

Compilation of Indigenous delegates' interventions

Meeting in the European Parliament

(Brussels, 14th June 2016)

- General logistical information about the meeting

The meeting, hosted and chaired by Mrs. Heidi Hautala (Member of the European Parliament) took place in the European Parliament on Tuesday 14th of June 2016 from 09.00 to 11.00. Mrs. Hautala (European Parliament), Mr. Ville (European Commission) and Mr. Serri (European External Action Service) were present to discuss and exchange with Indigenous delegates about Indigenous Peoples issues.

This meeting was part of a four-day visit to Brussels of Indigenous delegates, facilitated by the Docip and organised with the support of the European Parliament and the collaboration of the European Commission¹. Fifteen Indigenous delegates² were invited by the European Commission to participate to this visit with the European institutions and to meet members of the European Parliament, the European Commission and the European External Action Service.

- Opening speeches of the European Union actors

Mrs. Hautala, Mr. Ville and Mr. Serri stressed the importance for the European institutions to contribute to the protection of Indigenous Peoples' rights and the importance of those rights in the EU human rights policies. Mrs. Hautala also pointed out the effectiveness of a cooperation between the three institutions regarding Indigenous Peoples' rights. She further highlighted that it is crucial to enhance the dialogue and the exchange of information between the European Union (EU) and Indigenous Peoples. She believed that the possibilities of dialogue which increase the participation and the inclusiveness of Indigenous Peoples in decision-making processes should be reinforced.

More specifically, in her intervention Mrs. Hautala has notably insisted on the impact of globalization and climate change on the traditional lands, traditional livelihood and survival of Indigenous Peoples. She also mentioned the issue of the shrinking space for civil society recognised by the European Parliament to the extent that there is a will of writing an own initiative report (by DEVE and DROI Committees) in which the violations of Indigenous Peoples' rights must be taken into consideration as Indigenous Peoples are part of civil society.

Mr. Ville focused on the importance of more participation and inclusiveness at all levels of Indigenous Peoples within the 2030 Agenda in implementation but also monitoring processes. Mr. Ville explained the programs and actions of the European Commission with/for Indigenous Peoples (Indigenous Navigator, support to the ratification of the ILO Convention n°169, reinforcement of capacity-building on the ground, strategic partnership with the Docip, FLEGT program and human rights-based approach) and also recalled the limits of when it comes to find a common position between the EU Member States.

¹ For more information, please see the concept note and programme of the visit (in annex).

² Please see the list (in annex).

Mr. Serri explained that the human rights Department of the European External Action Service (EEAS) ensures the horizontal coordination/support/mainstream of human rights within the EU external policies. This is done notably through the work of the EU Delegations on the ground, the Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy and support to processes in the field of business and human rights and the protection of human rights defenders in danger among others. Mr. Serri specified that, as part of the Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy which has a section on Indigenous Peoples, a joint document from the EEAS and the European Commission will be finalised regarding the EU approach to supporting Indigenous Peoples' rights against the background of the UN approach. In addition, this document, will provide some guidelines and suggestions to ensure a more effective promotion of Indigenous Peoples' rights and a better implementation of EU's support in this regard.

- Compilation of Indigenous delegates' interventions (following the running order of the meeting)
- Tracey WHARE (Raukawa and Te Whānau a Apanui (Maori), Aotearoa Indigenous Rights Trust - New Zealand)

Opening statement

What Indigenous Peoples want

- Opportunity to establish a relationship between the EU and its many parts and Indigenous Peoples
- Indigenous Peoples are interested in establishing a long-term relationship with the EU based on respect for our rights in particular those enshrined in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- Declaration provides for a resetting of the relationship between Indigenous Peoples and states particularly given that many European countries colonized our lands and that the negative effects of colonization continue to be evident in our communities
- What does this mean in practice? Example, right to participate in decisions affecting us at every level; country, regional and international
- Expectation that both parties will act in good faith, respect for our rights and their realization, and that we are active participants in matters that affect us

Basis of relationship

- Wish to ensure that the gains made at the UN in the area of human rights form the basis of and drive our work in other fora. Important that these gains are consistently applied
- Expectation that the EU regulate its own behavior, is accountable to its members and that the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is recognized and applied as the minimum standard/framework when engaging with Indigenous Peoples

Current EU initiatives

- Happy to note positive steps already taken by the EU such as the RBA, the action plan which references the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and that there are people specifically in the EU that work on Indigenous Peoples' rights

Previous consultation outcomes

- Reference to consultation in Brussels in 2015 and the recommendations that came out of that consultation in particular the importance and necessity of marrying consultation with the active participation of Indigenous people

Region: Africa

- **Abdourahmane EL MOCTAR (Touareg, Tin Hinan - Mauritania)**

Introduction

In terms of culture and linguistics, the “kel Tamasheq”, more commonly known as Touaregs, are part of the Berber speaking population. The tradition of Tin-hinan, their queen and mythical ancestor, was passed on to the Touregs. They speak of the Tamasheq, and write in Tifinagh, one of the most ancient scripts of Africa, along with the Ethiopian Amharic.

Historians point to thousands of years of the presence of this colony in central Sahara, as far as the outskirts of the Sahel. Their settlement in these regions was the outcome of successive migrations throughout the passing centuries, which led the Touaregs to the shores of the Mediterranean, as far as the Niger River. The progressive flow towards the more southerly areas of the Sahara, relatively well irrigated and also providing protection (the mountain ranges of Ahaggar, Adagh, Aïr, etc.) is because of the dromedary. The need for new passages suited to stock breeding was added to the pressing need to flee Arab domination, which grew with the invasions of the Arab tribes in the XIth century in all of North Africa.

This thousands of years old presence is demonstrated most notably by the rock art that still covers the mountains in the Sahara, as well as the inscriptions in Tifinagh, and all of the tools revealed by archaeological excavations, identical to those which are used still today by the Touaregs.

The Touaregs have been Islamized since the XIIIth century and practice an Islam that contains large facets of aboriginal beliefs, but which appear traditionally moderate in the current context of religious fundamentalism.

The Central Sahara is the last region to be colonized by the French at the end of the XIXth century. Admittedly, the Touareg country was conquered, but the Touaregs were never completely subjugated. The French columns were constantly opposed by fierce resistance, slowing the “colonial pacification”, which did not officially occur until well after 1930.

In any case, the French had only minimal involvement in the Touaregs’ way of life. The colonial power settled for a type of “indirect administration” in the Touareg area, relying on chiefdoms and traditional power.

Because of this, the colonization affected the Touaregs of Mali very little or even not at all, in contrast to their compatriots in the areas south of the concerned countries.

At independence, this was a factor that interfered with the integration of the Touaregs in the regional groupings.

Priority themes for the Indigenous Peoples of the Sahel and especially the Kel Tamashek (Touareg) of Mali:

- **Inclusion, participation, equal opportunity**

Organizational strengthening of Civil Society Organizations from the Indigenous populations of the Sahel, especially in Mali, with a capability enhancement in terms of Human Rights and the Rights of

Indigenous Peoples, in the resolution of conflicts, peace, advocacy, communication and in all of the other areas that encourage inclusion and equal opportunity.

- **Promotion and protection of the rights of Indigenous Peoples in the Sahel**

Access to justice, the fight against impunity. (Continue to find the ways and means to make known the violations committed against the Touregs and the other Indigenous Peoples in the Sahel, especially in Mali);

- Documentation of rights violations (written documents, videos, audio files, interviews, etc.) media coverage;
- Reinforcement of the media of Indigenous Peoples and linking them with other media to promote the dissemination of information on the situation of Indigenous Peoples;
- Protection for the defenders of the rights of Indigenous Peoples in the Sahel;
- Creation of a special mechanism for the protection of Indigenous Peoples in conflict zones, by the involvement of mechanisms for the protection of the rights of Indigenous Peoples at national and regional levels, especially in the countries where Indigenous Peoples live precariously and in constant danger, as in Mali and in the Sahel in general.

