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1. EDITORIAL

Since the last session of the Commission on Human Rights, delegations of indigenous peoples have been extremely active on the international stage. The setting up of the Permanent Forum led to national and regional meetings as well as numerous e-mail-consultations and telephone conferences. The considerable logistical difficulties - caused by the great geographical distances between the eight regions defined by their Caucuses - did not prevent indigenous peoples from appointing their experts according to their own procedures. The countries, for their part, in voting by consensus for the draft decision put forward by Denmark during the substantive session of ECOSOC in 2001, proposed a regional division different to that of the indigenous peoples, and which actually conforms to the traditional UN model. To this have been added three rotating seats, to be filled according to an *ad hoc* procedure.

The second and third preparatory conferences for the World Conference Against Racism led to the development of a common position to be promoted at three distinct levels - the Working Group responsible for drafting the declaration at the World Conference, that dedicated to its Plan of Action and finally a group responsible for dialogue with governments. We publish in this issue four texts endorsed by the Indigenous Peoples’ Caucus while the paragraphs of the final documents concerning indigenous peoples will be published later as the final version is still unedited.

Two additional meetings of importance took place in Paris and Bonn. In the French capital, UNESCO, in collaboration with the National Center for Scientific Research (France), organized a Book Fair and Symposium under the joint title 'Indigenous Identities: Oral, Written Expressions and New Technologies'. Excellent presentations, using multimedia techniques, song or the spoken word) were given by both indigenous and non-indigenous researchers and artists, in order to provide a clearer picture of the multiple aspects of the 'saving, transmission and transfer of indigenous cultures'. All indigenous participants addressed a resolution to the Director General of the organization, proposing notably the establishment of a formal dialogue between their peoples and UNESCO.

Finally, the Third Forum of Indigenous Peoples and of Local Communities on Climate Change was held in Bonn on the 14th and 15th of July, 2001. It too led to a strong statement by the peoples and communities concerned, reaffirming the sacred nature of Mother Earth and denouncing the fact that neither the Convention or the Kyoto Protocol recognize their existence or their past, present and future contribution to maintaining the climatic stability crucial for their future - and that of the whole world. When we add to all of these events the 18th session of the Working Group on Indigenous Peoples (WGIP) and the 53rd session of the Sub-Commission for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, we have an idea of the enormous amount of work that indigenous delegations have had to carry out during these last four months. To support them, doCip prolonged its technical secretariat at the Palais des Nations in Geneva by 15 days, albeit with the help of a smaller team than that used during the WGIP. The Working Group's session was marked by the departure of its Chairperson since 1984, Madame Erica Irene Daes, to whom a warm and moving tribute was paid, recalling the energy and efficiency as well as the open-mindedness and independence of spirit which this woman - aptly named by indigenous peoples as the 'mother of indigenous peoples' - has always shown during so many years.

In this double issue the emphasis is on the processes involved in establishing the Permanent Forum and statements made by indigenous peoples at other conferences. We hope that we will be forgiven for not publishing the reports of the WGIP and the Sub-Commission until the next issue, given the large number of events we have to cover.

* * *
2. THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UN PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES

2.1. The first annual session of the Permanent Forum (PF) will be held from 6 to 17 May 2002 at UN headquarters in New York. By December 15th, the President of ECOSOC will announce the names of the government and indigenous experts whose election and appointment should be held on the basis of the proposals made according to the respective regional groups.

We publish below the main documents informing on the process leading to the establishment of the new Forum. Some of them focus entirely on this issue and are fully reproduced, while others deal with different topics and only the part concerning the PF is published. All of them are available at doCip in the original language.

2.2. Economic and Social Council
Social and human rights questions: Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
Denmark: draft decision E/2001/L.27 of 23 July 2001

The Economic and Social Council, recalling its resolution 2000/22 of 28 July, in which it established the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, decides:

(a) To convene the first annual session of the Forum at United Nations Headquarters from 6 to 17 May 2002, without prejudice to any future venue of the Forum;

(b) That the election of the eight government expert members of the Forum will reflect the distribution of seats among the regional group, as follows, with due regard of the distribution of indigenous people among the countries of each of the regional groups:
   (i) One seat for African States;
   (ii) One seat for Asian States;
   (iii) One seat for Eastern European States
   (iv) One seat for Latin American and Caribbean States;
   (v) One seat for Western European and other States;
   (vi) Three seats to rotate among the five regional groups in accordance with the following pattern:
       Election 1: Latin America and Caribbean; Western Europe and other; Asia.
       Election 2: Africa; Eastern Europe; Latin America and Caribbean.
       Election 3: Western Europe and other; Asia; Africa.
       Election 4: Eastern Europe; Latin America and Caribbean; Western Europe and other.
       Election 5: Asia; Africa; Eastern Europe.
       This election method is without prejudice to the evaluation of the functioning of the Forum five years after its establishment, as foreseen in Council resolution 2000/22;

(c) To hold the first elections and appointments to the Forum at an appropriate time to be announced by the President of the Council but not later than 15 December 2001;

(d) To urge the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session to take action on the proposed programme budget for 2002-2003 in order to secure, within existing resources, an adequately funded and well-functioning Forum that reflects its broad mandate, and in this context recalls paragraph 6 of Council resolution 2000/22;

(e) To request the Secretary-General to seek information from Governments, non-governmental organizations, indigenous people’s organizations, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and all existing mechanisms, procedures and programmes within the United Nations concerning indigenous issues, including the Working Group on Indigenous Populations, as a
basis for holding the review mandated in paragraph 8 of resolution 2000/22 as soon as possible and not later than the substantive session of 2003 of the Council.

Panama City, Panama, 7-11 May 2001

We, the Indigenous Peoples of all the regions of the World - Arctic/Europe, Africa, Asia, North America, Central/South America and Caribbean, Pacific, Former USSR and Eastern Europe - attending the Indigenous Peoples’ Millennium Conference in Panama City on 7-11 May 2001:

Welcome the establishment of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues as a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC);

Endorse the Regional Division adopted by the Indigenous Caucus in Geneva on Sunday, 26 November 2000 during the 6th Session of the Open Ended Inter-Sessional Working Group on the Draft United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, for the nomination of indigenous members of the Permanent Forum;

Recall the United Nations resolution on the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues with regard to the nomination of indigenous members “on the basis of broad consultations with indigenous organisations taking into account the diversity and geographical distribution of the indigenous people of the world as well as the principles of transparency, representivity and equal opportunity for all indigenous people, including internal processes, when appropriate, and local indigenous consultation processes”;

Acknowledge the consultations held in Panama on 16-17 February 2001, in Australia on 17 February 2001, in Bolivia on 13-15 March 2001, in Ecuador on 3-4 May 2001 and in Russia on 12-13 April 2001 for the nomination of indigenous members;

Reaffirm that different forms of regional consultations being organised by indigenous peoples for the nomination of indigenous members is the best process “to ensure broad consultation with indigenous organisations” as enshrined in the resolution on the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues;

Mindful of the mandate of the Permanent Forum, especially to “raise awareness and promote the integration and coordination of activities relating to indigenous issues within the United Nations system”;

Stress that the lack of a Separate Secretariat for the Permanent Forum will seriously hamper fulfilling the mandate of the Permanent Forum;

Aware of the request of the United Nations Secretary General to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to take the role of the lead agency for the establishment of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues;

Take note of the circular letter issued by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on 26 February 2001 to the indigenous peoples’ organisations about the establishment of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the extension of the date for nomination of indigenous members of the Permanent Forum;

Express serious concerns about the call of the High Commissioner for Human Rights through the circular letter of 26 February 2001 for nomination of indigenous members of the Permanent Forum by individual indigenous peoples’ organisations;

Take into account the adverse implications of the circular letter of 26 February 2001 on the nomination of indigenous members;

Recognise that in the event of transmission of a large number of nominations of indigenous members by individual indigenous peoples’ organisations without consultation with indigenous peoples’ organisations from different countries of a region pursuant to the circular letter of the High Commissioner for Human Rights of 26 February 2001, will effectively deny the indigenous peoples the opportunity to nominate their own members;

Bearing in mind that in such an event as mentioned in the preceding paragraph, the Secretariat will effectively be nominating the indigenous members of the Permanent Forum.

Regional Division:
Decide to inform the President of the Economic and Social Council in the proposed meeting with indigenous peoples representatives on 18 May 2001 in New York about the following consensus decision on the Regional Division adopted by the Indigenous Caucus in Geneva on Sunday, 26 November 2000 during the 6th Session of the Open Ended Inter-Sessional Working Group on the Draft United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples:

“The Indigenous Caucus agreed that eight indigenous representatives be selected from the following regions:
1. Arctic/Europe
2. Africa
3. Asia
4. North America
5. Central/South America and Caribbean
6. Pacific
7. Former USSR and Eastern Europe
8. Rotating an additional seat between three regions – Asia, Africa and Central/South America and Caribbean.

The Caucus also agreed that Central/South America and Caribbean will be the first region to hold the 8th seat.”

Nomination Process:
Decide to request the President of the ECOSOC to ensure respect for “broad consultations with indigenous organizations” in the nomination of indigenous members of the Permanent Forum; Decide to request indigenous peoples organisations to disseminate information about the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues including nomination process; Also decide to encourage all indigenous peoples’ organisation who wish to nominate indigenous candidates for the Permanent Forum, to do so in corresponding regions for wider consultation.

Separate Secretariat:
Decide to request the United Nations Secretary General to take measures for the early establishment of a Separate Secretariat of the Permanent Forum; Also decide to request the UN Secretary General to ensure that preference be given to equally qualified indigenous peoples’ candidates in the staffing of the Secretariat as a promotion of “the integration and coordination of activities relating to indigenous issues within the United Nations system.” Also decide to request member States, private donors, non-governmental organisations, individuals etc to contribute towards the establishment of a Separate Secretariat including staffing of the Secretariat by equally qualified indigenous candidates; Further decide to request all Heads of United Nations Agencies to contribute towards the establishment of a Separate Secretariat for the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues; Instruct the Organising Committee of the Indigenous Peoples’ Millennium Conference to transmit the resolution of the Millennium Conference on the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues to the member States, United Nations Secretary General, President of the Economic and Social Council, High Commissioner for Human Rights and other Heads of United Nations Agencies.
2.4. Regional meetings on the Permanent Forum

2.4.1. ARCTIC

Arctic Indigenous Peoples' Declaration on the establishment of a Permanent Forum for Indigenous Peoples within the United Nations

We, the Arctic indigenous peoples representatives meeting in Geneva on 10 December 1998;

Bearing in mind the principles and objectives of the Charter of United Nations; to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, and to take other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace;

Recalling that the World Conference on Human Rights urged States to ensure the full and free participation of indigenous peoples in all aspects of society, in particular in matters of concern to them;

Recalling also the recommendation of the World Conference on Human Rights to the United Nations concerning the establishment of a permanent forum for indigenous people within the United Nations system;

Referring to Article 68 of the Charter of the United Nations, in which it is stated that the Economic and Social Council shall set up commissions in economic and social fields and for the promotion of human rights, and such other commissions as may be required for the performance of its functions;

Further recalling that the goal of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples is to strengthen international cooperation for the solution of problems faced by indigenous peoples in such areas as human rights, the environment, development, education and health, and that the theme of the Decade is "Indigenous Peoples: Partnership in Action";

Bearing in mind the review of the Secretary-General on the existing mechanisms, procedures and programmes within the United Nations concerning indigenous peoples, in which it is stated that there are no mechanisms to ensure regular exchange of information and views between governments, indigenous peoples and the United Nations system on an ongoing basis;

Emphasizing that the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution 50/157 has identified the establishment of the Permanent Forum before the end of the Decade as one of the main objectives of the Decade;

Supporting the declarations from the First and Second International Indigenous Peoples Conferences on the Establishment on a Permanent Forum for Indigenous Peoples within the United Nations system held in Temuco, Chile and Kuna Yala, Panama respectively, and the declaration from the First Indigenous Peoples Workshop on a Permanent Forum for Indigenous Peoples in the United Nations, held in Indore, India;

Call for the swift establishment of a high level Permanent Forum for indigenous peoples within the United Nations.

Mandate and terms of reference

1. The overall goal of the Permanent Forum should be to promote peace and prosperity in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, by developing friendly relations among nations and peoples based on respect for the principle of equal rights. It should be a forum for dialogue between Governments, indigenous peoples and the United Nations system on issues affecting indigenous peoples.

2. The mandate of the Permanent Forum should enable it to deal effectively with the full range of issues covered by the mandate of the Economic and Social Council which are of concern to indigenous peoples. The Permanent Forum mandate should include, but not be limited to, the submission of proposals, recommendations and reports to Economic and Social Council and coordination of all matters pertaining to indigenous peoples. It should be also authorized to call upon and establish ad hoc working groups in specialized fields or individual experts, if and when necessary.

Level

3. The Permanent Forum should report directly to its parent body, the Economic and Social Council.
**Membership**

4. The Forum should be composed of equal number of representatives of indigenous peoples and governments, acting as full voting members on equal basis. Members of the Permanent Forum should be chosen for a period of four years.

**Participation**

5. Indigenous peoples, communities and organizations, non-governmental organizations, United Nations agencies and organs. Indigenous peoples should be able to participate in the work of the Permanent Forum regardless of consultative status with the Economic and Social Council.

**Experts**

6. Individual experts should be allowed to participate in the work of the Permanent Forum if or when called upon by the Forum.

**Finance**

7. The Permanent Forum, including its potential subsidiary bodies, should be funded via the regular budget of the United Nations.

**Secretariat**

8. A new and separate Secretariat of the Permanent Forum, funded via the regular United Nations budget, should be established well in advance of the first session of the Forum. The Secretariat should be led and staffed by indigenous persons.

