

From: Les Malezer [mailto:les.malezer@gmail.com]

Sent: Saturday, September 01, 2007

URGENT MATTER - INDIGENOUS PEOPLES - GLOBAL CONSULTATION

IMPORTANT NOTICE

An agreement has been reached over the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The 'Co-sponsors' and the Africa Group of States have now reached agreement over an amended version of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The Indigenous Peoples Caucus is undertaking an urgent consultation with Indigenous Peoples delegations to determine whether the amended Declaration is to be supported or rejected. This important consultation ultimately means the amended Declaration is to be approved by the General Assembly or not adopted.

The States that are bound in this agreement will represent a clear majority of the UN members and it will guarantee adoption. It is possible that all States will support the amended Declaration, except a few 'hard-line' opponents. We know who those opponents are.

These urgent consultations will determine whether we can live with the amendments, and the Declaration is adopted, OR whether we cannot accept the agreed version, and the Declaration will not be adopted. Your careful scrutiny, combined with priority attention to this consultation, is called for.

The attached document contains the relevant information, including a copy of the amended Declaration.

All comments should be sent to the relevant regional coordinators, as shown in the document, so that an assessment can be made of the level of support or opposition.

In addition you may receive separate communications from your regional coordinator in the regional process to determine responses.

On behalf of the Indigenous Peoples Caucus 'Steering Committee' I extend our apologies for the urgency of this consultation. It is beyond our control. The General Assembly will consider this Declaration within the next seven working days in New York.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and your urgent consideration of the situation.

regards,

Les

Les Malezer

Chairperson, Indigenous Peoples Caucus at UN

CONTACT

Email: les.malezer@faira.org.au

Cell: +1 (646) 338 3029

Website: www.ipcaucus.net

OFFICE

The Church Center

777 UN Plaza

IITC Office, 8th Floor

New York, NY 10017

Tel: +1 (212) 682 3633 ext. 3123

Fax: +1 (212) 682 5354