- **Paris Accord Climate Change follow up:**

- There is an urgent need to integrate this process at the level of the global movement of Indigenous Peoples, as much at the national level for civil society as for States and other institutions.
- The consequences of climate change on the Indigenous Peoples of the Sahel are enormous, especially in terms of loss of human life: (as a result of repeated and successive droughts, water shortages, illnesses, total absence of infrastructure, loss of means of support, especially of livestock, etc.)
- A need to gather data and to perform research on these damages is indispensable, with the genuine participation and full involvement of our populations, of the Civil Society organizations, of traditional authorities and others.

- **Interaction or integration of the Civil Society Organizations in the various global platforms** (national Civil Society Organizations, coordination of women for women's issues, young people for the young, legislators, etc.)

- Involvement in the peace process in Mali (Algiers Agreement, Burkina National Observatory for the management and resolution of conflicts);
- Interaction with development programs, government institutions, agencies for international development, international cooperation and others such as the EU.
- Technical and financial support for all of these steps. On the technical side, organizations such as DOCIP can provide great support.

Conclusion

The major current challenge is to define a coherent policy for development in a broader sense for Indigenous Peoples. This policy must find its foundation in the very fabric of the community, via development plans and strategies to reduce poverty. It is through these plans that endogenous development may find its multi-sectoral expression.

The challenge remains to make sure there is centralized planning with a grass roots momentum, in order to define the priorities in terms of acquiring the required skills.

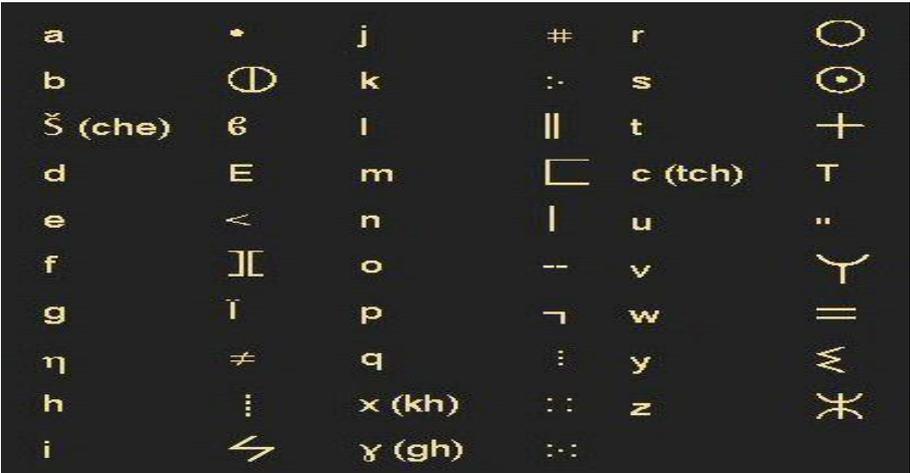
It will be imperative to consolidate the functions of the central structures of the States and to monitor adherence to their mandates, to improve internal operations, to establish an operating plan in coordination with a financial plan and to establish a multi-sectoral communication plan.

The decentralized structures of the State should benefit from budgetary and human resources, so as make them operational for data gathering and close monitoring. This involves new thinking on the how the State allocates the budget, and on the management of human resources.

In terms of the implementation, it is important to find a political and legal framework which is both sufficiently versatile to encourage new methods and flexible enough to react to local reality, but which can also effectively regulate and ensure the quality of the participants. More thought must be put into defining and applying certain national norms and standards, in terms of containment and development.

Enlightening Touareg proverbs:

- Love** • *Look for a relationship, but if you find love, stop;*
- Honor** • *Death is obligatory, but blackening your honor is not.*



The Touareg script, the TIFINACH, the oldest, along with Ethiopoean Amharic.

- **Vital BAMBANZE (Batwa, UNIPROBA/IPACC - Burundi)**

Declaration of the Honorable Vital BAMBANZE, made during on the ground experiences by the Indigenous delegates on the transverse issues affecting their communities.

Thank you, Honorable President of this Meeting, for recognizing me before this august assembly.

I am Vital BAMBANZE, from the Batwa community of Burundi.

I am the Director of a Batwa, Burundi organization called Unissons-nous pour la Promotion des Batwa (United for the Promotion of Batwa - UNIPROBA), and President of the Comité de Coordination des Peuples Autochtones d'Afrique (Indigenous Peoples of Africa Coordinating Committee - IPACC). IPACC, as you know, was founded by the Organizations of Indigenous Peoples in 1997 in the Groupe de travail des Nations Unies sur les Peuples Autochtones (United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Peoples - UNWGIP). Many Amazigh, East Africa, Batwa, San and Khoe groups worked towards the founding of the IPACC. IPACC grew and today includes more than 140 organizations in 23 African countries. IPACC grew from a detached network of various community organizations to a very influential regional network, with directors who express important positions on a national, regional and U.N. levels. It is because of IPACC that the African Group in New York supported the adoption of the United Nations Declaration in 2007.

Honorable guests, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, Indigenous Brothers and Sisters, we would like to draw your attention to the armed conflicts, especially in the Great Lakes Region which includes, among other countries: Burundi, Uganda, Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. This region is often marked by armed conflicts, especially during pre- and post- election periods. These conflicts, which lead to many assassinations and murders, do not spare the Indigenous populations.

This results in cannibalism in the DRC, rape and other inhuman behavior, especially on the Indigenous Peoples, who know nothing of the issues and the reasons for these conflicts.

The most recent case is that of Burundi, where, since April 2015, many Burundis have fled the country because of the conflicts related to the elections in this country.

The first thing is, when one speaks of the Burundis, one understands it to concern the Hutus and Tutsi, because of the wars, completely ignoring that the Batwas are a peaceful people. The Batwas were the first victims to leave the country to seek refuge in neighboring countries.

At this time, we are looking for long term solutions to the Burundi crisis.

The facilitator is here in Belgium to meet the opponents who have found refuge here; however, there is no program for the Batwas, since the constitution that governs Burundi recognizes the breakdown of Burundis as 60% Hutu and 40% Tutsi in the bodies that rule the country, thus demonstrating the exclusion, the marginalization and the discrimination which the Batwas are the victims of in this country.

Inter Burundi negotiations must include the Batwa question and we call upon the U.N. in this instance, as an institution that can strongly support these efforts. In addition to the armed conflicts, there are other violations of the rights of Indigenous Peoples, notably the rights to the land and to natural resources, the right to fair treatment, and the Right to dignity. This is a violation of Article 27 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The States of the Great Lakes Region take possession of the ancestral Indigenous lands and violate the use of their lands, whereas the Indigenous Peoples had their own methods of using their lands. Other violations of the declaration are those related to violence against Indigenous woman and girls. The violence towards Indigenous women in periods of armed conflict is great, but is not frequently denounced or condemned, and the victims remain defenseless and isolated.

In accordance with the implementation of the declaration, IPACC has already taken concrete measures in collaboration with its member organizations, such as PIDP-Kivu, UNIPROBA and COPORWA, to name a few. In addition, we have carried out certain activities.

1. Research and documentation of the violations of Human Rights for Indigenous Peoples.
2. Mapping the ancestral lands of the Indigenous Peoples, with a view of demanding recognition as Indigenous lands.
3. Seeking justice, for example for the thirteen Batwas killed in the Democratic Republic of the Congo since January of this year alone.
4. Preparation and submission of alternative reports to the Council on Human Rights regarding Indigenous Peoples, so as to make recommendations in regarding them.