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**2.4.2. RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**Resolution of the IV Congress of the Indigenous Peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East of the Russian Federation**

We, the delegates to the IV Congress of the indigenous peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East, representing 40 indigenous peoples of the Russian Federation with account to the presentations by the delegates and the participants of the Congress on the socio-economic situation and the legal status of our peoples,

1. **Welcome** the resolution of the UN General Assembly on the Permanent Forum for Indigenous Issues establishment as a subsidiary body of ECOSOC. The Indigenous Peoples of Russia estimate it as a sign of the governmental kind political will on the paths the achievement of the basic goals and objectives of the International Decade for Indigenous Peoples of the World on the development of partnership.


3. **Address** the European Union with the request to provide assistance for the solution of problems of the Northern Peoples.

---

Signed by:

- Inuit Circumpolar Conference
- Samson Cree Nation
- Russian Association of the Indigenous Peoples of the North (RAIPON)
- Ermineskin Cree Nation
- Saami Council
- International Organization of Indigenous Resource Development
- Chukchi Council of Elders/L’auravel’t’an
- Montana Cree Nation
- Louis Bull Cree Nation

*Geneva, 10 December 1998*
4. Express gratitude to the Arctic Council for providing support for Indigenous Peoples and call for the further development and co-operation with the Indigenous Peoples.

On an alternative basis Mr Pavel Sulyandziga, RAIPON Vice-President has been elected a Candidate to the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues from the NIS region.

Moscow, 13 April 2001

2.4.3. PACIFIC

Pacific Representative to the Permanent Forum for Indigenous Issues (summary)

As a result of a robust and transparent process, the members of the Pacific Region selection Committee, established by the Indigenous Caucus from Pacific countries, hereby nominate Ms Mililani B. Trask from Hawaii, as the Indigenous candidate for the Pacific Representative to the Permanent Forum for Indigenous Issues. Ms. Trask was nominated by the Protect Our Native Ohana (PONO) organisation of Hawaii.

Taking into account the limited resources available, the Selection Committee undertook a fair and robust process of consultations through email and telephone conferences.

The Committee distributed the selection criteria throughout the Pacific region and several nominations were received. The Committee has held 5 telephone conferences over the last 2 months.

In arriving at its decision, the Committee took into account a range of actors set out in the selection criteria. In addition, the Committee considered other issues, including the principles of equitable geographic distribution and gender balance.

Members of the Pacific Region Selection Committee:

- Dr. Takiora Ingram, Pacific Islands
- Frank E. Guivarra, Australia
- Tracey Whare, Aotearoa
- Michael Makasiale, Fiji
- Kekula Bray-Crawford, Hawaii

Criteria

1. The person is Indigenous.
2. The person resides in the Pacific region and has strong cultural ties in the country to which they are Indigenous.
3. The person has a background in the United Nations system and the UN bodies that work on Indigenous Peoples issues.
4. The person must possess good written and oral communication skills and demonstrated analytical skills.
5. The person has a background or is familiar with the situation of other Indigenous Peoples in the Pacific Basin region.
6. The person is not an employee or elected official of the State or National government.
7. The person is in good health and is physically capable of travel to Geneva and New York.
8. The person accepts the nomination and agrees to make the commitment.

18 July 2001
2.4.4. NORTH AMERICA
Nomination of an indigenous delegate to the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

There are indigenous peoples from North America nominating Mr Wilton Littlechild (International Organization of Indigenous Resource Development, IOIRD).

Supported by:
- Assembly of First Nations
- American Indian Law Alliance and associated organizations
- IOIRD/Four Nations of Hobbema

2.4.5. AFRICA

1. Role of IPACC

IPACC is a network of indigenous peoples’ community-based organisations that was created during a UNWGIP session in Geneva in 1996. It represents more than sixty associations whose members belong to a broad range of ethnic groups who consider themselves to be indigenous peoples in Africa. Since its inception, IPACC has participated in each of the UNWGIP sessions. IPACC has worked with other NGOs and UN agencies including the ILO (International Labour Office) to promote the protection of the rights of these communities in specific African countries.

The African gathering took place at the World Conference against Racism in Durban shortly after the last preceding session of the UNWGIP in Geneva. During the preceding year, IPACC had contributed to a consultation process aimed at bringing Africans together to elect a representative to the UN Permanent Forum (PF).

In November 2000, an impartial Steering Committee was nominated by African organisations present in Geneva at the Inter-sessional meeting of the UNWGIP. This Steering Committee, composed of representatives from the five major regions of Africa (North, West, Central, Eastern, and Southern), was charged with conducting regional consultations to select delegates to an all-Africa meeting to elect a representative to the Permanent Forum. Each region was asked to nominate 3 to 5 delegates who could submit their candidature for the position and would participate in the electoral process for the selection of an acceptable representative to the PF. The work of the Steering Committee was given logistical, financial and moral support by the IPACC network and its Cape Town-based Secretariat.

To ensure adherence to the principles of equitable representation and effective participation, each sub-region was asked to propose a set of criteria, conditions of eligibility and electoral procedures that would be debated at the time of the general election in Durban.

IPACC sponsored a Co-ordinator for the process, Mr Cecil LeFleur who is a member of the African Steering Committee, and put at his disposal the logistical support of the IPACC Secretariat to assist in the electoral process. In addition, IWGIA (International Work Group on Indigenous Affairs), as a resource agency supporting the world’s indigenous peoples, financed most of the costs associated with the attendance of African delegates to the WCAR and the PF election.

2. The Challenge of Representation in Africa

Regional consultative processes preceded the Durban meeting in an effort to ensure the best representation of the diverse groups spread across the African continent, and to provide an equal opportunity for community organisations to participate fully in the election process. These processes led to the provision of mandated regional delegates identified in the following list.

- **North Africa**: Hassan Id BELKASSM (TAMAYNUT - Morocco), Mohamed IKABARNE (TIGMI - Algeria), Fouzia KHELIL (TIGMI - Algeria).
- **West Africa**: Talkalit W. MOHAMED (TIN-HINAN - Burkina Faso), Khattali MOHAMED (TASGHALT - Mali), Alfred ILENRE (EMIROAF – Nigeria), Ayitégan KOUEVI (SAPEDH - Togo).
• **Southern Africa**: Mario MAHONGO (IXun & Khwe Assoc–South Africa), Mathambo NGAKAEJA (WIMSA - Botswana), Salomon David ISAACS (NFIPF- Namibia), Victoria GEINGOS (WIMSA - Namibia), Felicity SMITH (CCHDC – South Africa), Jean Burgess (CCHDC – South Africa).

• **Central Africa**: Benon MUGARURA (AIMPO - Rwanda), Colette EMBENAK O (PIDP-Kivu – DR Congo), Libérate NICAYENZI (UNIPROBA - Burundi), Vital BAMBNANZE (UNIPROBA - Rwanda), Thérèse NYIRABENDA (CARWA - Rwanda).

• **East Africa**: Benedict OLE NANGORO (CORDS - Tanzania), Emmanu el Mariach LOUSOT (Tomwo IPDI - Kenya), Peris Pesi TOBIKO (Maa Council - Kenya), Simon PARKESUI (Ogiek R. I. P. - Kenya), Nancy KIREY (LOITOKITOK - Kenya).

3. **Appointment of an Electoral Commission**

   It was on the periphery of the World Conference against Racism that the African delegates representing NGOs and indigenous organisation from their respective regions gathered in Pietermaritzburg to proceed with the election of a representative to the PF.

   To ensure transparency, diversity and equal participation, and with a view to ensuring a regular electoral procedure, it was agreed to establish an electoral commission whose purpose was to monitor the procedural rules which were to govern the elections.

   The electoral commission consisted of:
   - Frank GUIVARRA (National Aboriginal & Islander Legal Service –Australia)
   - Georg HENRIKSEN (IWGIA – Denmark)
   - Marianne JENSEN (IWGIA – Africa Desk)

4. **The Elections**

   A. **Criteria for selection**

   For some delegates, namely those from North and East Africa, one criterion should be residence on the African continent, as, according to them, the representative to the PF should be as close as possible to the grassroots communities that he will be representing. Other delegates thought, to the contrary, that for political reasons, activists engaged in the work of promoting indigenous peoples are sometimes pressured to live outside Africa, which does not stop them from continuing their activism. The debate failed to achieve a consensus and was subsequently put to a hand vote. The majority expressed themselves in favour of dropping this criterion of residence on the continent.

   Other criteria received unanimous support from those present. These are as follows:
   1. be indigenous
   2. be a person independent of governments
   3. be active in the UN systems and work with Human Rights
   4. be competent in English or French
   5. be engaged and visibly active in domains relevant to indigenous issues
   6. have achieved a level of education in the subject
   7. have a facility for written and oral communication
   8. be available, accessible and responsible for his/her actions

   B. **The electoral procedure**

   The delegates from East Africa were of the opinion that it would be most effective and most simple to draft a list of 5 candidates, one per sub-region with their curriculum vitae (CV), and submit these candidatures to the Chairperson of ECOSOC who would proceed to make a choice of a single representative for the post on the Permanent Forum.

   The representatives from Central Africa were totally opposed to this proposal, which in their view, would promote the idea that Africans were “major incompetents”, always leaving it to others to decide for them in their stead. With the great majority of African delegates present specifically for these elections it was necessary to do everything possible to elect the representative to the PF.

   Between these two positions, North Africa found an intermediary solution that consisted of each of the 5 sub-regions submitting the name of a candidate to the meeting, and for the 5 candidates to choose between them a representative for the PF, through a process of consensus.
The West African delegates suggested that there should be a two-phase procedure. The first consisted of selecting 3 voting delegates from each of the 5 regions. Once the list of 15 designated voters was established, the assembly could proceed to a list of nominations, which would be considered by a secret ballot vote.

This proposal received unanimous support including those serving on the electoral commission. The list of nominees was opened.

The delegates turn proposed the following:
- Mr Hassan Id BELKASSM (Morocco)
- Mr Ayitégan KOUEVI (Togo)
- Mrs Péris Pesi TOBIKO (Kenya)
- Mr Alfred ILENRE (Nigeria)

The last two candidates, both activists for indigenous peoples, withdrew their names in light of the list of criteria described above. This left the voters to decide between the two remaining candidates, both lawyers and specialists on the indigenous question.

The election results were as follows: Mr Ayitégan KOUEVI received 10 votes; Mr Hassan Id BELKASSM 4, and 1 blank ballot.

As an independent expert to the United Nations on indigenous issues Mr Ayitégan KOUEVI will serve in his personal capacity in this regard. To assist him in his mission, a Support Committee was established composed of 6 members, of whom 5 members represent the sub-regions (North, Southern, Eastern, West, and Central Africa) and one person to represent gender issues.

Durban, South Africa, September 2001

2.4.6. ASIA

Report on the Regional Conference for the Nomination of the Asia Representative to the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

With the Economic and Social Council’s (ECOSOC) resolution on 28 July 2000 to establish a UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, and the subsequent letter by the High Commissioner for Human Rights on the 26th of February 2001 inviting indigenous peoples’ organisations to submit their nominations, a process was initiated for the selection of the representative from Asia in November 2000. This process of selection was agreed to be through nomination and scrutinising candidates during a regional conference of about 150 participants from all over Asia. The process was also envisaged to engage in a dialogue with indigenous organisations in order to come up with recommendations for the Permanent Forum. Previously, two Asian regional conferences held on the Permanent Forum have provided the basic understanding, although many other organisations were still unaware of its establishment.

The Conference for the Nomination of the Asia Representative to the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, was thus held in Dhusikel, Nepal from August 18 –19, 2001, with support from IWGIA and WCC. Forty-eight representatives from 12 countries (Bangladesh – 8, Bhutan – 1, Burma – 3, Cambodia – 2, India and Northeast India – 9, Malaysia –3, Indonesia – 3, Japan – 3, Nepal – 10, Philippines – 2, Thailand – 3, Vietnam – 1), and one representative from IWGIA, participated in the regional conference. This was considerably less than planned because of the unavailability of funds, even though a number of participants paid for their own travel expenses.

During the first day of the Conference, the participants finalised and agreed on the criteria for nominees and also the process of selection. Updates on the development of the establishment of the Permanent Forum and the task expected of the elected members were also given. On the second day, selection was done through secret voting by country, using a compulsory ranking system of all the six candidates. The elected member from Asia to the UN Permanent Forum is Mr. Parshuram Tamang, the president of the Nepal Tamang Ghedung.

This first experience to select a representative of the region is an important event for indigenous peoples in Asia. Given the lack of time and resources in this first selection process, it is understood that there are bound to be weaknesses. The preparation itself provided many lessons, which
participants of the conference discussed and resolved to abide by in future selection process. Among
them are the need for a better process to scrutinise candidates, to ensure members of the organising
committee (individuals and organisations) do not vie as candidates, to ensure that all organisations -
especially those that have been part of the process - are given the chance to participate, and to have
clear guidelines for selecting organisational representatives as participants and one which takes into
account a process of consultation with various indigenous networks in any country or nation-state.

_Dhulikel, Nepal, August 18 –19, 2001_

### 2.4.7. CENTRAL AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN

Central America and Caribbean Regional consultation on the Permanent Forum

We, the representatives of the Indigenous Peoples and organizations of Central America, meeting in
Panama City from 26 to 29 September 2001,

**CONSIDERING:**

- Recalling the final provision of the World Conference on Human Rights, which was drafted in Vienna in
  June 1993 considering the possible establishment of a permanent forum for indigenous populations within
  the United Nations system.
- Recalling that the consideration of the establishment of a permanent forum is one of the important objectives
  of the programme of activities for the International Decade of the World’s Indigenous People.
- Noting that two workshops were convened on this topic under the auspices of the Commission on Human
- Recalling the report by the Secretary-General entitled _Review of existing mechanisms, procedures and
  programmes within the United Nations concerning indigenous people_, and taking into account the obvious
  lack of a mechanism to ensure coordination as well as constant and regular exchange of information among
  interested parties, governments, the United Nations and the indigenous people.
- Taking into account the resolutions adopted in Ukupsuni, Panama and the Indigenous Caucus decisions
- Taking into account that Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution 2000/22 decides to establish as
  a subsidiary organ of ECOSOC a permanent forum for indigenous issues consisting of 16 members within
  the United Nations system.
- Considering that resolution 2000/22 points out that eight members will be appointed by the President of
  ECOSOC following formal consultation with the bureau and the regional groups through their coordinators,
  on the basis of broad consultations.
- Taking into account that the Central American region in the first election period of the Forum members has
  been granted a rotating seat in the Permanent Forum.

