peoples Caucus & the Diaspora, reiterates that its is imperative for the Indigenous Peoples of the Caribbean Antilles to be able to measure dimensions of the process of the realization of human rights, such as participation, non-discrimination, empowerment and accountability.
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Dr. Albert DeTERVILLE, Executive Chairperson