We would like to perform this work in the African continent and especially to guide the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (Commission Africaine des Droits de l'Homme et des Peuples) so that the data from the research and the documentation be sent to this African body for the expression of Human Rights.

Honorable Guests, Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen, I cannot conclude this speech without issuing some recommendations to the African States and to the U.N.:

1. We ask that the African States initiate a safety procedure to protect Indigenous villages that, even though they do not participate in the wars, are the first victims of armed conflicts. A safety procedure for villages would avoid the massive displacement of the Indigenous populations and prevent an increase in African refugees. Special protection should be accorded to Indigenous women and girls in the case of armed conflicts.
2. We ask that the African governments grant Indigenous populations access to their ancestral lands.
3. If the ancestral lands are no longer available, we recommend a compensation process.
4. We ask the African States, with the assistance of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (Commission Africaine des Droits de l'Homme et des Peuples - ACHRPR) to revise the land rights by integrating the customary rights of African Indigenous Peoples.
5. We recommend the genuine participation of Indigenous Peoples in all of the processes and bodies that make decisions on any of the measures that concern them.
6. The U.N. must ensure the proper implementation of the application of these recommendations and especially to financially support the Indigenous organizations to facilitate their participation in Conferences and Forums concerning Human Rights.
7. We urge the U.N. to contemplate activities that encourage direct discussions between the States and the Indigenous Peoples for the implementation of the various recommendations contained in the national, regional and international instruments on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

I thank you for your kind attention. MURAKOZE CANE. THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

Region: Asia

- **Pallab CHAKMA (Kapaeeng Foundation - Bangladesh)**

Meeting with the MEP honorable Heidi Hautala
14 June 2016
European Parliament

Statement by Pallab CHAKMA, Bangladesh

It is estimated by the United Nations that there are more than 370 million Indigenous Peoples globally. Around 2/3 of the total population of Indigenous Peoples are in Asia, making it the most culturally diverse region in the world. With rich traditional knowledge, heritage and through their sustainable natural resource management system, Indigenous Peoples can actively contribute to the sustainable development of their respective countries. However, Indigenous Peoples in Asia region are too often excluded from development efforts and their own concept of development is consistently undermined. Their lands, territories and resources were and are being expropriated for “national development” and for “conservation” without their consent. At the same time, basic social services such as education, health and livelihood support are not appropriately provided, compounding their further marginalization.

Indigenous Peoples’ Key Issues and Priorities

Human Rights and Militarization: Human rights of Indigenous Peoples encompass not only individual civil and political rights but also collective rights, which include those to land and resources, to free and prior informed consent and to participate in decision making. Many of the human rights violation that Asian IPs face stem from the non-recognition of their collective rights to land and resources. This leads to forced eviction from their traditional land, displacement and militarization. Military, paramilitary and security forces have been used to implement policy of ethnic cleansing, population engineering, and to quell local resistance to development projects, resulting in wide-scale violation of their civil and political rights including criminalization and verification of their legitimate actions.

In Bangladesh, even after 18 years of the CHT accord, military rule is still there. More than 4 hundred military camps are yet to be withdrawn according to the provisions of the Accord. As a result, Indigenous Peoples are living in an insecure situation and very often experience human rights violation including physical and sexual harassment against Indigenous women.

In Asia, almost in every country where Indigenous Peoples live, there also of concern is the rising count of Indigenous Peoples’ human rights defenders among human rights victims. They suffer various forms of human rights violation including physical assaults, abduction and extra-judicial killing.

Business and Human rights: In Asia, the Indigenous Peoples continue to be under attack and repression as they resist massive dislocation and environmental destruction of their ancestral lands for what the government defines as ‘national development’. Their ancestral lands are sold off to foreign investors in mining and logging, plantations, energy projects, special economic zones, real estate and tourism projects.

Violence against Indigenous women: Indigenous women, by virtue of their gender and ethnicity, bear particular impacts and increased vulnerability from the consequent loss of traditional livelihoods, displacement, conflict and increasing poverty. In countries with conflict areas, they also fall prey to

sexual harassment and rape by state security forces as in Myanmar, Bangladesh and in the Philippines. In north-east India and Myanmar's Indigenous territories, trafficking of Indigenous women and children for sexual exploitation and forced labour has become a major issue.

Moreover, lack of awareness on women rights, lack of political participation of IP women and culture of impunity in regard of cases on VAIW also make them vulnerable.

Status of implementation of the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) Accord: For resolving the CHT problem in political and peaceful way Bangladesh government signed negotiated peace Accord with the Indigenous Peoples in 1997. However, the main provisions of the Accord have not been implemented, which include,

- Resolving land disputes through CHT Land disputes resolution commission;
 - Demilitarized the region by withdrawing more than 400 temporary military camps from CHT;
 - Establish special administrative system with elected Regional Council and three Hill District Councils headed by Indigenous leadership;
- *Development intervention in CHT*

After the CHT Accord, in post-conflict peace building process, UNDP started a development program in CHT titled "*Promotion of Development and Confidence Building in the Chittagong Hill Tracts*" with the funding support from European Commission. It is delivering development for local people and building capacities of local communities in different sectors. However, we came to know that European Commission will no longer be with the UNDP-CHTDF after next September 2016.

We really want EC to support program of UNDP-CHTDF in CHT for overall development. The presence of UN agencies in CHT is very important to facilitate development with human rights based approach and good governance to the CHT people and its institutions.

EIDHR Project: EIDHR Program is one of the most important program for us, especially Indigenous human rights defenders, considering weak governance system, lack of accountability, rule of law, and ignorance of the rights of Indigenous Peoples by the national governments in Asia. The EIDHR supported project is supporting us to developing capacities of our human rights defenders to address those issues. However, we, Indigenous Peoples, do not get access this fund always. Because, we have to contest with different national and international organizations but due to lack of expertise and necessary skill sometimes Indigenous-led organizations face serious challenges to access this EIDHR fund. Therefore, we recommend to strengthen the EU support to Indigenous Human Rights Defenders (political, technical and financial support) through dedicated grants for Indigenous Peoples— separate window under the EIDHR for Indigenous Peoples for financial support; engagement with IP organizations at the national and regional levels for political and technical support.

After adoption of the 2030 development agenda - If the global commitment to eradicate all forms of poverty and discrimination and achieve equality through the 2030 Agenda is to be achieved, the implementation of the SDGs needs to be fully aligned and anchored on human rights, social justice, non-discrimination and environmental sustainability. The rights, perspectives and effective inclusion of Indigenous Peoples in the national planning, implementation, monitoring and review of the SDGs must be fully ensured to achieve the aim of "leaving no one behind".

Region: The Arctic

- **Liisa HOLMBERG (Sámi, Sámi Education Institute – Finland)**

Meeting with the MEP honorable Heidi Hautala
14 June 2016
European Parliament

There are three important point I want to put on priority concerning Saami people in Europe.

First Finland should ratify ILO 169 convention. It is essential for the future of the Saami young people that Finland and Sweden as members of European Union will recognize the most important international treaty which protects Saami people's rights to their languages, livelihood and traditions. Finland has already committed to ratification, but we Saami people want urge European Union to remind Finland's commitments.

The second urgent activity is to guarantee Saami language education for all Saami children in Finland. More than 60% of Saami children under ten years lives in South-Finland and are out of the permanent language education in the schools. Finnish constitution gives rights for Saami people to their culture and language.