It is necessary to nominate a regional candidate, establish a separate secretariat, choose the Forum’s
headquarters and decide selection criteria for the secretariat staff.

**WE RESOLVE:**

Following a broad and participatory convocation and taking into account the previous selection criteria
agreed upon, we, the indigenous peoples and organizations of Central America, have decided to recommend
to the Presidency of ECOSOC the regional candidate.

We, the indigenous organizations and networks of Central America, by mutual agreement communicate to
the President of ECOSOC the selection of the Kuna indigenous leader of the Republic of Panama, **Marcial Arias García**, as candidate for the Central American and Caribbean region, with whom we commit
ourselves to contribute to the fulfilment of his mandate and attributions as member of the Forum within the
framework of ECOSOC resolution 2000/22.

We, the indigenous peoples and organizations of Central America, recommend that the Presidency of
ECOSOC establish a separate secretariat for the functioning of the Forum and that the engagement of
indigenous professionals be considered in the staff selection.

We, the indigenous peoples and organizations of Central America, recommend that the separate secretariat
be located in the United Nations offices in New York City.
We, the indigenous peoples and organizations of Central America, recommend to the President that resources be allocated to the first session of the Forum in order to ensure indigenous organizations’ broad participation.

*Signed by:*
Rufina Venado, Consejo Indígena Centroamericano (CICA)
Nancy Henríquez, Enlace Regional de Mujeres Indígenas y Asociación de Mujeres Indígenas de la Costa Atlántica de Nicaragua.
Esther Camac, Regional Coordinator of the International Alliance of Indigenous Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forests and Asociación Ixacavaa de Desarrollo e Información Indígena, Costa Rica.
Genaro Serech Sen, Consejo de Organizaciones Mayas de Guatemala (COMG)
Francisco Hernández, Defensoría Maya, Guatemala
José Morales, Consejo de Organizaciones Tukum Uman, Guatemala
Leopoldo Méndez, Saq’b’e Mayab´ Moloj, Guatemala
Jorge Teytom Fedrick, Movimiento Indígena de Nicaragua
Adrián Esquino, Asociación Nacional Indígena Salvadoreña (ANIS)
Amadeo Martín, Consejo Coordinador Nacional Indígena Salvadoreño (CCNIS)
Edgardo Benítez, Comité Integral de Desarrollo de Acción Ecológica de Honduras
Gilberto Arias, Harmodio Vivar, Ospino Pérez and Evelio López, Congreso General Kuna
Ovitilio Pérez, Congreso General Kuna de Madungandi
Williams Barrigón, Congreso General Embera-Waunan and Congreso General de las Tierras Colectivas
Higinio Montezuma and Rogelio Moreno, Congreso Regional Ngobe-Bugle
Dialys Ehrman and Noemí Iglesias, Unión Nacional de Mujeres Kunas (Nisbundur
Hector Huertas, Centro de Asistencia Legal y Popular
Enrique Obaldía, Fundación para la Promoción del Conocimiento Indígena

2.4.8. SOUTH AMERICA

South America Regional Meeting on the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Agreements and Resolutions

With the purpose of discussing issues related to the establishment of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and inform about the United Nations Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, a South America Regional Meeting was convened in Quito, Ecuador, on 3-4 May 2001.

Representatives of the following indigenous organizations participated in the meeting:
AIRA, Indigenous Association of the Argentinean Republic (Argentina); CAOP, Council of Ayllus from Potosí (Bolivia); CIDOB, Confederation of Indigenous Peoples of Bolivia (Bolivia); COIAB, Coordinating Body of Indigenous Organizations of Brazilian Amazonia (Brazil); COICA, Coordinating Body of Indigenous Organizations of the Amazonian Basin; CONAIE, Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador (Ecuador); CONAMAQ, National Council of Ayllus and Markas of Quillasuyu (Bolivia); CONAP, Confederation of Amazonian Nationalities of Peru (Peru); CONFENIAE, Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuadorian Amazonia (Ecuador), CONIVÉ, Indian National Council of Venezuela (Venezuela); Mapuche Coordination (Argentina); Indigenous Leaders’ Coordinating Body of Bajo Chaco (Paraguay), the Indigenous Movement ECUARUNARI of Ecuador (Ecuador); FENOCIN, National Federation of Rural, Black and Indigenous Organizations of Ecuador (Ecuador); FICI, Indigenous and Rural Federation of Imbabura Ecuador (Ecuador); INDIA, National Integrating Body of Descendants of Indigenous Americans (Uruguay); Noguero'i Pave'i Organization of the Mbya Guaraní People (Paraguay); OIS, Organization
of the Indigenous Peoples of Suriname (Suriname); OPIAC, Organization of the Indigenous Peoples of Colombian Amazonia (Colombia); Raizal (Colombia); Andean Oral History Workshop (Bolivia).

Although the following organizations were invited, they did not attend the meeting for a number of reasons: CAPOIB, Coordinating Body of Indigenous Peoples and Organizations of Brazil (Brazil); Consejo de Todas Las Tierras (Chile); FOAG, Federation of Amerindian Organizations of French Guiana, (French Guiana); APA, Association of Amerindian Peoples of Guyana (Guyana); ONIC, National Indigenous Organization of Colombia (Colombia); and AIDESEP, Inter-Ethnic Association for the Development of the Peruvian Forest (Peru).

Further, the following organizations participated in the meeting: IWGIA, the International Work Group on Indigenous Affairs, Ibis-Denmark (Denmark), the Commission for Indigenous Affairs of the National Congress of Ecuador and the Council for the Development of Nationalities and Peoples of Ecuador (CODENPE).

The meeting started with opening speeches by Antonio Jacanamijoy, Coordinator General of COICA; Cristóbal Vargas, Vice-Chairman of CONFENIAE; Alfonso López Araujo, Ambassador, Director General for Human Rights, Humanitarian Affairs and Drug Trafficking Control of the Ministry of Ecuador; Michael Ayala Woodcock, Deputy Resident Representative of the United Nations Programme for Development, UNDP-Ecuador.

Cristóbal Vargas, Vice-Chairman of CONFENIAE, was elected as Chairman of the Meeting, and Rodrigo de la Cruz, Technical Advisor of COICA, as Secretary-Rapporteur.

First of all, the Quito Regional Meeting expresses congratulations for the efforts made by the indigenous peoples of Bolivia in carrying out a national consultation from 13 to 15 March 2001 (see 2.4.11, p. 19), welcomes its Declaration and calls for similar processes to be carried out in the other South American countries.

As regards the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, information was provided on the background and the progress made in the work on the Declaration. The indigenous organizations expressed deep concern for the delay in adopting the Draft.

Information was also provided on the American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the last developments in this area, and on the recent decision by the UN Commission on Human Rights on a Special Rapporteur for Indigenous Rights and Freedoms.

As regards the UN Permanent Forum for Indigenous Issues, the representatives of the indigenous organizations agreed on the following resolutions:

1. **Selection criteria for candidates for the Permanent Forum:**
   - Be of indigenous origin and live on a permanent basis in South America.
   - Have a wide experience and knowledge of the indigenous situation in the region.
   - Have a wide experience in participating in international fora.
   - Belong to an organization which is representative of the indigenous peoples of South America.

2. **Strategies for the link between the Forum delegate and the indigenous organizations:**
   - The establishment of a Coordinating Body of the Indigenous Peoples Organizations of South America for the Permanent Forum is agreed on.
   - COICA is appointed as the organization responsible for the coordination of this space in close relation to the national focal points, which are the respective indigenous organizations.
   - As far as possible, this Coordinating Body will convene an annual meeting with the indigenous organizations in order to assess the progress made in the Permanent Forum.
   - This Coordinating Body is an open space for the participation of all indigenous organizations of South America.
   - The indigenous delegate to the Permanent Forum must coordinate activities with the Coordinating Body on a permanent basis while maintaining his relationship with the indigenous organizations in each country.
It is agreed that this Coordinating Body is not a representation structure but a coordination and articulation space for the follow-up to the Permanent Forum.

3. Secretariat location

- The indigenous organizations of South America recommended that the Permanent Forum should have a separate secretariat.
- As regards the location where this Secretariat should be established, it was agreed that the adequate location would be the UN headquarters in New York. The following reasons were given: both the General Assembly and ECOSOC have their headquarters in New York; the mandate of the Permanent Forum is broad and includes issues such as the environment and development, which are not considered by the human rights bodies with headquarters in Geneva.
- It was further recommended that the Permanent Forum meetings should be held in New York and Geneva alternately, following the same proceedings as ECOSOC. The possibility of convening meetings of the Permanent Forum in other countries where indigenous peoples live was also considered.
- However, the indigenous organizations pointed out that the issue of the Forum location was not as important as the definition and fulfilment of its mandate.

4. Election of a candidate for the Permanent Forum

- The indigenous organizations of South America agreed on the appointment of Mr Segundo Antonio Jacanamijoy (Colombia), as the main delegate; and Ms Carmen Yamberla (Ecuador) as the substitute delegate.

The participants hereby recommended that these Agreements and Resolutions should be immediately submitted by the South American Region to the President of ECOSOC and other relevant bodies for consideration of the main candidate and his substitute as member of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

Lastly, the other indigenous organizations of South America who did not attend the Quito meeting were hereby requested to adhere to these Agreements and Resolutions in order to constitute a legitimate space authentically representative of the indigenous peoples’ organizations of the region.

Given in Quito, Ecuador, on Friday 4 May 2001.

Signed by the participants:

AIRA - Argentina
Rogelio Guanuco
CAOP - Bolivia
Santos Anagua Condo
CIDOB - Bolivia
Nicolás Montero Andrechi
COIAB - Brazil
Sebastiao Alves Rodrique Manchineri
COICA - Colombia
Antonio Jacanamijoy
CONAMAQ - Bolivia
Fermín Beltrán Condori
CONAP - Peru
Jesús Antonio Colina Arroyo
CONFENIAE - Ecuador
Cristobal Vargas
CONIVE - Venezuela
José Poyo
Coordinación Mapuche - Argentina
Roberto Ñancucheo
Coordinadora de Líderes Indígenas de Bajo Chaco - Paraguay
Celso Aquino Martinez
ECUARUNARI - Ecuador
Alfredo Perea Pacho
FENOCIN - Ecuador
Pedro de la Cruz
FICI - Ecuador
Carmen Yamberla
INDIA - Uruguay
Rodolfo Martinez Barbosa
OIS - Surinam
Kenny Tjaaroeme
OPIAC - Colombia
Julio Cesar Estrada
2.4.9. South American Indigenous Peoples and Organizations’ Declaration on the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, 26-28 September 2001

In the city of Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, the representatives of indigenous peoples and organizations of South American countries –Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, Paraguay and Peru– meeting on the occasion of the South America Consultation for the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues from 26 to 28 September 2001 adopt the following agreements and resolutions.

CONSIDERING THAT:
The Permanent Forum is the outcome of an effort for dialogue between the Indigenous Peoples and governments, we, the indigenous representatives, are informed about the process and the resolution. During the meeting we examined the process of the idea of the United Nations Permanent Forum and shared information on Commission on Human Rights resolution, its ratification by the Economic and Social Council and final adoption. We considered the follow-up and participation process carried out by the indigenous representatives about the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. We highlighted our absence from the Permanent Forum process as main actors in this area.

WE AGREE TO:
1. Assert our presence as indigenous nations and peoples with the right to self-determination and territorial sovereignty.
2. Regret that the concept of indigenous peoples was excluded from the name and identification of the Permanent Forum.
3. Call on all South American indigenous organizations to unite our efforts in the effective implementation of the Permanent Forum.
4. As regards the election of the Permanent Forum members, we remind the President of ECOSOC to recognize our legitimate rights for selection, constituted by the outcome of regional consultations.
5. The members elected to the Permanent Forum endorse and complete the working proposals set forth by the respective regions.
6. As a final agreement, we introduce to the President of ECOSOC our candidate for the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, Mr Aucan Huilcaman, an indigenous Mapuche of Chile, as candidate for the Indigenous Peoples of South America.

Given in the city of Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, on 28 September 2001.
Signed by the participating representatives of indigenous peoples and organizations.

Representatives of indigenous peoples and organizations of seven countries attended this event. The aims of this Andes-Southern Cone inter-regional meeting and consultation were: to develop a sustained work to elect the representative of this region to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues; get acquainted with the scope, importance and problems that this body for indigenous peoples can have; and develop a working agenda to define the items of the first session of the United Nations Permanent Forum.

The following organizations participated: AIRA, Instituto Jujuymanta (Argentina); Parlamento Aymara, CONAMAQ, CIBOD, CSUTCB, Consejo de Capitanía Guaraní de Chuquisaca (Bolivia);
Consejo Indígena de Brasil; CAICA, FEINE, ECUARUNARI, CONAIE (Ecuador); COJPITA, CONAP, AECI, CONAMANI, CHIRAPAQ, UNCA, CCP (Peru); Consejo de Todas las Tierras (Chile); Indígenas del Bajo Chaco (Paraguay).

1. Scope and importance of the Permanent Forum for indigenous peoples

Two presentations were given on the importance of this space within the United Nations, respectively by Lola García and José Carlos Morales, giving elements for discussion. The Permanent Forum will be a very important organ as an advisory body to the United Nations Social and Economic Council and its location will be strategic, as it will have a high level.

The participants highlighted the importance of this Forum for the indigenous peoples, as in view of the constant violations of indigenous peoples’ collective rights, the Forum may become a body for struggle. But at the same time, conflicts and contradictions within this space were analyzed. In the first place, its name was debated: why “indigenous issues” and not “indigenous peoples or nations”? This issue was clarified and it was said that the use of the term “indigenous issues” is very broad as it includes many different issues, such as health, education, land, etc., which involve the indigenous peoples and have to be dealt with in this body. On the other hand, acknowledging the importance of this space for the indigenous peoples, it is difficult to implement this body and its rules of procedure are different from those of indigenous peoples. The fact that this space would be alien to the peoples was discussed. In other words, “it’s not our sports ground” and we would enter an unfamiliar game, which has to be known even though it is part of the dominant system, as in one way or another we can struggle from there for the respect of indigenous peoples’ rights.

2. Election of a representative

As regards the election of a representative, the election criteria and procedure were broadly discussed. The organizations attending the consultation agreed to profile the candidate. It was said that the representative should not meet the United Nations criterion, that is act as an individual, as his function should involve the presence of the indigenous peoples or communities, jointly with the other representatives of other regions of the world, who are indigenous brothers as well.

In concluding this event, the following resolution was agreed on:

UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
Andes – Southern Cone Inter-regional Consultation

The Inter-regional Assembly meeting from 26 to 28 September 2001, presenting one candidate, decides to introduce to the President of ECOSOC in the United Nations the candidate for the Permanent Forum for the Andes-Southern Cone region, Mr Aucan Huilcaman, an indigenous Mapuche of Chile.

Given in the city of Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, on 28 September 2001.

Signed by the following representatives of indigenous peoples and organizations:

Argentina
Rogelio Huanuco, AIRA
Pedro Antonio Cariman, Mapuches de Neuquén
Concepción Catunta Castro (Kusi Killa), Indígenas Quechuas Jujuy

Brazil
Azelene Inacio, Consejo Indígena de Brasil
Samora Potiguara, CPUMIN

Paraguay
Cornelio Quima Marcilla, Bajo Chaco
Miguel Mendoza Martínez, Mbya Oguero Pavei

Chile
Aucan Huilcaman, Consejo Todas Tierras
José Nahín, Consejo Todas Tierras
María Teresa Huentequeo, Consejo Todas Tierras

Ecuador
Marco Murillo, FEINE

Perú
Fabián Taypi Calixto, Chirapaq
Gladys Vila Pihue, Taller Permanente
Gerónimo Romero Huayna, UNCA
Miguel Palacín Quíspes, Conacami
Elías Curitima Caritímarí, CONAP
Fortunato Turpo Choquehuancá, COJPITA
Everardo Orellana Villaverde, CCP
Sebastián Lara Delgado, UNESCO ETXEA
Lola García Alix Pérez, IWGIA
José Carlos Morales, Costa Rica

Bolivia
Juan Evo Morales Ayma, Coord.Camp.Trópico
Félix Navarro Fita, CONAMAQ
Jaime Apaza Chuquimia, CONAMAQ
Julión Bautista Quíspes, Parlamento Aymara
Félix Chambi Cari, CSUTCB
Simón Yampa Huarachi, CADA
María E. Choque Quíspes, THOA
Carlos Mamani Condori
Orlando Huanca Tícona
Nilo Pomacusi Tintaya
Cristóbal Condoreno Cano
Rosa Macusaya Machaca
René G. Chuquimia Escóbar
Edgar Choque Mamani
Ramón Conde Mamani
Marcel Chuvirú Chuvé, CICC
Idón Chivi Vargas, Lawyer, CONAMAQ
Elizabeth López Canelas, CEPA
Rómulo Rosas Vargas, CABI
Mariano Flores Choque, CDIMA
Ricardo Mendoza Mamani, CDIMA
Félix Mamani Pari, Presbyterian Church
Sonia Acarapi Choque, Aymara participant
Palmira Pozo Miranda, Aymara participant
Agustín Parapaino Supayabe, Central Ind. Paikonaka
David Keremba Mamani Choque, Consejo Cap. Guaranies

México
Saúl Vicente Vasquez, COCEI-FDD
Alejandro Parellada, IWGIA, Coordinator

CONAIE delegates abstained:
María Blanca Chancoso, CONAIE
Marco Murillo Ilbay, FEINE
Luis Chanaguano Chulco, ECUARUNARI
Santiago de la Cruz Añapa, CONAIE
Gilberto Talahua Pau Car

2.4.10. Letter by the Indian Council of South America (CISA)
In a letter addressed to the UN Secretary-General, Mr Kofi Annan, CISA submits its narrative report on the commemoration of the International Day of the World’s Indigenous Peoples. On that occasion, Mr Julio Tumiri Apaza was appointed as the main candidate and Mr Belarmino Mamani as a substitute.

2.4.11. Declaration of the Indigenous Peoples of Quillasuyu-Bolivia on the Permanent Forum for Indigenous Issues

1. The indigenous organizations of Bolivia: Confederación Sindical Unica de Trabajadores Campesinos de Bolivia (CSUTCB), Confederación Nacional de Colonizadores de Bolivia, Consejo Nacional de Ayllus y Markas del Quillasuyu-Bolivia, Consejo de Ayllus de Inquisivi, Consejo de Ayllus de Cochabamba, Federación de Ayllus del Sur de Oruro, Consejo Occidental de Ayllus de Jacha’Carangas, Nación Soras, Ayllus Killkawi, Federación Nacional de Mujeres Campesinas de Bolivia "Bartolina Sisa", Federación de Ayllus Originarios Indígenas del Norte de Potosí, Jach'a Suyu Pakajani, Consejo de Ayllus Originarios de Potosí, Suyu Ingavi de Markas, Ayllus y Comunidades Originarias, Consejo Educativo de Pueblos Originarios, Centro Andino de Desarrollo Agropecuario, Centro de Desarrollo Integral de la Mujer Aymara, Fundación Quechua Aymara, Qullana, Aynikusun Federación Provincial Unica Quechuas Aymaras de Bautista Saavedra, Organizaciones de Mujeres Aymaras del Kollasuyu-OMAK, Inter Institucional Qamasa, CAADI, Federación Sindical Unica de Trabajadores Campesinos de La Paz "Tupaj Katari", Isalp-Potosí, Integración Negra Yungueña y Taller de Historia Oral Andina-THOA met in Quillasuyu territory from 13 to 15 March 2001, with the purpose of disseminating information on the establishment process of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and elaborate a strategy to participate actively in the process.

2. Representatives of other organizations of South America attended the meeting, among them Carmen Yamberla (FICI-Ecuador), Jesusa Valdivia (Federación Departamental Rumimaki-Puno, Peru), Aucan Huilcaman (Consejo de Todas las Tierras-Mapuche, Chile), María Teresa Huentequeo (Asociación de Mujeres Mapuche, Chile), Marcial Arias (FPCI-Panama).

3. During the meeting we were informed about the Permanent Forum process since it has been introduced in the Vienna World Conference on Human Rights in 1993. We also shared information on the follow-up and participation process carried out by the indigenous representatives about the Permanent Forum. We were also informed about the Commission on Human Rights resolution, its ratification by the Social and Economic Council-ECOSOC and adoption by the United Nations General Assembly.

4. After sharing and analyzing their views on the Permanent Forum process, the participating organizations highlighted their absence in the process. From this reflection, however, we express our strong decision to participate in the eligibility process of the indigenous representative for the South American region and from now on we will work actively in the development of the Permanent Forum activities.

5. We assert our presence as Indigenous Nations and Peoples and will not give up our right to self-determination and territorial sovereignty, which is why we, the indigenous peoples of Bolivia, regret that the concept of indigenous peoples was excluded from the name and identification of the Permanent Forum. This concept constitutes an inalienable principle and right for all indigenous peoples, but States constantly tend to diminish the full recognition of indigenous peoples and their rights.

6. We, the indigenous peoples' representatives, dedicated sufficient time to exchange views on eligibility criteria. Mechanisms at the internal and regional level that must be carried out so that the indigenous candidate for South America has sufficient legitimacy were also addressed:

   a) The criteria identified in the report of the second session of the Commission on Human Rights Working Group on a Permanent Forum were taken into account. Besides these criteria, other, which are closely related to the specificity of the South American region, the diversity of
organizations and their views, were included. The proposal for an indigenous candidate from South America to be developed around a covenant including the criteria of all the peoples interested to participate in the election process was also considered important. The covenant will focus on establishing a permanent link to monitor the regional representative in the Permanent Forum in developing his functions.

b) We, the participants, consider it essential to call upon all indigenous organizations of the South American region to continue to carry out consultations at the internal level of each country and, in the end, end up with a consultation at a regional level. As regards the last issue, we highlight its special importance, and taking into account the time left for the establishment of the Permanent Forum, we urgently call upon the coordinating bodies of South America and national indigenous organizations of each country to adopt jointly a final decision by consensus.

c) As regards the election of the Permanent Forum members, we remind the President of the Social and Economic Council-ECOSOC to recognize our legitimate rights for selection, constituted by the outcome of regional consultations.

7. During the meeting, information was provided on the developments related to the elimination of the sacred coca leaf and the militarization of territories affecting the Aymaras, Quechuas, Urus and Afro-Bolivians, as the result of the policy carried out by the Government of Bolivia, potentially leading to a major conflict in the entire Qullasuyu territory. Within this context, "The Plan to Combat Poverty" has not fulfilled its aims.

Qullasuyu, Achoqalla, 13 to 15 March 2001

2.5. Other nominations

In addition to the candidates mentioned in the respective regional resolutions and declarations, other names were directly communicated to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and appear on the web site: http://www.unhchr.ch/indigenous/nominations.htm. These are:

Indigenous peoples:

• Mr Adrián Esquina Lisco and Mr Margarito Crespin Esquina (Asociación Nacional Indígena Salvadoreña, El Salvador)
• Mr Cúicha Wotchimo and Ms Céline Nadine Mola (Association Nationale des Peuples Autochtones et Minorités, Democratic Republic of Congo)
• Mr Gopal Gurung (Mongol National Organization, Nepal)
• Mr Lázaro Pary Anagua (Indian Movement Tupay Amaru)
• Mr Kealii’i’olu’olu Gora (Liëokalo Kame’elehiwa, Centre for Hawaiian Studies, University of Hawaii at Mano)
• Mr Ole Henrik Magga (Inuit Circumpolar Conference and the Saami Council)
• Mrs Marie Lucette Martin (Chagossian Social Committee, Mauritius)
• Mr Siayi Soko Axwesso Nicodemus (The Christian Spiritual Youth Ministry, Tanzania)
• Mr Tomas Alarcon (Parlamento del Pueblo Quilina Aymara, PPQA)
• Mr Joseph Palacio (The Guyanese Organisation of Indigenous Peoples, GOIP)
• Ms Zinaida I. Strogalschikova (The Society of VEPS Culture, Russian Federation)
• Mr Paul Chartrand (The Metis National Council)
• Mr Marcelino Diaz de Jesus (Asamblea Nacional Indígena Plural)
• Mr Hassan Idbalkassum (Ass. Tamaynut – ANCAP)
• Mr. Fortunato Turpo Choquehuanca (Conan – Confederacion Nacional de las Comunidades Campesinas y Nativas del Peru)

Governments:

• Mr. Yuri Boychenko (Russian Federation)

2.6. Report of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
2001 ECOSOC substantive session
(E/2001/64: Summary of the paragraphs relating to the PF)

About three pages of Ms Mary Robinson’s report are dedicated to the achievements of the Office of the High Commissioner concerning indigenous peoples. The activities relating to the World Conference against Racism, the International Decade of the World’s Indigenous Peoples, the appointment of a Special Rapporteur on the situation of indigenous peoples’ human rights and fundamental freedoms, the Working Group on the Draft Declaration, as well as the Permanent Forum (PF) are reviewed. We publish excerpts which enable us to better understand what this PF will be like and how it is presently implemented.

**Procedures:** The PF will adopt the procedures for the participation of observers representing indigenous peoples, organizations and communities, as well as from governments, the United Nations system and NGOs.

**Lead agency for the implementation of Council resolution 2000/22:** The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights has been designated by the Secretary-General to hold this function. As such, the Office of the High Commissioner has raised the issue of the PF with the Administrative Committee on Coordination and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee. Ten United Nations organizations have provided information about their activities, appointed focal points for the PF, and expressed their willingness to cooperate in an interagency approach.

**PF Secretariat:** In consultations held so far, the establishment of interagency technical support for the preparatory phase of the PF has been welcomed by the United Nations partners. Whether the secretariat to service the PF is finally to be based in New York or Geneva, it is clear that ongoing liaison would need to be maintained between both cities. It should be stressed that the locating of the secretariat in one of the United Nations Offices does not diminish the importance of the work that needs to be done in both places to ensure a fully integrated and cooperative approach to support the work of the PF.

**Agenda:** The PF will determine its own agenda and programme when it meets. Ms Robinson has invited the United Nations partners to provide information about their activities so that this can be made available to the PF at its first meeting. It is also proposed that the United Nations system prepare a consolidated paper identifying options and approaches for the PF interaction with pertinent United Nations organizations and agencies.

**Unusual nature of the PF:** It has an unusual holistic role, namely to reconcile and harmonize the range of issues dealt with by the United Nations. It will require new working practices and innovative approaches.

2.7. **Inter-agency technical support for the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues** (summary)

The main points of this text, which was made available to the indigenous peoples during the WGIP and should still be approved by the UN Secretary-General, are presented below.

**Aim of the project:** The aim is to provide technical support for the preparation of the first session of the PF. The project envisages appointing three staff responsible for the following tasks: to develop contacts with members of the PF, prepare the basic documentation, gather information about existing activities in the United Nations, consult with governments, indigenous peoples and international and regional organizations, and service the first and second sessions of the PF. After the first session the team would follow up on recommendations and prepare for the second session. It is expected that the Forum will be supported from the regular budgets of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies. The project is designed to ensure a sense of common ownership and responsibility of the different agencies of the UN having major programme interests related to indigenous peoples.