Third objective is to support Saami Parliaments of Finland, Norway and Sweden in their mission of representing Saami People as the only indigenous peoples in the European Union and the European Economic Area by establishing the Saami Secretariat in Brussels.

This proposal is an opportunity for Saami Parliaments to:

- increase awareness about the Saami people, their rights, traditional livelihoods, language and culture within the European Union
- help Saami Parliaments to protect Saami interests at the European level and to be included in an early stage of the decision-making process of European Union's actions that might affect Saami people
- participate in and benefit from the dialogue and information exchange between the Saami Parliaments and the European Union
- ensure that the correct and up-to-date information is available for the use of the European Commission, European Parliament and other institutions of the European Union

Thank you
Liisa Holmberg
Rector
Sámi Education Institute

- **Aili Liimakka LAUE (Inuit, Inuit Circumpolar Council – Greenland)**

"Thank you madam chair,

I wanted to address the issues regarding the EU seal Ban and despite the Inuit exception present the impacts it has had and still have to my people, Inuit People, who are living in the Arctic divided in the countries of Chukotka Russia, Northern Alaska and Canada and Greenland. And I would have liked to address our livelihoods and the impacts of climate change and present my ideas to fight this.

But I decided not to since my time is short and because I think that we Inuit People will always Hunt seal, Eat seal and Wear seal.

I agree with the European Commission's joint policy for the Arctic that states that "...the Arctic remains a zone of peace, prosperity and constructive international cooperation", I will speak about the internal suffering of my People and I am Award of this also concerns a lot of other IP communities.

The issue I will address is Education which also is directly speaking to the challenge of suicide and self-harm, Suicide and self-harm that we as Indigenous are facing today are Extreme. Due to the lack of decolonization the mental health of my People needs to be addressed. We see Education is a determining factor of the challenges we face as Indigenous in a modernized world. Many Indigenous youth worldwide attend state run public education institutions that instill false information about our histories and lead to a sense of disconnection from our culture and existence.

Colonized Educational systems have failed many Indigenous Peoples throughout history. Indigenous Peoples have been programmed to believe that the colonization system is the determining factor of how we choose to live our lives. Education has become the tool of stigmatization throughout the generations, so we today are left with the decision to fight the colonization of generations before us, or continue to allow the issues to magnify throughout generations. This intergenerational trauma is slaughtering our people internally, creating unnecessary conflict within, which leads to many drastic measures to cope with the trauma such as drug and alcohol addictions, to self-harm and suicide.

Education is a solution to decolonizing and healing our Indigenous generations of today and of the future. It is crucial that Educational systems that are delivered to our Indigenous Peoples be influenced by our Indigenous Traditional knowledge and our own languages.

We, the Indigenous Peoples have the right to our own forms of education as well as the dignity and diversity of our culture, traditions, histories and aspirations, appropriately reflected in education and public information according to UNDRIP articles (14) and (15).

The lack of Indigenous perspectives in colonial education systems results of non-Indigenous populations having little to no knowledge in Indigenous history, culture and distinct human rights. Decolonization processes have to be a part of the educational systems.

I affirm that we the Indigenous Peoples have the right to determine what we want to learn and what non-Indigenous populations learn about us, instead of being educated according the curriculum of our colonizers "UNDRIP article (14)."

I have following proposals:

I suggest the EU to work with relevant EU bodies to establish capacity building program that will work to increase education about the diversity, history and rights of the Indigenous Peoples, not only for

Indigenous youth but also for non-Indigenous populations in all regions to aid implementation of declarations among public education systems.

I would like to request that the European Union work with the Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights (OHCHR) to establish the development of culturally appropriate education material to aid Indigenous Peoples within the states, especially youth and children, in the transition to the open society while retaining unique cultural identities.

I recommend the EU to create collaborations between EU Member States for the implementation of Article 15 of the WCIP Outcome Document

And I would like to end as the Alta Declaration states: “NOTHING ABOUT US – WITHOUT US”

Qujanaq (Thank you in kalaallisut)

Region: North America

- **Rochelle DIVER (Anishinaabe - Fond du Lac, International Indian Treaty Council – USA)**

Thank you, Madam Chair My name is Rochelle Diver – I am Anishinaabe and our traditional territories span across both the United States and Canada. I speak today on behalf of the International Indian Treaty Council, an organization that has had Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council since 1977, was upgraded to General Consultative Status in and has member organizations in 4 of the United Nations regions.

I will begin by acknowledging the EU's support for key developments in the recognition and promotion of Indigenous Peoples rights in international processes including the adoption of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the establishment of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the adoption of the Outcome Document from the High Level Plenary Meeting that was known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.

Additionally, I would like to reaffirm the following recommendations: First, to establish a dedicated window for direct funding of Indigenous Peoples within the overall funding provided by the EU, recognizing that Indigenous Peoples experience marginalization in both developing and developed States, and thus opening access for all Indigenous Peoples around the world.

And second, to extend the mandates of the policy advisers of the EU delegations for those to serve as focal points on Indigenous Peoples issues in order to facilitate the dialogue. We recommend that each member of the EU delegation be versed on Indigenous Peoples rights affirmed in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples which represents the minimum standard for Indigenous Rights within the UN system. We see extreme discrepancies within the United Nations Environmental Programme processes in relation to already established international human rights standards affirmed in other UN fora. For example during the intergovernmental negotiating sessions for the Minamata Convention on Mercury, the EU was not able express public support for inclusion of the term “rights of Indigenous Peoples” as well as during the Conference of the Parties processes for the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, the Rotterdam Convention on the transmission of hazardous wastes and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change – where the rights of Indigenous Peoples were only realized in the Preamble.

As Indigenous Peoples who still live traditional lifestyles on our original territories, we are disproportionately impacted by toxic contamination as a result of extractive industries such as mining and fracking, with detrimental and irreversible impacts on our lands and territories with a special emphasis on the impacts on our women and future generations.

We look forward to a stronger relationship with the EU in the future and thank you for your time and attention. In my language, Chi-Miigwech.

- **June LORENZO (Laguna Pueblo and Navajo or Diné, Indigenous World Association- USA)**

June L. Lorenzo
Indigenous World Association

Presentation at European Parliament
June 14, 2016, Brussels, Belgium

Greetings on behalf of the World Indigenous Association. My name is June L. Lorenzo and I am Laguna Pueblo and Navajo or Diné from the southwestern United States. I have worked on behalf of Indigenous Peoples for over 30 years as an attorney and a human rights advocate, and am grateful for this opportunity to brief you on some of our most pressing issues.

I would like to identify two issues: (1) uranium mining and the entire nuclear fuel cycle, and (2) the need to repatriate numerous sacred items now in private hands, namely auction houses in Europe. Both these issues involve conduct of members of the EU and invoke the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

Both the Laguna and Dine peoples experienced large scale uranium mining from the 1950's to the early 1980's on their territories. Uranium companies left our communities with environmental degradation, contaminated water and many sick and dying people. We know from our advocacy work that Indigenous Peoples in Australia, Russia, Canada, and several African nations are resisting new uranium mining because of the industry's failure to provide remedies for these impacts.

While a few EU members have shut down, banned or plan to phase out nuclear plants, the fact remains that nuclear power plants generate almost 30% of the electricity produced in the EU. There are 130 nuclear reactors in operation in 14 EU countries. Hundreds of thousands of tonnes of waste uranium have been generated at nuclear facilities. In almost all the countries that supply uranium to EU countries, Indigenous Peoples are impacted. Thus we stress the need to honor the right to free prior and informed consent in Article 19 of the UNDRIP, land related rights contained in Articles 27, 28, 29, and 32, as well as Recommendations 1 and 3 of the Indigenous Peoples Policy Commitments. This applies to all stages of the nuclear fuel cycle.