**Creation of technical support team:** The project envisages creating a technical support team consisting of qualified persons, including qualified indigenous people, to undertake the preparations for the first session of the PF. It is envisaged that for logistical reasons the staff would be placed in the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. It would serve as a bridge to a more permanent
secretariat support. The recruitment of the team is envisaged by the end of 2001 so that it can be operational from January 2002 to June 2003, for an 18-month period.

**Establishment of the inter-agency steering group:** The project proposes to formalize the inter-agency steering group that at present is composed of some of the focal points/units of the United Nations system. The group would meet at least once every three months and provide assistance and guidance to the team. It would specifically be in a position to draw upon the technical expertise in their respective agencies.

**Financial aspects:** The project is to be financed through extra-budgetary contributions until such time as the UN Regular Budget provides the necessary resources for permanent secretariat support. It should be noted that the budget does not contain a component for financial assistance to representatives of indigenous organizations and communities since it is anticipated that an amendment may be made to the terms of reference of the Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations allowing it to provide this assistance.

**Evaluation:** It is proposed that the project be evaluated by the PF itself at its second session with a view to deciding on the resources needed for establishing permanent secretariat support.

* * *
3. WORLD CONFERENCE AGAINST RACISM
Durban, South Africa, 31 August - 7 September 2001

The indigenous delegations struggled for the recognition of their collective rights.

3.1. Third WCAR Preparatory Committee
Statement on behalf of the Indigenous Peoples’ Caucus
Geneva, 30 July 2001

Thank you Madame/Mister Chairperson. This is a joint statement on behalf of the Indigenous Peoples’ Caucus who met on Sunday, July 29, at the World Council of Churches in Geneva, Switzerland.

There have been many challenges to say the least to ensure full participation by Indigenous Peoples leading up to the World Conference Against Racism. We look to this 3rd Prep Comm to fulfill the initial principle commitment to make this World Conference Against Racism (WCAR) truly inclusive.

During the recent meeting of the United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Populations (UNWGIP), her Excellency the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Secretary-General of the WCAR, Mary Robinson, stated in her report to ECOSOC:

“As we stand at the beginning of a new century, the continuing existence of racism racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance constitutes a fundamental human rights challenge.”

We would like to point out a glaring example of this in the Draft Declaration (A/CONF.189/PC.3/7) and the Draft Programme of Action (For Equality and Non-Discrimination Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance) (A/CONF.189/PC.3/8) that were prepared by the Group of 21. They had a daunting task and we thank them for their efforts. Nevertheless, please note that in both of these Drafts paragraph 43 on page 15 of the Draft Declaration (A/CONF.189/PC.3/7)1 and paragraph 20 on page 6 of the Draft Programme of Action (A/CONF.189/PC.3/8) “Indigenous Peoples” is footnoted.2

As we head into the new millennium and a World Conference Against Racial Discrimination, we are the only peoples still facing it blatantly in both documents. NO other “peoples” are footnoted to limit their rights. Since these are still drafts, we recommend this 3rd Prep Comm meeting to urge all states to remove this footnoting of “Indigenous Peoples”, and thereby help eliminate racism from these documents. In this context, we would like to point out that the Sub-Commission has already adopted the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples which recognizes “Indigenous Peoples” as “peoples”.

Indigenous Peoples are peoples within the full meaning of international law. Indigenous Peoples have the right to Self-Determination by virtue of which they freely determine their economic, social, political and cultural development and inherent possession of all of their traditional and ancestral lands and territories. The knowledge and cultures of Indigenous Peoples cannot be separated from their unique spiritual and physical relationships with their lands, waters, resources and territories. The denial or qualification of the Self-Determination of Indigenous Peoples is racist and lies at the root of Indigenous suffering.

We remind the states, that Indigenous Peoples are equally entitled to all Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms contained in international Human Rights Instruments, including the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. We therefore recommend, that the Draft Declaration (A/CONF.189/PC.3/7) paragraph 44 page 15 be amended, so that the second sentence reads as follows: “We firmly reiterate our determination to promote their full enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, as well their benefits of sustainable development, while fully respecting their distinctive characteristics and their own initiatives and reaffirm that the human rights and fundamental freedoms contained in the

2 The reference to peoples has been left out in the final unedited version of the Programme of Action (paragraph 20).
International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the Convention for the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination, apply also to Indigenous Peoples.”

We refer this 3rd Prep Comm to the latest world gathering of Indigenous Peoples, the Indigenous Peoples’ Millennium Conference held in Panama City (7-11 May 2001). The Indigenous Caucus resubmits its position as contained in UN Document E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.4/2001/8 dated 20 June 2001 (see 3.4., p.27). Please recall that our delegations have been calling for a World Conference on Indigenous Peoples for several years and again, call on the WCAR to recommend the convening of an World Conference as per our original submission which is stroked out in paragraph 250 page 56 of the Draft Programme of Action. The new wording violates the letter and spirit of the U.N. Resolution that calls for a passage of the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples before the end of the U.N. International Decade of the World’s Indigenous People (Decade), a Declaration which already declares the right of Self-Determination for Indigenous Peoples. Now paragraph 250 page 56 calls for a conference limited to discuss only the Right of Self-Determination (the ownership of land and its natural resources) at the end of the Decade.

We view this to be a delaying tactic and an attempt to remove the discussion and passage of Article 3 at the current Inter-Sessional Working Group on the Elaboration of a Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. We recommend that paragraph 250 page 56 of the Programme of Action (E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.4/2001/8) is amended back to read as follows: “Recommends the convening of a world conference on indigenous peoples at the end of the International Decade of the World’s Indigenous Peoples (1995-2004)”.

Finally, it has been very difficult for Indigenous Peoples to fully participate at these Prep Comms, therefore we urge this 3rd Prep Comm to take up the positions of the Indigenous Caucus. We call on the High Commissioner and the Secretary General for the WCAR, Mary Robinson, as coordinator for the Decade through you, Madame/Mister Chairperson, to take our case to the WCAR.

In conclusion, if the international community assembled at the WCAR in Durban, is to make a real change, it must:

Acknowledgement that Indigenous Peoples are Peoples with a full right to Self-Determination.

3.2. Third WCAR Preparatory Committee
Indigenous Peoples’ Caucus statement
Geneva, 7 August 2001

Racist Qualifications in the WCAR Draft Texts: An Entirely Different Context than ILO Convention (No. 169)

This intervention is being made on behalf of the entire Indigenous Peoples’ Caucus which consists of numerous Indigenous Peoples and organizations from around the world. As such, we request to speak a little longer than if we were simply speaking on behalf of one organization.

Racist Qualifications in the Draft WCAR Documents

- The Draft Declaration and Programme of Action contain qualifications which radically derogate from the recognized rights of Indigenous peoples at international law.
- Paragraph 43 at page 12 of the Draft Declaration (5 July 2001) includes a qualification that states: “The use of the terms “peoples” in this document shall not be construed as having any implications as regards the rights that may attach to the term under international law.”
- The paragraphs subtitled "Indigenous" in the Draft Programme of Action contain the same qualification. This means that as Indigenous peoples, we are not being recognized as equals amongst the other peoples of the world. We are being discriminated against on the basis of race.
- If the qualifications remain in the text the United Nations will be guilty of practising and perpetuating racism and discrimination within its very own processes.
The UN would similarly be practising racism if the WCAR texts contain any language which derogates from the rights of Indigenous peoples as peoples in international law, such as by referring to Indigenous peoples as "populations", "communities" or "collectivities".

This conference has an opportunity to eliminate this institutional racism against Indigenous peoples.

ILO Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention (No. 169)

- ILO Convention (No. 169), which was adopted in 1989, affirms and elaborates upon a wide range of rights of Indigenous peoples, including land rights.

- Article 1(3) of the Convention contains similar language to that currently found in the qualifications to WCAR draft documents.

- The context and implications of this "qualifying language in ILO Convention (No. 169), however, were completely different than the current context of the United Nations at the WCAR in the year 2001.

- The specific intention and effect of the qualifications in the draft WCAR texts is to limit or deny the rights of Indigenous peoples as peoples in international law.

- The intention and effect of the language in Convention (No. 169) was totally different.

- Article 1(3) in ILO Convention (No. 169) appears in the Convention because the ILO (as a specialized agency) judged that it did not have the competence to address the issue of the rights of Indigenous peoples to self-determination.

- The Committee of the ILO that dealt with the Convention No. 169 drafting process specifically and officially reported on the intention and effect of Article 1(3) of the Convention: "The Chairman considered that the text was distancing itself to a certain extent from a subject which was outside the competence of the ILO . In his opinion, no position for or against self-determination was or could be expressed in the Convention, nor could any restrictions be expressed in the context of international law ." (footnote 1.)

- The intent of Article 1(3) has also been confirmed by Lee Swepston, Chief of the Equality and Human Rights Coordination Branch in the International Labor Office, who states (in his personal capacity):

  "…Another criticism is that Article 1(3) somehow limits the rights of Indigenous peoples to self-determination. Again, this patently is not so. Convention No. 169 simply refers the decision on the content of this right to the United Nations, where it rightly belongs ." (footnote 2.)

- Accordingly, unlike in the context of the draft WCAR texts, the "qualifying" language in Article 1(3) of the ILO was neutral and did not prejudice or limit the status and right of self-determination of Indigenous peoples.

U.N. Bodies with Juridical Competence: The U.N. Human Rights Committee Rulings on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as Peoples in International Law

- Since 1989 when ILO Convention No. 169 was adopted, the issue of the right of Indigenous peoples to self determination has been referred to and considered by a United Nations body with the competence to determine these rights.

- The United Nations Human Rights Committee - which is the United Nations body which interprets and monitors State Party compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) - has explicitly and unqualifiedly upheld the right of Indigenous peoples to self-determination in accordance with Article 1 of the ICCPR, including Indigenous peoples' right to dispose of their natural wealth and resources and to their own means of subsistence.

- In its concluding observations on Canada in April 1999, the Human Rights Committee ruled that Canada acknowledged that:
"the situation of the aboriginal peoples remains 'the most pressing human rights issue facing Canadians.'” And…that without a greater share of lands and resources institutions of aboriginal self-government will fail, the Committee recommends that the right to self-determination requires, inter alia, that all peoples must be able to freely dispose of their natural wealth and resources and that they may not be deprived of their own means of subsistence (art. 1, para. 2). (footnote 3.)

• Even more recently, in its Concluding Observations on Norway in October 1999, the Committee ruled:

"…the Committee expects Norway to report on the Sami people's right to self-determination under article 1 of the Covenant, including paragraph 2 of that article." (footnote 4.)

• In 1999, the Human Rights Committee also ruled on the rights of Indigenous peoples in Mexico with reference to their rights of self-determination and their rights to their lands and natural resources. (footnote 5.)

• Accordingly, there is no longer any basis whatsoever to assert that there is any ambiguity as to whether the right of self-determination applies to Indigenous peoples.

The Competence of the United Nations

• As previously stated, the only reason the ILO Convention No. 169 contained a qualifier regarding the use of the word "peoples" was because of its limited competence as a specialized agency.

• The United Nations has no such basis (or excuse) for "qualifying" the rights of Indigenous peoples in the WCAR texts.

• Not only does the U.N. have the competence to affirm the full rights of Indigenous peoples as "peoples", but it has the obligation to do so, consistent with the authoritative ruling of its own UN Human Rights Committee and with the mandate of the WCAR to eliminate - not perpetuate - racism and discrimination.

• Any purported derogation from these U.N. rulings by the United Nations in the context of the WCAR would be nothing less than an unlawful and racist attempt to attack the rights of Indigenous peoples.

• Surely it cannot be the intention of the United Nations to deliberately discriminate against Indigenous peoples. Accordingly, the qualifications in the draft WCAR Declaration and Programme of Action must be deleted and the rights of Indigenous peoples fully recognized and affirmed.

Obligations of State Parties to Oppose Racism within the U.N. Machinery and the WCAR Texts

• Moreover, since the prohibition against racism is a peremptory norm, the State Parties to the WCAR cannot lawfully agree to discriminate against Indigenous peoples. State Parties also have an obligation to oppose any such discriminatory acts or efforts.

Footnotes:

3.3. Statement of the Indigenous Peoples Caucus at the WCAR, 6 September 2001
The Indigenous Peoples Caucus attending the World Conference on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance understands there is controversy over the Non-Government Organisation’s (NGO) Declaration and Program of Action produced at the NGO Forum in Durban, South Africa on 1st September 2001.

The Indigenous Peoples Caucus unequivocally rejects any language in the NGO Declaration and Program of Action that is racist.

The Caucus, composed of Indigenous Peoples from all over the world, fully supports the Indigenous sections of the NGO Declaration and Program of Action as reflecting a consensus by Indigenous peoples developed in many fora throughout the world including:

- Indigenous Peoples Day, UN Headquarters, New York, August 2000
- Declaration of Indigenous Peoples of the Americas in Santiago de Chile 5 - 7 December 2000
- The Kidal Declaration in Kidal, Mali 8 - 13 January 2001
- Foro de Las Americas, Quito Ecuador, March 2001
- Community Consultation on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Kampala, Uganda 30 April - 3 May 2001
- The Abokobi Declaration in Ghana 7 - 10 April 2001
- Millennium Conference, Panama City, Panama 7 - 11 May 2001
- WCAR, Preparatory Committee 1, May 2000
- WCAR, Preparatory Committee 2, May/June 2001
- WCAR, Preparatory Committee 3, July/August 2001

Approved by the Indigenous Caucus, 6/9/2001

3.4. Statement on the World Conference Against Racism of the Indigenous Peoples’ Millennium Conference
Panama City, Panama, 7 - 11 May 2001

We, the Indigenous Peoples of all regions of the world including the Arctic, Africa, Russia, the Americas, Europe, Asia and the Pacific attending the Indigenous Peoples’ Millennium Conference in Panama City, Panama, 7 - 11 May 2001, have examined and endorse the following statements from Indigenous Peoples, their representatives and organizations, made in preparation for the World Conference Against Racism, to be held in Durban South Africa:

- Community Consultation on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Kampala, Uganda 30 April - 3 May 2001.
- Declaration of Indigenous Peoples of the Americas in Santiago de Chile 5 - 7 December 2000.
- The Abokobi Declaration in Ghana 7 - 10 April, 2001.