The second issue is a multi-million dollar business in Europe: the selling of Indigenous artifacts, many of which are sacred items that were illegally taken from our peoples. More and more frequently, our peoples are learning of planned auctions of sacred items in Paris auction houses. The United States has made pleas on behalf of some Indigenous Peoples, but US laws prohibiting the sale of Native American ceremonial items hold no weight in France.

In the words of a Navajo leader at a recent gathering in Washington, D.C., "These are living, breathing objects. They belong in their homeland. These are irreplaceable and must be returned now. We pray the French authorities look beyond short-term profit, respect American laws and do what is right in the eyes of humanity and stop this auction now." Many Indigenous Peoples do not have the resources to legally confront these practices or even to submit bids for these ceremonial objects and so are left with little recourse for return of their cultural patrimony.

Article 12 of the UNDRIP sets forth the right of Indigenous Peoples to the "use and control of their ceremonial objects," as well as the States' obligation to "enable the access and/or repatriation of

ceremonial objects ... in their possession through fair, transparent and effective mechanisms developed in conjunction with Indigenous Peoples concerned. Additionally, recommendation No. 13 sets forth the need for “EU to ensure the respect for Indigenous Peoples in all its business activities.”

We believe that both the UNDRIP and the Recommendations to the EU Indigenous Peoples’ Policy Commitments contain authority to address both of these issues, and ask that you seriously consider ways in which the EU and its agencies can assist Indigenous Peoples with these pressing issues.

Region: Central and South America and the Caribbean

- **Verónica HUILIPAN (Mapuche, Observatorio de Derechos Humanos de Pueblos Indígenas – Argentina)**

Mari mari pu ce, zomo gi ka wenxu gi (good morning to everyone, men and women), members of the European Parliament and the European Commission.

I am Verónica Huilipan, Mapuce woman. Coordinator of the “Región Sur América del Enlace Continental de Mujeres Indígenas” (ECMIA).

The “Enlace Continental de Mujeres Indígenas de las Américas” (ECMIA) is an Indigenous organisation that works on a continental basis and that brings together women representatives of 23 countries of the three Americas; 20 countries are Latin speaking which explains the designation of Latin America, the languages used are mainly Portuguese and Spanish.

Our organisation has been created in 1995 in the context of the UN World Conference on Women’s Rights (in Beijing) in response to the institutional and social discrimination experienced in that instance where our cultural identity and our specific and collective rights have not been recognized to us as Indigenous women.

One of the characteristic that distinguishes our organization is the participation of women from mixed organizations and women who are part of the Indigenous movement in Abya Yala. Within the mixed organizations we find the “Organización Nacional Indígena de Colombia” (ONIC), the “Confederación de Nacionalidades Indígenas de Ecuador” (CONAIE), the “Consejo de todas tierras de Chile” and the “Confederación Mapuce de Neuquén” (CMN) in Argentina.

Our main objective is the strengthening of political and cultural identity of Indigenous women in order to contribute, with our Peoples, to the full enjoyment of our individual and collective rights, recognized at local, regional and international levels.

This objective can be divided in four specific objectives that constitute and define our management agenda.

Empowerment and political self-training of Indigenous women for the self-governance/management of their lands and resources, and to take on communitarian and organizational leadership roles.

Local, regional and international impact to generate new public policies with the full and effective participation of Indigenous women.

Communication and promotion of our specific rights and the situation of those rights towards the State obligations to respect and guarantee our individual and collective rights.

Control, defence and monitoring of the effective compliance with our individual and collective rights by the States, the companies and the international agencies.

Currently, Indigenous women are the object of multiple forms of violence because we are women, impoverished women, Indigenous women, and because we exercise our right to be Indigenous and we defend our culture, life and territories.

The criminalisation, the murders and the harassment against us are intensifying especially in the region of Latin America. The reason: because we defend our territories and environment.

The strategy of regional development based on the exploitation by extractive industries and agro-exporters is the main cause of conflict because this exploitation takes place in our communitarian territories without the due respect of our Free, Prior and Informed Consent.

A famous case known internationally is the case of the murder of our sister from the Indigenous Peoples Lenca in Honduras, Berta Cáceres, murdered for defending her communitarian territory.

We are permanently and systematically threatened in our role of human rights defenders.

Our communitarian and organizational lives are completely disturbed by this situation, we have gone from being women involved fully in domestic and communitarian activities, in connection with our environment, speaking our language and sharing our knowledge for the family formation, to women of resistance and permanent denunciation of the advancement of the predator model imposed by the extractive multinational with the complicity of the States.

Dear Mrs. President, parliamentarians and members of the European Commission, this is a brief synthesis of who we are and what our situation is.

We ask for your political and economic support and solidarity in order to canalise our situation and generate substantive and urgent improvements in our communities and organisations.

In this sense, I venture to suggest to revise the criteria of eligibility for the Economic Cooperation (PADOR) together with the communities and organisations of Indigenous Peoples. It is necessary that the EU shows trust and friendship to our continent in order for Indigenous Peoples to be the primary actors of the management of the policies that will change our reality.

We would like to thank especially the Docip team for the invitation to this initial meeting with the European Parliament and the European Commission. We also thank our sister Mrs. Marta Mendez (European Commission) who has informed us about your presence and your work in the region of Latin America, on the occasion of your visit to Peru in the context of one of our regional workshops of empowerment and self-training.

Our contact details:

Continental Coordinator: Arelis Uriana, Indígena Wayu, responsable of the Commission women and girls of the "Organización Nacional Indígena en Colombia" (ONIC). E-mail: ecmia.ecmia@gmail.com

Coordinator of the South America región: Verónica Huilipan, Indígena Mapuce, member of the "Confederación Mapuce de Neuquén", Argentina; Member of the Parliament of "Naciones Originarias en Argentina"; Secretary of the "Observatorio de Derechos Humanos de Pueblos Indígenas". E-mail: ecmia.sur@gamil.com / huilipanv@yahoo.com.ar Facebook: Veronica Huilipan. Phone: +5492996311145

- **Olga MONTÚFAR CONTRERAS (Paso a Paso – Mexico)**

Good morning,

First, I would like to thank you for treating us with such kindness during this entire process. This initiative opens undoubtedly a pathway to the future.

I would also like to thank you for showing interest in knowing about us and about the high level of discrimination that we suffer for being entitled to a great number of rights.

We are aware of the views and recommendations you have issued to ensure enforcement of the European Union's policy on Indigenous Peoples. These views and recommendations are consistent with many of our aspirations as Indigenous Peoples. Therefore, we welcome the initiative included in paragraph 4, which constitutes an invitation to establish high level consultation and participation mechanisms with a view to engage in permanent dialogue. The opening of this pathway will allow Indigenous persons with disabilities to engage with you. Furthermore, it will allow us to provide you with information regarding, among others, our agricultural day labourers, whose working conditions have been described as a form of modern slavery. It is a known fact that 60% of the registered population are children and adolescents and that 54% of Indigenous day labourers are exposed to agrochemicals banned in the United States and in Europe. We can therefore forecast that the number of persons acquiring disabilities and of children born with disabilities due to the contact of pregnant women with agrochemicals will increase.

As recommendation number five aims at strengthening our capacities and ensuring a more effective participation in EU policies and institutions, enforcing it will allow us to act and to appropriately express our opinions as Indigenous Peoples regarding issues such as the *Surface Usage Guide (Guía de ocupación superficial)*. This document was developed by the Mexican federal government as a guide aimed mainly at transnational corporations to instruct them on how to displace the communities linked to the land, instead of negotiating directly with them. This kind of initiatives makes us, the Indigenous Peoples, feel threatened and ignored.

As Indigenous persons with disabilities, we feel encouraged by the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We know it constitutes an opportunity for not being left behind and, specially, for being heard, for collaborating with you and our States and for participating in the development of our peoples, our States and our world. We would like to pitch in our capacities and abilities with the objective of establishing a more accessible world.

The movement of Indigenous persons with disabilities is looking for allies with a view to reaching our full citizenship. We will always be honored to provide information about ourselves and about the multidimensional nature that both characterizes us and puts us far away from the end of poverty.

Thank you.

Recommendations at the European Parliament.

On behalf of Indigenous persons with disabilities and considering the objectives that States and the civil society aspire to reach as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, we recommend the following:

- The European Parliament should enforce recommendation number 4 of the views and recommendations aimed at implementing the European Union's policy on Indigenous Peoples

with a view to establish a HIGH LEVEL consultation and participation mechanism in order to engage in a permanent dialogue. In our view, this mechanism should include representatives of the seven sociocultural regions of the world and one representative of the Indigenous persons with disabilities, so we won't be forgotten when the issues that concern us are discussed.

- The European Union, with the support of its visiting delegations to States, should contemplate to meet with organizations of the Indigenous persons with disabilities.
- Recommendation number five of the views and recommendations should be implemented in order to strengthen the Indigenous Peoples' participation and to allow Indigenous persons with disabilities to participate effectively in the European Union's policies and institutions.
- The European Union should listen to Indigenous persons with disabilities in order to include their views as part of the actions undertaken to bring about the 2030 Agenda.

Region: The Pacific

- **Robert Leslie MALEZER (Budchulla, Foundation for Aboriginal and Islander Research Action - Australia)**

STATEMENT TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT 14 JUNE 2016 BY LES MALEZER (FROM PACIFIC REGION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES)

I thank the EU for this opportunity to engage on policy and actions for the Indigenous Peoples of the world. My name is Les Malezer. I am of the 'budchulla' peoples on the east coast of Australia. Our territory includes the Mary River system and Fraser Island. I am from the Pacific region of the Indigenous Peoples of the world. I request the European Union consider the following proposals.

1. The EU review its internal instruments, structure and programs to specifically recognise and respect the human rights of Indigenous Peoples (as has been recommended for all governments and inter-governmental bodies by the United Nations)
2. Protocols, agreements, partnerships should be included in the review
3. EU should set the goal to assist decolonisation of the Indigenous Peoples of the world and to guarantee self-determination in the form of self-governance, autonomy and/or treaties
4. The EU budget should be increased to provide the financial and technical support to Indigenous Peoples, ensuring capacity to achieve self-determination
5. The EU should also contribute to the UN voluntary funds to support the work of the three mechanisms, being EMRIP, PFII and the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples
6. There should be a focal point in the EU for Indigenous Peoples supported by a Working Group or other mechanism with representation from Indigenous Peoples
7. Further, individuals drawn from Indigenous Peoples should be integrated into the representative framework and the workforce of the EU
8. For Indigenous Peoples in the Pacific region I suggest that the EU note and act upon the desire of Indigenous Peoples to decolonise the region, being aware that EU member, France, in particular continues to hold and exploit lands, territories and resources in the Pacific region that belong to the Indigenous Peoples
9. EU should be more concerned that global climate change is impacting severely upon nations and territories comprising Indigenous Peoples in the Pacific, where entire territories are likely to be submerged preceded by the disappearance of subsistence food supply and fresh water. No-one has yet identified the legal rights of such populations upon the loss of their traditional territories, livelihoods and cultural identity
10. My concluding request is that the EU provides a grant to the Indigenous Peoples of the Pacific to meet annually to collectively discuss their rights as Indigenous Peoples in the region and prepare for and respond to UN, EU and other initiatives to achieve the ends of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Thank you.

ABOUT THE SPEAKER: Les Malezer has worked for his entire career on the rights of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples of Australia, including the past three decades at the international level

engaged in the rights of Indigenous Peoples. He has held representative positions at the local, national and international level and been employed at the most senior levels of State and national governments in Indigenous Affairs. He was Co-Chair of the National Congress of Australia's First Peoples for the first two terms (2011 – 2015) and has recently been appointed as an Expert Member on the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, for a three year term commencing January 2017.

- **Tracey WHARE (Raukawa and Te Whānau a Apanui (Maori), Aotearoa Indigenous Rights Trust - New Zealand)**

West Papua

- The human rights crisis is worsening, cultural genocide, human rights violations, killings, torture, armed forces acting with impunity and continual militarization
- Examples in the last few months include press intimidation³ in reporting on elections and demonstrations and mass arrests of peaceful protestors⁴
- Indigenous West Papuans have the right to determine their own future, this right must be upheld and realized
- In 2009 the EU entered into a partnership and cooperation agreement with Indonesia, that agreement contains numerous references to human rights
- Propose that the EU use its diplomatic and political influence to raise this human rights crisis with Indonesia in order to effect change and for human rights to be upheld and respected by Indonesian authorities

AJA Foundation

- A number of Indigenous individuals have come together to establish an international fund for Indigenous advocacy. Current funding options are not sufficient and many if not all of them have either had their funding completely cut or face significant funding reductions
- Positive example of Indigenous advocacy during the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, would like to replicate such processes and strategies, best way to do that is to create our own funding source
- Have established an executive board, currently setting up the legal structure and looking for potential donors to give one off donations to assist us to set up the capital fund so that we can invest the funds and use the interest to fund our activities
- Hope the EU will be willing to support this initiative

³ <http://www.radionz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/306646/indonesian-police-tell-papuan-journos-to-co-ordinate-with-them> and <http://www.radionz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/306297/papua-journalists-threatened-over-poll-coverage>

⁴ <http://www.radionz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/306866/west-papuan-activists-claim-more-big-arrest-numbers> and <http://www.radionz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/306516/over-1000-detained-in-papua-for-protesting>

Region: Eastern Europe, Russian Federation, Central Asia and Transcaucasia

- **Rodion SULYANDZIGA (Udege, Center Support of Indigenous Peoples of the North – Russian Federation)**
 1. Welcome a new EU revised policy towards Indigenous Peoples
 2. Thanks for EU support regarding UNDRIP, Outcome document WCIP 2014
 3. Create a regular platform (Forum) of cooperation between EU and Indigenous Peoples
 4. Ensure a direct access of IP to EU funding via a special window
 5. Keep the cooperation with Russia on human rights and civil society support programs
 6. Ensure Indigenous Peoples impact assessment within EU - Russia business contracts regarding natural resources exploitation

- **Vasilii NEMECHKIN (Mordovian People, Youth Public Movement of Mordovian People – Russian Federation)**

Thank you madam Chair!

I'm a representative of youth organization of Mordovian people. Mordovian people – is one of the largest Indigenous Peoples of Russian Federation. Our people is a part of Finno-Ugric linguistic group. The participation in Finno-Ugric movement helps us lobbying our rights.

Russian Federation legally recognizes 47 groups of North, Siberia and the Far East as Indigenous small-numbered peoples.

It should be mentioned that at present day our essential mission is preservation of Mordovian (moksha, erzya) languages and culture. There are many sensitive issues for our peoples.

First of all, it is a preservation of languages. It's important that Finno-Ugric peoples should have opportunities for learning mother language in kindergartens, schools, universities. Exactly, implementation of the linguistic rights must guarantee the state. But of course, only one public effort is not enough.

Also is important that we must start firstly with the family, where child and youth learn their native languages, educate how to respect our native culture and identity, customs, traditions. Also, one of the sensitive issues is demographic issue. Population of many Finno-Ugric peoples is decreased; assimilation also plays a negative role in this process.