We believe that these declarations form a consensus of the hopes and aspirations of the Indigenous Peoples of the world, and we emphasize their call for the end of racial discrimination against Indigenous Peoples in all its forms.

We note particularly the Declaration of the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas Declaration, and its finding that racial discrimination, xenophobia and related forms of intolerance are characteristics of dominant western ideology and are reflected in the relationship western society has maintained with

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3 UN document E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.4/2001/8 has become a WCAR official document: A/CONF.189/10/Add.8. This statement was reconfirmed by the Indigenous Caucus as their global statement at the WCAR.
the Indigenous Peoples of the world, constituting a historical problem with deep roots in colonialism and the enslavement of entire peoples, a problem that continues to this very day, denying Indigenous Peoples their right of self-determination. We also note that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance are characteristics of dominant societies all over the world and are the main sources of all forms and manifestations of colonization, denying Indigenous Peoples the right of self-determination.

We recognize that colonialism in all its expressions continues to rob us of our ancestral knowledge, cultural and spiritual practices, of our economies and way of life of our Peoples, as well as our cultural and intellectual heritage which forms a part of our spirituality. It is the cause of the loss and ruination of our sacred places, the loss of our traditional health practices and traditional knowledge, and even now extends to the loss of our plant, animal and human genetic resources. We also call upon the States to comply with their sacred trust and to guarantee the right of decolonization and self-determination to all Indigenous Peoples in non-self governing territories. We find it is finally time to deal fairly and in good faith with Indigenous Peoples. We call upon the States to recognize that Indigenous Peoples are "Peoples" as within the full meaning that attaches to that term under international law. We condemn the continued denial of the recognition of Indigenous Peoples as having the rights of all other Peoples. We consider the continued denial of this recognition as an act of racial discrimination by the States within the United Nations itself, as this refusal is a distinction based on race or ethnic origin which has the purpose of nullifying or impairing all other human rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Unless the World Conference Against Racism recognizes the following principles with regard to Indigenous Peoples, it cannot hope to address the racial discrimination practised against Indigenous Peoples or fashion any realistic solutions to end the practice:

1. Indigenous Peoples are Peoples within the full meaning of international law.
2. Indigenous Peoples have the right of self-determination to the same extent as all other peoples of the world.
3. The World Conference Against Racism must reiterate the principles established by in the first two World Conferences to Combat Racism, recognizing the special physical and spiritual relationship between Indigenous Peoples and our lands and territories, and stressing that our lands and natural resources should not be taken from us.
4. In all measures to be taken by States that may affect Indigenous Peoples, consultation in good faith must be undertaken by the State with the Indigenous Peoples affected and such measures not implemented without our free and informed consent.
5. The World Conference Against Racism must call upon the States to end the militarization of Indigenous Peoples' lands and territories and the forced relocation of Indigenous Peoples. The grave situation of the militarization of indigenous lands and territories, and resultant gross and massive violation of our civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights must end. Indemnification for damages and material losses during Indigenous Peoples forced displacement should be made.
6. Religious intolerance toward Indigenous spiritual practice has been a fundamental instrument in the subjugation of Indigenous Peoples, since the beginning of colonialism. The World Conference must recognize the persistent evil of religious intolerance toward Indigenous spiritual practice and belief and make concrete proposals to end this widespread and persistent related xenophobia.
7. The World Conference Against Racism must recognize and address the new and deadly form of racial discrimination, including institutionalized racism, that of environmental racism, and the ruination of our lands, waters and our environment by the implementation of development schemes and unsustainable practices such as mining, deforestation, the dumping of contaminated waste, and other land use practices that do not respect and discriminate against our spiritual beliefs and life ways, our economies and means of subsistence, our right to health, our very lives and our existence, and our future generations.

Proposals for the Programme of Action of the World Conference Against Racism:
We the representatives of Indigenous Peoples and their organizations, participants at the Indigenous Peoples' Millennium Conference have considered basic principles for the taking of concrete steps in our struggle to combat racism and discrimination, and, as a result, recommend to the States and other institutions that they incorporate our proposals in the Programme of Action of the World Conference Against Racism:

1. Call for a World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.
3. Recommend to the Secretary General the development of "principles for the inclusion of Indigenous Peoples' Issues into the United Nations programmes and practices."
4. Recommend to the Secretary General the early establishment of a separate secretariat for the Permanent Forum, and that preference be given to Indigenous candidates in the staffing of the secretariat.
5. Call for the elimination of religious intolerance and the recognition of the right of Indigenous Peoples to our own cultural and religious traditions as well as the right to defend our rituals and spiritual sites.
6. Call for the recognition of the relationship between Self-Determination, land rights and protection of cultural rights including the need to recognize that discrimination against the use of our language exists.
7. Strongly recommend the adoption of the draft UN Declaration on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, approved by the Subcommission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities in its Resolution 1994/45. The draft OAS Inter-American Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples should be adopted with the full participation of Indigenous Peoples, and must not contain lesser standards than those contained in Sub-Commission Resolution 1994/45.
8. Urge the UN to effectively implement the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the position of Special Rapporteur on Indigenous Issues and Human Rights with all necessary funding, and in consultation with Indigenous Peoples.
9. Recommend that States ratify international conventions and agreements protective of Indigenous Peoples' rights, and abide by agreements and treaties signed between States and Indigenous Peoples. States that have not already done so should ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and make the Declaration under Article 14 of that Convention.
10. Recommend that States examine their constitutions, laws and legal systems, and policies to identify and eradicate both explicit and inherent racism towards Indigenous Peoples contained therein.
11. Cease the use of the doctrines of discovery and terra nullius; the prohibitions against the collective ownership of Indigenous land; the doctrine that Indigenous lands can be taken without due process of law or adequate compensation; doctrines which provides for the unilateral extinguishment of Indigenous land rights and title; the presumption that Indigenous Peoples do not own the resources of the subsoil; doctrines that allow concession of Indigenous resources to be made without Indigenous consultation or consent; the denial of legal protection for Indigenous religions, including protection of sacred sites and areas as well as denial of religious practice y Indigenous prisoners; and discriminatory land claim processes.
12. Strongly recommends that States renounce laws and policies that deny or limit indigenous rights over land and its resources, including rights to the resources of the subsoil, submerged lands and wetlands, affirmatively recognize Indigenous Peoples as the rightful managers of their lands and resources. States should, in consultation with Indigenous Peoples, initiate programs to demarcate and protect Indigenous territories.
13. Urges States and financial and development and financial institutions to examine their policies and practices that affect Indigenous Peoples, to ensure their policies and practices contribute to the eradication of racism, encouraging the participation of Indigenous Peoples in development projects in accordance with the principle of free and informed consent; by democratizing international financial institutions and trans- national corporations by developing codes of conduct enforceable against them; and by consulting with Indigenous Peoples in any matter that may affect our physical, spiritual or cultural integrity.
14. Recommend that States promote programs to benefit Indigenous women, with their full participation, to promote their civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights; to end disadvantage due to gender; to urgently resolve problems affecting them in education, employment, health, traditional knowledge, justice, the environment and biodiversity; and to eliminate policies of forced sterilization and the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war as well as the trafficking of Indigenous women and children.

15. Urge the States to commit financial resources to anti-racism education and media campaigns to promote anti-racism awareness, acceptance of diversity, and respect for the cultures of all Indigenous Peoples. In particular, the States should promote a real understanding of the dignity and worth of the histories and cultures of Indigenous Peoples.

3.5. Other information

Declaration and Programme of Action

The English final version of the Declaration and Programme of Action has not been published yet. However, an unedited version is available on the following website: www.icare.to/wcardeclarationandpoa-unedited.html.

We will publish the paragraphs concerning the indigenous peoples when the document is available, probably in the next issue of Update.

Indigenous journalists who attended the WCAR

- Lorna Seneity Kamtho, Namayiana Communication, Kenya
- Kenneth Deer, Eastern Door Indigenous Newspaper, Canada
- Mauricio B. Malanes, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Philippines
- Ajitman Tamang, Zambuling Weekly IP Newspaper, Nepal
- Arak Yahia, Le Martin, Algeria
- Esperanza Sanchez Espitia, Colombia
- Atencio Lopez, Panama
- Flavie Dalap, Kanak Islands
- Julie Nimmo, Australia
- Anotoli Gogoiev, Russian Federation

WCAR Statements

We have received the following statements, which are available at doCip:

- Stella Tamang on behalf of the Asian Indigenous Peoples’ Caucus
- Statement of the Teyuwan Oyate, Teton Sioux Nation Treaty Council
- National Chief Matthew Coon Come, Canada
- Rigoberta Menchú Tum, Peace Nobel Prize (Spanish)
- Indigenous organizations on racism and discrimination in Guatemala (Spanish)
- Margarita Gutierrez on behalf of the Latin American Indigenous Caucus (Spanish)
- Consejo de Médicos y Parteras Indígenas Tradicionales, Mexico (Spanish)
- Defensoría Maya – CITI, Memoria Consulta Sobre Racismo y Discriminación en Guatemala (Spanish)

Other documents are also available on NCIV website: www.nciv.net

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4. INDIGENOUS PEOPLES’ MILLENNIUM CONFERENCE

Indigenous Peoples’ Millennium Conference Statement
Panamá City, Panamá, 7 – 11 May 2001
The Millennium Conference was convened jointly by the Netherlands Center for Indigenous Peoples (NCIV) and the Asociacion Napguana (Panama).

The following statements were issued:

- Indigenous Peoples' Millennium Conference Statement
- Statement on the World Conference against Racism and proposals for the Programme of Action (see p.27).
- Resolution of the Indigenous Peoples' Millennium Conference on the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (see p.4)
- Other related documents are available at http://www.nciv.net

We, the Indigenous Peoples of all regions of the World – Arctic/Europe, Africa, Asia, North America, Central and South America and Caribbean, Pacific, and the Former USSR/Eastern Europe attending the Indigenous Peoples' Millennium Conference in Panamá City from May 7 to May 11, 2001:

Note with satisfaction the active presence of all of the regions of the world at this Conference and our progress in understanding each other's realities. Whether we identify ourselves as Indigenous, Aboriginal, Tribal, Autonomous, First Nations, Native Peoples, First Peoples or, by other terms, it gives us great pride, hope and satisfaction that as Peoples we can, together, work ardently for the recognition of our rights and the preservation and restoration of our values, cultural identities and way of life.

Have discussed several topics of great concern to us. Among these were:

- The UN International Decade for the World's Indigenous Peoples;
- The upcoming UN World Conference on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance;
- The UN Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
- The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues;
- The UN Studies on Treaties, Land and the Cultural Heritage of Indigenous Peoples;
- Indigenous Peoples and economic colonization and globalization, in particular in the context of the TRIPS, WTO, IMF, WIPO, CBD, the Framework Convention on Climate Change, the World Bank and Agenda 21;
- The OAS process;
- ILO and UN Specialized Agencies; and
- Conflict Resolution, human rights instruments and complaint procedures.

As a result of these discussions, we have formed a global consensus in the following areas;

I. With regard to previous statements:
Endorse the following statements of Indigenous Peoples, their representatives and organizations, made in preparation for the World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, to be held in Durban, South Africa, August 31-September 7, 2001:

*Community Consultation on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance*, held in Kampala, Uganda, April 30 – May 3, 2001


*Declaration of Indigenous Peoples of the Americas*, in Santiago de Chile, December 5 – 7, 2000

*The Abokobi Declaration*, in Ghana, April 7 – 10, 2001

*The Kidal Declaration*, in Kidal, Mali, January 8 – 13, 2001

II. With regard to Indigenous Peoples, the right of self-determination, the right to land and territories including submerged lands, waters and natural resources:

Call upon States to finally recognize that Indigenous Peoples are "Peoples", with the full meaning that attaches to that term under international law. As Indigenous representatives have stated repeatedly,
throughout the years, it is inconsistent to distinguish between the human rights of Indigenous Peoples and other peoples. This has the purpose or effect of nullifying and impairing all the human rights of Indigenous Peoples. It is therefore racist and constitutes race-based discrimination. It is an affront to our human dignity;

_Reiterate_ that among the human rights violated is the fundamental right of self-determination. We hold it self-evident that as “Peoples”, Indigenous Peoples have the same right of self-determination as all other peoples of the world;

_Reiterate further_ that it is time that States recognize the unique spiritual relationship between Indigenous Peoples and our lands and territories, including submerged lands, waters and natural resources, and that the right to these resources is inseparably linked to our right of self-determination;

_With regard_ to our ancestral lands, call upon the world community to recognize and adequately address a new form of racism, that of environmental racism. The world community must immediately prevent the ruination of Indigenous lands and waters, including rising sea levels due to ozone depletion, the depletion of our natural resources, submerged lands and waters, through the prevention of so-called development schemes and unsustainable practices such as over fishing, mining, deforestation, the dumping of contaminated waste, and other land use practices that do not respect but do discriminate against our way of life;

_III. With regard to Indigenous Peoples’ cultural heritage and identity, genetic resources, traditional knowledge, expressions of folklore and other such resources:_

_Reзнeeize_ that the extension of colonialism, in all its expressions, continues to divest Indigenous Peoples of our ancestral lands and territories, traditional knowledge, of our cultural and intellectual heritage, spiritual practices and our way of life. This is the cause of the loss and ruination of our identities and our cultures and, even now, extends to the loss of our plant, animal and human genetic resources;

_Hold_ it self-evident that all rights to Indigenous Peoples’ cultural heritage, genetic resources, traditional knowledge and expressions of folklore are inherently ours;

_Reзнeeize_ the paramount impact that international agreements and institutions, such as the CBD, TRIPS, WTO, IMF, WIPO, UNCTAD, the Convention on Climate Change, the World Bank and Agenda 21 have on the lives of Indigenous Peoples. It is therefore fundamental that Indigenous Peoples are given full and effective participation in all the work carried out within such institutions. We urge States and financial institutions to provide funds and other resources to facilitate the participation of Indigenous Peoples in these fora;

_Reзнeeize further_ the need to inform and educate members of Indigenous communities about the CBD, TRIPS, WTO, IMF, WIPO, the World Bank, UNCTAD, Agenda 21 and other international agreements and institutions and the processes relating to them. This so that whatever decisions Indigenous communities decide to take with regard to their genetic resources, traditional knowledge, folklore or other related matters, are made with their free and prior informed consent;

_Express great concern_ about the World Bank’s current revisions of Operational Directive 4.20 on Indigenous Peoples and recommend the following:

- that the World Bank’s Operation and Evaluation Department conduct and complete an open and participatory review of Bank implementation of Operational Directive 4.20 as a foundation for drafting its Operational Directives, Bank Practices and Sourcebook;
- that national and regional workshops be organized by the World Bank as part of its implementation review and revision process; and
- that the World Bank uphold international standards on human rights including providing for the free and prior informed consent of Indigenous Peoples to all World Bank programmes and projects affecting Indigenous Peoples;

_Concerned_ that the activities of regional financial institutions and trade agreements, such as _inter alia_ the Asian Development Bank, has resulted in the marginalization and impoverishment of Indigenous Peoples, we call on these institutions to:

- ensure that any project or programme that is carried out in Indigenous lands and territories is undertaken only with the full and prior informed consent, and with the full and effective participation, of the peoples concerned, and if such consent is not achieved, that these institutions withdraw from such areas;
• respect and promote Indigenous Peoples' rights; and,
• guarantee that these institutions' policies and programmes are given greater transparency.

Oppose the World Trade Organization Agreements that violate the rights and well-being of Indigenous Peoples, particularly the Agreements on Agriculture and Trade-Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS). These illegitimate agreements undermine our diverse economics and cultural heritage;

Call for a moratorium on any further trade negotiations and agreements, subject to a review and revision of all existing agreements to meet the requirements for equity and sustainability;

Stand united with broad sections of civil society in condemning the undemocratic, inequitable and non-transparent character of the World Trade Organization;

Call on states to engage with organizations representing Indigenous Peoples within their land and territories, to explore alternative mechanisms for protecting the collective heritage, cultural identity, genetic resources, traditional knowledge and folklore of Indigenous Peoples;

IV. With regard to international environmental processes:

Urge Indigenous Peoples and their organizations to participate in international environmental processes including inter alia: the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, the Convention to Combat Desertification and the United Nations Forum on Forests;

Call for the active participation of Indigenous Peoples and their organizations in the World Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio + 10) to be realized in Johannesburg, South Africa, in September 2002, as well as in the preparatory activities at the local, national, sub-regional and international levels;

Noting that the General Assembly Resolution on Rio + 10 "encourages effective contributions from and the active participation of all major groups as identified in Agenda 21, at all stages of the preparatory process," and "stresses that the preparatory meetings and the 2002 summit itself should be transparent and provide for ... contributions and active participation of major groups," we call upon governments and international agencies to:

• Review progress in the realization of the objectives and activities set out in Agenda 21 and in related instruments and processes with respect to Indigenous Peoples on the local, national, sub-regional, regional and international levels;

• Guarantee the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples in the preparation of national reports and the review of such reports;

• Guarantee the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples in the sub-regional and regional preparatory processes;

• Guarantee the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples in the preparatory committee meetings of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

• Support the inclusion of Indigenous Peoples as a major theme of the Rio + 10 summit as a contribution to review the United Nations International Decade of Indigenous Peoples and the proposed World Conference on Indigenous Peoples in 2004; and

• Guarantee the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples within the World Summit on Sustainable Development through the trust fund and other appropriate financial instruments.

V. With regard to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues:

Welcome the establishment of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues as a subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC);

Endorse the Regional Division adopted by the Indigenous Caucus in Geneva on November 26, 2000, during the 6th Session of the Open Ended Inter-Sessional Working Group on the Draft UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, for the nomination of Indigenous members of the Permanent Forum. These regions are Arctic/Europe, Africa, Asia, North America, Central/South America and Caribbean, Pacific, Former USSR and Eastern Europe and an additional seat to rotate between the three regions Asia, Africa and Central/South America and the Caribbean. The first additional seat will go to the region Central/South America and Caribbean;
Aware of the request of the UN Secretary General to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to take the role of lead agency for the establishment of the Permanent Forum, reiterate that the lack of a separate Secretariat for the Permanent Forum will seriously hamper the fulfillment of the mandate of the Permanent Forum;

Request the UN Secretary General to ensure that preference be given to Indigenous Peoples’ candidates in the staffing of the Secretariat as a promotion of "the integration and coordination of activities relating to Indigenous issues within the UN system".

VI. Other important points:

Recommend a comprehensive review of the UN International Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples;

Call upon States – in consultation with Indigenous Peoples – to support in any way appropriate and necessary the work of the Special Rapporteur on Indigenous Issues, including providing the Special Rapporteur with adequate funding;

Urge States to commit themselves more strongly to the UN Voluntary Fund and increase their contributions thereto, in order to allow Indigenous representatives to participate effectively in all UN conferences and meetings of concern to them;

Call for a World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, to be held at the end of the UN International Decade for the World's Indigenous Peoples in the year 2004;

VII. With regard to international conventions and declarations:

Call on the Parties to the Framework Convention on Climate Change to ensure and guarantee the full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples within that process as has occurred in the Working Group on article 8(j) of the Convention on Biological Diversity;

Urge States, where Indigenous Peoples so request, that have not yet ratified ILO Convention No. 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples to do so. States that have already ratified the ILO Convention No. 169 should work with Indigenous Peoples to implement and adhere to the principles and concepts of this Convention. States should further facilitate and ensure the participation of Indigenous Peoples in the ILO;

Recommend strongly the immediate adoption of the Draft UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, approved by the Sub-Commission on the Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities in Resolution 1994/45. Where applicable, we further urge States and their regional State organizations to adopt the principles of the Draft UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in applicable regional declarations on the rights of Indigenous Peoples.

5. UNESCO

5.1 International Symposium - "Indigenous Identities: Oral, Written Expressions and New Technologies"

Paris, 15-18 May 2001

As part of the United Nations International Decade of Indigenous Peoples and the Year of Dialogue between Civilisations, the Division for Cultural Policy (UNESCO) organized a Book Fair and Symposium in collaboration with the National Centre for Scientific Research in France. According to the brief report published on the Internet4 ‘the Fair showed the ways in which indigenous cultures have changed and brought out the power of new indigenous voices expressed through research, essays, novels and poetry’.

The first part of the Symposium (‘Oral and Written Expressions’) brought together contributions on a variety of themes - 'Supports of Indigenous Memory', 'The Earth is our Book: Safeguarding Indigenous Cultures and Memory', 'Transmission of Indigenous Cultures: it is from our memory that we retain our power' and 'Indigenous Cultures and Globalisation: Mutations of Oral and Written Expressions'
The second part was devoted to new technologies and to the anthropology and knowledge of indigenous peoples. The principal themes included how anthropologists, indigenous peoples and museums can collaborate, the use of multimedia techniques for general research into indigenous knowledge, and ethical questions relating to the transmission of traditional knowledge.

Concrete recommendations were proposed “for action geared to promoting the cultural development of indigenous communities (...) As a result meetings between participants in the Symposium, collaborative projects (developing CD ROMS, databases of traditional knowledge, bilingual teaching programmes and exchanges) will be able to be set up”.

5.2. Recommendations

Participants recalled that many indigenous cultures have been marked by domestic and international colonization, discrimination and intolerance. Books have been a source of upheaval and cultural recomposition alike. Indigenous forms of expression now figure as part of a new issue-area that brings to the fore the interaction between—and complementary nature of—oral and written expressions, museology and new technologies.

The participants presented UNESCO with guidelines and recommendations in the following areas:

1. Memory, culture and education
   - Promote oral tradition as a crucial means of safeguarding and transmitting cultural identity;
   - Encourage efforts to rewrite the history of communities marked by stereotyping, using reliable sources based on the oral tradition and living memory of elders and relying on the support of the populations concerned;
   - Encourage national decision-makers to incorporate facts that are respectful of indigenous memory, traditions and cultural values into school curricula and public education-system teaching tools;
   - Promote, in cooperation with the communities concerned, the implementation of operational projects geared to recording the memory of elders and enabling the revitalization of traditional culture.

2. Indigenous cultures and publishing
   - Encourage the formulation of new national editorial policies and the creation of indigenous publishing houses with a view to correcting and enriching available sources on the history and contemporary situation of the populations concerned;
   - Encourage programmes designed to safeguard endangered languages, together with projects for gathering, transcribing and publishing the traditional myths and fables that constitute the roots of identity, in an effort to fill the cultural and psychological void affecting a large share of the indigenous youth;
   - Develop a guide on indigenous writers in order to encourage publishing houses to publish their work;
   - Encourage the participation of indigenous people in the production, safeguarding and circulation of their cultural goods.

3. Teaching of indigenous languages and cultures
   - Promote quality bilingual or trilingual education and encourage the preparation, in cooperation with indigenous communities, of suitable indigenous-language teaching methods;
   - Encourage Member States to adopt measures that will help foster mutual respect among indigenous communities through the development of indigenous languages and cultures and the education of dominant groups.

4. Indigenous representation at national and global levels
   - Promote better representation of indigenous peoples within the UNESCO National Commissions concerned and encourage more systematic participation of those peoples in the Organization's meetings on themes concerning their cultural development.

5. Participation within the framework of museums and new technologies
   - Facilitate active indigenous participation, dialogue and partnership with museums in the field, inter alia, of multimedia and Internet website production.
6. Financing access to modern means of communication

- Encourage the decision-makers of the States concerned together with international organizations and the private sector to finance the necessary infrastructure to provide indigenous communities with access to computers and the Internet.

7. Adapting computer-based tools to indigenous cultures and languages

- Promote the development of software, databases and multimedia programmes in a technical and cultural language tailored to the needs and priorities of the indigenous groups concerned.

8. Respecting the customary rules of indigenous peoples in research, museums, the media and on the Internet

- Raise public awareness of the urgent need to adhere to a professional code of ethics for the dissemination of data and information on indigenous peoples;
- Encourage recognition of general ethical principles such as respect for the confidential nature of sacred elements and the right of indigenous people to have elements of their tangible and intangible heritage returned to them, in accordance with the report of the seminar on the draft principles and guidelines for the protection of the heritage of indigenous people (E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/26, 19 June 2000, United Nations Commission on Human Rights).

9. Adopting an ethical charter for research, publishing and exhibitions

- Establish mechanisms and technical meetings between UNESCO, WIPO, research centres such as the CNRS and experts in international law and intellectual property rights (in partnership with indigenous organizations and in a spirit of co-management), with a view to introducing a standard protocol or charter of ethics for research (covering repatriation of data, intellectual property rights, recording and filming conditions, museums, Internet, multimedia, etc.);
- Draw up an inventory of the key ethical codes, charters and protocols developed by research centres and indigenous organizations, along the lines of the list produced by the Canberra-based Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS);
- Consider the following factors in efforts to establish a standard charter of ethics:
  - the need to resolve the urgent issue of publishing digitized films and archives online while respecting the rights of the indigenous peoples concerned (rules regarding intellectual property, the protection of confidential and sensitive data, etc.);
  - the need to develop culture-specific portals in cooperation with indigenous people, museums and national and international research organizations;
  - the need to promote cooperation projects with indigenous communities to introduce interdisciplinary data repatriation programmes and develop new technological tools that will be useful to indigenous people (software for indigenous language-learning, establishing genealogies and virtual museums, etc.), while facilitating dialogue geared to safeguarding cultural diversity.

5.3. Resolution of the Indigenous Peoples assembled for the International Symposium

**Indigenous Identities: Oral, Written Expressions and New Technologies**

15-18 May 2001 in co-operation with CNRS, UNESCO, Paris, France

We the Indigenous Peoples at the Symposium on Indigenous Identities: Oral, Written Expressions and New Technologies, in co-operation with Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) congratulate UNESCO Division of Cultural Policies’ efforts in organising this symposium. We would like to propose the following general resolutions for United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO):

1. That in line with, but not limited to the United Nations International Decade of the World’s Indigenous Peoples, the United Nations Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, that UNESCO recognize and reaffirm the special place that Indigenous Peoples have in the world and our fundamental right to self-determination.
2. That UNESCO, in consultation with Indigenous Peoples, creates and formulates a formal process of dialogue between Indigenous Peoples and UNESCO.

3. That UNESCO make Indigenous Peoples issues a priority area in all programs throughout UNESCO before the end of the International decade of the world’s Indigenous Peoples.

4. That UNESCO, together with Indigenous Peoples, establishes an International Programme of Action for Indigenous issues to be co-ordinated with other UN agencies.

5. That UNESCO takes responsibility for acquiring the funds and resources for these activities.

6. That UNESCO encourage National Commissions in each relevant country to create an official seat for Indigenous Peoples and encourage Indigenous participation at the local level.

7. That UNESCO establish a specific Indigenous office to co-ordinate all activities relating to indigenous issues throughout UNESCO and it’s National Commissions which will report directly to the Director General of UNESCO.

8. That UNESCO and other scientific agencies such as the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) develop and institute specific codes of ethics and principles regarding research on Indigenous organisations that have already developed research protocols and ethics.