In the Finno-Ugric regions there is a growing awareness that the basis of ethno-national policy is not only in national festivals, celebrations and performances of national groups. In regions more and more attention is paid to the specific and highly sensitive issues of demography, ethno-national education, rural development, supporting of national mass media, the formation of tolerance and "fraternity of peoples", fight against xenophobia.

I also want to highlight that the 7th World Congress of the Finno-Ugric peoples will take place 15.-17.6.2016 in Lahti. The main theme of the Congress is "**The Finno-Ugric peoples - towards sustainable**

development”. The World Congress unites the Finno-Ugric and Samoyed peoples at a joint forum, with the aim of discussing issues dealing with the preservation and reviving of the languages and cultures of these peoples, as well as issues concerning the rights of Indigenous and minority peoples.

Thank you for attention! Also thanks to Docip and EU for organizing of this event!

- **Alexey TSYKAREV (Republic of Karelia, NGO Center for Support of Indigenous Peoples and Civic Diplomacy «Young Karelia» – Russian Federation)**

Meeting with MEP Heidi Hautala Statement by Alexey Tsykarev

1. First of all, let me thank you for arranging this meeting and also for all your support for Indigenous Peoples and Docip.
2. As current Chair of UN Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, I would like to briefly update you on our work. EMRIP is a subsidiary body to the UN Human Rights Council, which was created to provide the Council with advice in form of thematic studies and research on the right of Indigenous Peoples.
3. The mandate of EMRIP is currently being reviewed as follows from the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples. The new mandate will hopefully better serve our common main goal – the achievement of the ends of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
4. I hope the EU and the European Parliament in particular could support the stronger mandate for EMRIP, which could allow experts to facilitate dialogue between states, Indigenous Peoples and business, and exercise more country specific activities.
5. On behalf of my fellow experts, I would like to ask the EU to support EMRIP along with two other UN Indigenous specific mandates (Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples), including by providing earmarked financial resources. In order to provide more qualified advise, experts should be fully involved and aware of all processes concerning Indigenous Peoples, and this involvement implies more recourses.
6. So far, EMRIP has undertaken six studies, including on the right to participate in decision-making; education; languages and culture; cultural heritage; access to justice, natural disaster risk reduction; and a number of in-depth studies. Currently, EMRIP is finalizing its study on Indigenous Peoples and the right to health.
7. Let me point out, that coming out from this most recent study’s preliminary results, there are significant problems with the access to healthcare services in both developing and so called wealthy countries. Two weeks ago I organized an expert seminar in Russia to figure out, what is the situation with healthcare in Indigenous communities of Russia. We learned, that healthcare support for nomadic peoples and those living in remote areas should be increased. There is also a need for capacity building and raising awareness in health issues among Indigenous Peoples.
8. Let me also share with you some good news about how another EMRIP’s suggestion is being followed up. EMRIP has recommended in its studies on languages and culture, and on cultural heritage, that states in conjunction with Indigenous Peoples and museums establish specific international mechanisms for repatriation of cultural and ceremonial objects from public and private collections back to the ownership of Indigenous Peoples. Three weeks ago, discussions about such mechanisms were re-activated in New York during the 15th session of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. I chaired consultations, organized by the International Indian Treaty Council, which focused on issue, where this international mechanism should be placed in the UN system. Many states, UNESCO and Indigenous organizations expressed their

broad support for this process. Also some more practical steps were undertaken, in particular, negotiations between Yaqui people and Swedish Museum of World Culture on the return of a reindeer head “maaso kova” took place. Another negotiations are coming soon in Geneva. I would like to encourage EU to support the idea of international repatriation and the international mechanism to be established.

9. EU is already actively participating in EMRIP sessions. I’m confident, given all these practical results of our advice, EMRIP is worthy to be supported by the EU even in a more significant way. We would like to lean on EU’s support in the Human Rights Council, while the Council negotiates themes for new studies of EMRIP. In the bank of proposals there are quite good themes related to Indigenous human rights defenders, security of Indigenous lands, discrimination of Indigenous entrepreneurs.
10. Finally, let me remind, that this meeting takes place on the eve of the VII World Congress of Finno-Ugric Peoples (15.-17.06.2016, Lahti, Finland). Finno-Ugric Peoples hope for a continued support of the international community including EU, and Finno-Ugric member-states of EU (Estonia, Finland, Hungary). This upcoming congress is challenged by the relationships’ crisis between EU and Russia. I’m confident, Finno-Ugric cultural cooperation should not suffer from politicization, and Finno-Ugric congress must continue to play its role as a decision-making body of Finno-Ugric Peoples. This time, to my knowledge, the right to participate in decision-making of these peoples has been in many cases violated.
11. Again, I invite you to EMRIP’s session on 11 – 15 July, and thank you very much for your kind attention.

- **European Union actors: response to the interventions**

In response of Indigenous delegates' interventions, Mrs. Hautala and Mr. Ville thanked the participants for their presence and for raising the issues impacting Indigenous Peoples worldwide. They highlighted the importance of exchanging information and having a dialogue between Indigenous Peoples and the European institutions.

In response to Indigenous delegates' interventions, Mrs. Hautala and Mr. Ville have shared some of their experience about the EU system, notably:

- Mrs. Hautala and Mr. Ville highlighted a specificity of the EU system: the need for the EU to arrive to a common position on political issues, which implies the consent of the 28 Member States. This involves internal discussions and debates with Member States but, in some cases, coming to one voice might result in a failure.
- Mrs. Hautala reminded that one of the most important discussions and challenges on EU human rights policy is the need of consistency in the EU internal and external human rights policies. Mrs. Hautala stressed that one of the most painful discrepancies is the lack of ratification of the ILO Convention N° 169 by the Member States.
- Regarding the EU partnership agreements with other countries, Mrs. Hautala recalled that the European Parliament is currently discussing how to help bringing operational mechanisms and the Human Rights clause into this type of agreements so they would really be meaningful and effective.
- Mr. Ville recalled the support of the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights to civil society organisations, notably to Indigenous Peoples', and the commitment to continue that way.

Mrs. Hautala and Mr. Ville have also reacted to some of the specific issues raised by Indigenous delegates notably:

- Regarding commitments in terms of funding of the UN Voluntary Funds or a possible new structure that Indigenous Peoples have created, Mr. Ville said he was ready to consider it in the sense that the EU should look into ways and means for the future.
- Mr. Ville pointed out that some of the issues raised, in particular sacred artefacts as well as nuclear issues, are matters belonging much more to the EU internal side and that he will refer to his colleagues in charge.
- Mrs. Hautala pointed out that EU and all development partners should pay much more attention at encouraging and demanding to the States to put security forces under strict control and accountability in the sense that security forces must respect human rights.
- Mrs. Hautala recalled the importance of not forgetting the issue of persons with disabilities which should go across the policies with Indigenous Peoples across all the regions, as strongly recognised in 2030 Agenda.
- Mrs. Hautala deplored the denial of Indigenous Peoples' participation in decision-making and, in this sense, she stressed that one of the major topics that have to be discussed with Indigenous Peoples is Business and Human Rights (with a particular attention to the UN Guiding Principles) and corporate liability could make a change when talking about land rights for example.

Annex 1: Programme and concept note



Programme

Indigenous delegates' presentation of Indigenous issues to the European Union

June 13-16, 2016

Brussels, Belgium.

Docip Office in Brussels aims mainly at facilitating the transfer of information between Indigenous Peoples - who wish to inform the European Union (EU) about the local issues faced by their communities - and the European institutions. Docip Office in Brussels is at the disposal of Indigenous Peoples to facilitate the contacts with the EU, as well as to inform and assist them on the EU processes (legislative process, civil society consultations, call for proposals, etc.).

This four-day visit to Brussels of Indigenous delegates will be an opportunity for them to present to the EU some of the main cross-cutting issues impacting Indigenous Peoples at the worldwide level.

The first day will be dedicated – in the morning - to a discussion with EU key officials on Indigenous issues and – in the afternoon - to an informal brainstorming between Indigenous delegates to discuss some of the main cross-cutting issues that will be presented the next day during the meeting in the European Parliament. The day will be concluded by a dinner between the participants.

The second day will be an opportunity for Indigenous delegates to present some of the main cross-cutting issues in the European Parliament during an open two-hour meeting hosted and chaired by Mrs. Heidi Hautala (Member of the European Parliament). The day will be concluded by a networking dinner.

During the third and fourth days Indigenous delegates will be able to participate to the European Development Days organized by the European Commission; this will be an opportunity for networking and bilateral meetings.

This event, facilitated by the Docip, is organised with the support of the European Parliament and the collaboration of the European Commission.

Monday 13 June

Discussion with EU key officials and informal brainstorming between Indigenous delegates

- 08.45 – 08.55** **Registration at Martin's Brussels EU Hotel**
Location: Boulevard Charlemagne 80, 1000 Brussels
- 09.00 - 09.20** **Opening and welcoming introductions**
Jean-Louis VILLE
European Commission, EuropeAid, Director "Human Development and Migration"
David MATTHEY-DORET
Docip, Director
- 09.20 - 09.40** **EU approach, financing instruments and cooperation programmes**
Sarah RINALDI
European Commission, EuropeAid, Deputy Head of Unit "Human Rights, Gender, Democratic Governance"
Françoise MILLECAM
European Commission, EuropeAid, Deputy Head of Unit "Employment, Social inclusion, Migration"
- 09.40 - 10.00** **EU Policies on Indigenous Peoples: the normative framework (European External Action Service)**
Tove Sjøvndahl GANT
European External Action Service
Human Rights Strategy and Policy Implementation,
- 10.00 – 12.00** **Discussion with officials from the European Commission, DG International Cooperation and Development on key issues**
- 10.00 - 10.20**
- ✓ *Rights based approach*
Fanny LAFOURCADE, Franziska BERTZ, STAHL Charlotte
- 10.20 - 11.20**
- ✓ *Business & Human Rights*
Chloé SARTHOU, Sylvie PROUVEUR, Franziska BERTZ
 - ✓ *Land tenure*
Joachim KNOTH
 - ✓ *Territorial Approach to Local Development (TALD)*
Jorge RODRIGUEZ BILBAO
- 11.20 - 12.00**
- ✓ *Social Inclusion,*
Pierre GHILAIN
 - ✓ *Human Rights Defenders*
Luigia di GISI, Martha MENDEZ
- 12.00 – 13.30** **Lunch for the participants**
at "Au p'tit chouia", Rue de la Pacification, 38 - 1000 Brussels

- 13.30 – 13.40** **Information about the meeting in the European Parliament on Tuesday and brief presentation on the relations between the European Parliament and the other EU institutions**
Amalia Rodriguez Fajardo and Mathias Wuidar
Docip Office in Brussels
- 13.40 – 16.30** **Informal brainstorming between Indigenous delegates on the cross-cutting issues faced by Indigenous Peoples to be presented to the European Parliament**
- 16.30 – 17.00** **Break**
- 17.00 – 18.00** **Conclusions of the day**
- 19.00 – 22.00** **Dinner for the participants**
at "Kafenio", Rue Stevin, 134 - 1000 Brussels

* Interpretation will be available during the meetings in English, French and Spanish.

Tuesday 14 June
<i>Meeting in the European Parliament (09.00 – 11.00, Room A3H-1)</i>

- 08.30** **Registration at the European Parliament**
Location: Altiero Spinelli Building (entrance in front of Place du Luxembourg – Agora Simone Veil)
- 09.00 – 09.10** **Opening and welcoming introduction**
Chairperson: Heidi HAUTALA
Member of the European Parliament, Vice Chair of the Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance
- 09.10 – 09.15** **Presentation of EuropeAid work regarding Indigenous Peoples**
Jean-Louis VILLE
European Commission, EuropeAid, Director "Human Development and Migration"
- 09.15 – 09.20** **Presentation of the European External Action Service work regarding Indigenous Peoples**
Riccardo SERRI
European External Action Service, Deputy Head of Division Human Rights, Global and Multilateral Issues
- 09.20 – 10.55** **Sharing of experience by Indigenous delegates on the cross-cutting issues impacting Indigenous Peoples throughout the world**
Indigenous delegates from the 7 Indigenous regions
- 10.55 – 11.00** **Conclusions of the meeting**
Chairperson: Heidi HAUTALA

Member of the European Parliament, Vice Chair of the Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance

Afternoon ***Possibility for bilateral meetings, follow-up of the meetings and preparation for the EDD***

Docip team is at your disposal to assist you in planning the follow-up of the meetings and in organising the 2 days in the EDD.

16.00 – 17.30 ***Meeting on Business and Human Rights***

*Organised by Dafni GOGOU,
European Commission, DG HOME/JUST “Fundamental Rights and Rights of the Child”, Location:
Rue Montoyer, 59, 1000 Brussels (room António Vitorino)*

19.00 – 22.00 ***Networking Dinner***

at “L’Esprit de Sel”, Place Jourdan, 52, 1040 Brussels

** Interpretation will be available during the meeting in English, French and Spanish.*

Wednesday 15 June, Thursday 16 June

European Development Days and bilateral meetings

The European Development Days (EDD) are Europe's leading forum on development and international cooperation. Organised by the European Commission, the forum brings the development community together each year to share ideas and experiences in ways that inspire new partnerships and innovative solutions to the world's most pressing challenges.

Information and programme: <https://eudevdays.eu/about-edd16>

The EDD will be an opportunity to have bilateral meetings on more specific issues concerning your community, region... Docip Office in Brussels is at the disposal of Indigenous delegates to facilitate these contacts before their venue to Brussels in June.

Annex 2: List of participants⁵

	<u>Name</u>	<u>City/Country</u>	<u>Region</u>
Mr.	EL MOCTAR, Abdourahmane	Mauritania	Africa
Mr.	BAMBANZE, Vital	Burundi	Africa
Mr.	CHAKMA, Pallab	Bangladesh	Asia
Ms.	HOLMBERG, Liisa	Finland	The Arctic
Ms.	LAUE, Aili	Greenland/Denmark	The Arctic
Ms.	DIVER, Rochelle	USA	North America
Ms.	LORENZO, June	USA	North America
Ms.	HUILIPAN, Veronica	Argentina	Central and South America and the Caribbean
Ms.	MONTUFAR CONTRERAS, Olga	Mexico	Central and South America and the Caribbean
Mr.	MALEZER, Robert Leslie	Australia	The Pacific
Ms.	WHARE, Tracey	New Zealand	The Pacific
Mr.	SULYANDZIGA, Rodion	Russian Federation	Eastern Europe, Russian Federation, Central Asia and Transcaucasia
Mr.	NEMECHKIN, Vasilii	Russian Federation	Eastern Europe, Russian Federation, Central Asia and Transcaucasia
Mr.	TSYKAREV, Alexey	Russian Federation	Eastern Europe, Russian Federation, Central Asia and Transcaucasia
Mr.	LICONA HUEYOTENGO, Mario	Mexico	Central and South America and the Caribbean

⁵ The running order of the meeting in the European Parliament on 14th June 2016 according to the order of this list.