9. When organising future meetings for Indigenous Peoples, UNESCO should account for the diverse Indigenous situations; and account for the different levels of access to technology, infrastructure, and resources of Indigenous Peoples from different countries and inform, with due notice, as many Indigenous Peoples and organisations as possible.

10. To achieve inclusiveness, UNESCO is encouraged to involve a broader representation of Indigenous Peoples and communities for future UNESCO forums.

11. That UNESCO disseminate widely these resolutions from this symposium to Indigenous Peoples and organisations together with member states and UNESCO partners as soon as possible and include these resolutions in the official report of this symposium.

General questions raised by Indigenous Peoples assembled for the International Symposium Identities: Oral, Written Expressions and New Technologies. 15-18 May 2001 in co-operation with CNRS, UNESCO, Paris, France regarding UNESCO’s overall activities and programs for Indigenous Peoples as follows:

1. Does UNESCO have a plan of action for the international Decade of the World’s Indigenous Peoples?
2. What is the process for establishing formal dialogue and effective participation between UNESCO and us as Indigenous Peoples?
3. How does UNESCO co-ordinate with other UN agencies on Indigenous Peoples issues?
4. What is the official accreditation process for Indigenous organisations to UNESCO?
5. How do Indigenous Peoples and organisations participate in the upcoming General Conference of UNESCO?
6. What are the criteria UNESCO uses for engaging with Indigenous Peoples around the World and what is the current process for selecting Indigenous representatives?
7. What is the status of the Draft Declaration on Cultural Diversity and in what context are Indigenous Peoples referred to in this document?
8. What is the current status of the recommendations from:
   a. the Outcomes from the UNESCO meeting on the The International Decade of the World’s Indigenous Peoples held Paris 18-20 Oct. 1999,
   b. the Submission to the World Heritage Committee from the Forum of Indigenous Peoples assembled in Cairns, Australia, November 24th 2000,
   c. and other previous meetings involving UNESCO and Indigenous Peoples issues?

5.4. Indigenous artists and researchers invited by UNESCO
6. THIRD INTERNATIONAL FORUM OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES ON CLIMATE CHANGE
Bonn, Germany, July 14 – 15, 2001

Preamble
We, the delegates of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities and indigenous organisations in the Third International Forum of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities on Climate Change convened in Bonn on July 14th and 15th, 2001 for the second session of the sixth Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP6B); reaffirm the Alburquerque Declaration, Quito Declaration, the Lyon Declaration of the First International Forum of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities on Climate Change, and the Hague Declaration of the Second Forum.

We have historically and continue to play a fundamental role in the conservation and protection of the forests, biological diversity and the maintenance of ecosystems crucial for the prevention of severe climatic change. Long ago, our elders and our sciences foretold of the severe impacts of Western “development” models based on indiscriminate logging, oil exploitation, mining, carbon-emitting industries, persistent organic pollutants and the insatiable consumption patterns of the industrialized countries. Today, these unsustainable models threaten the very life of Mother Earth and the lives of all of us who are her children.

5 Mme Marcia Langton also participated in the second part of the Symposium
We denounce the fact that neither the UNFCCC nor the Kyoto Protocol recognizes the existence or the contributions of Indigenous Peoples. Furthermore, the debates under these instruments have not considered the suggestions and proposals of the Indigenous Peoples nor have the appropriate mechanisms to guarantee our participation in all the debates that directly concern the Indigenous Peoples been established.

In this declaration, we address the Parties and other participants of this Conference to present the conclusions of our Forum.

Considerations

Indigenous Peoples, as part of the international community, have the right to self-determination over our lives, our territories and our resources. Self-determination includes, inter alia, the right to possess, control, and administer our territories. Furthermore, self-determination also includes the right to real, full and effective participation; the right to be consulted in all matters that concern us; the right to prior and informed consent and the right to veto, and that our opinions and decisions are respected.

The discussions under the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol have totally excluded the indigenous peoples to the extent that neither recognizes the right of indigenous peoples to full and effective participation and to contribute to discussions and debates. This contrasts with other international processes which assure our participation and contribution within discussions.

The particular and specific rights we are demanding are consecrated in the international arena in other international instruments of equal importance to the UNFCCC, including:

- The Rio de Janeiro Declaration on the Environment and Development (in particular, principle 22);
- The Program of Action on Sustainable Development (in particular, chapters 11 and 26);
- The Convention on Biological Diversity (in particular, articles 8 (j) and related provisions);
- The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;
- The Statement on Forest Principles;
- Convention 169 of the ILO on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples; and other additional instruments, principles and programs of the United Nations and its specialized agencies.

The concepts, practices and measures that have been proposed as solutions to the problem of climate change, such as plantations, sinks and the carbon market, among others, will result in projects with negative and adverse effects on Indigenous Peoples, our territories and our ecosystems, and in violations of our rights as Indigenous Peoples.

We openly oppose the measures to mitigate climate change under discussion that are based essentially on a mercantilist and utilitarian vision of the forests, seas, territories and resources of Indigenous Peoples, which are being exclusively valued for their capacity to absorb CO2 and produce oxygen, and which negate our traditional cultural practices and spiritual values.

We, Indigenous Peoples reject the inclusion of sinks in the Clean Development Mechanism and the definition of sinks contemplated under the Kyoto Protocol and we oppose that the forests are considered solely for their carbon sequestration capacity.

We register our disagreement with proposals surrounding definitions including Afforestation, Deforestation and Reforestation proposed in the context of the UNFCCC. We express our grave concern that the UNFCCC ignores the concept of conservation, the importance of biodiversity, and the fundamental role of Indigenous Peoples in the management of our territories, forests and other ecosystems.

Based on these considerations, Indigenous Peoples will not accept, under any conditions, agreements or guidelines that limit, deny or violate these previously recognized rights.

Call To Action

1. We call upon the Conference of the Parties to:

- recognize the fundamental role of Indigenous Peoples and their organizations in the conservation of the environment and the prevention and mitigation of climate change;
- establish - in consultation with indigenous organizations – a Special Status for the representative organizations of Indigenous Peoples to participate in the Conference of Parties, the Subsidiary Body and other activities;
- authorize the creation, regulate the functioning and approve the pertinent provisions for an Ad-Hoc Inter-Sessional Working Group on Indigenous Peoples of the UNFCCC.
On this basis we recommend that the Conference of Parties adopts a decision to finance workshops for delegates of indigenous peoples and organizations to develop a concrete proposal in these areas.

2. We have the obligation to inform the international community about our grave concern regarding the social, cultural, economic and security threats posed by climate change to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities living in small island states. Given the extreme urgency of the need for adaptation activities in small island states, we urge that an Adaptation Fund be immediately established and activated with the full participation of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities, even if the Kyoto Protocol is not ratified.

Conclusions
We, the representatives of the Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities who participated in the Third International Forum of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities on Climate Change are profoundly convinced of the sacred character of Mother Earth. We also continue to be gravely concerned about the effects of climate change in our territories.

We reiterate our decision to continue contributing to the debates of the UNFCCC. We demand a full compliance of said instrument and at the same time we demand full participation in all the debates. We are convinced that our philosophies and traditional practices are the most appropriate for the management of the ecosystems of our territories. Finally, we are also particularly concerned about the emergence of “biocolonialism” and “environmental racism” that Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities of the world continually confront.

The damage caused by climate change exacerbates existing concerns and inequities, and constitutes a matter of environmental and climate justice. The issue confronting humanity today is one of justice. The UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol were developed to address climate change without the participation of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities and constitute a shameful ethical and moral precedent for the future of humanity.

Document approved in Bonn on Monday the 15th of July 2001, by the signatories below.

*Antonio Jacanamijoy Tisoy, Colombia*
Coordinating Body for the Indigenous Peoples Organizations of the Amazon Basin (COICA)

*Parshu Ram Tamang, Nepal*
International Alliance of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forests

*Johnson Cerda, Ecuador*
Amazon Alliance

*Raymond de Chavez, Philippines*
TEBTEBBA Foundation

*Patrina Dumaru, Fiji*
Pacific Concerns Resource Centre

*Marcial Arias Garcia, Panama*
Foundation for the Promotion of Indigenous Knowledge

*Napguana Association*

*Sandy Gauntlett, New Zealand*
International Research Institute for Maori and Indigenous Education

*Héctor Huertas González, Panama*
Center for Popular Legal Assistance (CEALP)

*Robert Gough, USA*
Intertribal Council On Utility Policy

*Mario Ibarra, Switzerland*
International Indian Treaty Council

*Alfred Ilenre, Nigeria*
Ethnic minority and Indigenous Rights Organizations of Africa (EMIROAF)
Sebastião Alves Rodrigues Manchineri, Brazil  
Coordinating Body for the Indigenous Peoples Organizations of the Amazon Basin (COICA)

Lucy Mulenkei, Kenya  
Indigenous Information Network  
African Indigenous Women Organization

Kittisak Rattanakrajangsri, Thailand  
IMPECT  
Inter-Mountain People Education and Culture in Thailand Association

Hendro Sangkoyo, Indonesia  
Consortium for Community Forest Systems

Sergei Shapkhaev, Russia  
Buryat Regional Department of Lake Baikal

Stella Tamang, Nepal  
Bikalpa Gyan Kendra

Jocelyn Roger Therese, French Guiana  
Federation of Amerindian Organizations of French Guyana (FOAG)  
Coordinating Body for the Indigenous Peoples Organizations of the Amazon Basin (COICA)

Penninah Zaninka, Uganda  
Emanzi / United Organization for Batwa – Development in Uganda

Carlos Enrique Batzin Chojoj, Guatemala  
Mayan Saq'b'e Center

Other documents
- Declaration from the First International Forum of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities on Climate Change, Lyon, France
- Declaration from the Second International Forum of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities on Climate Change, The Hague, The Netherlands
- Response from the Third International Forum of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities on Climate Change to the Consolidated Negotiating Text proposed by the President

* * *

7. OTHER INFORMATION

7.1. International Conferences

- POSTPONED: 28 January - 8 February 2002:  

- 4 - 8 February 2002:  
  Convention on Biological Diversity: Ad hoc Inter-sessional Working Group on Article 8(j), Montreal, Canada.

- 2 - 11 September 2002:  
  Rio +10: The World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa.

7.2.

This double CD-ROM contains the documentation from the United Nations Working Group on Indigenous Peoples (WGIP) in Geneva since its establishment in 1982 until 2000. It mainly consists of presentations and statements made by representatives of indigenous, non-governmental and international organizations, and governments, as well as reports drawn up by the members and special rapporteurs of the Working Group.

CONTENTS:

- STATEMENTS AT THE WGIP
  This data base contains 2800 documents: interventions and statements made by the different delegations during the WGIP sessions, as well as UN official documents related to different sessions. These documents are in the original language. Indexes –countries, peoples, authors, etc., as well as the programme are available in English.

- UN REPORTS
  The main reports drawn up by the UN special rapporteurs within the framework of the WGIP are included in this part. Most of them are available in three languages: English, Spanish, and French.

- USEFUL LINKS with websites
  Within the framework of the WGIP, the websites of the main international organizations concerned by international standard-setting activities related to indigenous peoples' rights are mentioned.

- THE FILM "Indian Summer in Geneva" by Volkmar Ziegler, in collaboration with Pierrette Birraux.
  Shot in 1984 during the Working Group on Indigenous Peoples, the film is based on interviews with indigenous leaders who chart the history of the process initiated by their peoples before the League of Nations and the United Nations. Concrete situations in the United States, Guatemala, Brazil, Bolivia and Hawaii are referred to by means of film extracts often shot by indigenous people themselves. In 1989, it received the main distinction in the Third Latin-American Indigenous Peoples Film Festival.

PRICE:

- One copy of the CD-ROM is submitted free of charge to all indigenous organizations on request, a second copy (or more) costs US$ 20.
- Price for non-indigenous NGOs from the South: US$ 20.
- Price for NGOs from the North: US$ 80.
- Support price for international organizations, administrations and universities: US$ 250.

HOW TO ORDER:

- Order the CD-ROM at doCip mentioning your name, the name of your organization and the exact address (mailing address, e-mail, fax, tel.).
- Do not forget to specify in which capacity you are ordering the CD-ROM (type of organization, individual capacity, etc.)
- Pay by Post-Cash or international money order at the following address:
  Code Swift POFICHBE
  Account CCP 12-11-429-8
  doCip - Indigenous Peoples’ Centre for Documentation, Research and Information
  Av. Trembley 14
  1209 Geneva - Switzerland
- The CD-ROM will be sent to you on receipt of your order and after payment advice.
- The indigenous organizations and communities who wish to receive a free copy of the CD-ROM are requested to write to doCip mentioning:
  1. The name of the organization
  2. The exact address (mailing address, e-mail, telephone, fax)
  3. The name of the person who orders it.

7.3. World Bank evaluation team requests written input from indigenous peoples and NGOs

Information forwarded by the Forest Peoples Programme and the Centro para el Desarrollo Indígena (CEDIN)

After years of pressure from indigenous peoples and NGOs, the World Bank’s quality control arm, known as the Operations Evaluations Department (OED), is finally to start a review of the way World Bank’s operations have affected indigenous peoples during the 1990s.
The review is potentially important because the lessons learned should be used to reform World Bank’s policies and practice. The review will receive independent assessments by indigenous peoples and civil society: this is a real opportunity to tell the World Bank about your own experience and what you think of its policies, programmes and projects.

1. OED Review of Implementation of the World Bank’s Indigenous Peoples Policy
Objective: to evaluate the effectiveness and relevance the World Bank’s existing indigenous peoples’ policy, known as Operational Directive 4.20 (OD4.20), for indigenous peoples affected (i) by specific projects theoretically covered by the indigenous peoples’ policy (ii) more generally by all the projects and programmes the World Bank’s country portfolios.
Phase I to be completed by December 2001: Desk-based review of about 916 investment projects in 34 countries.
Phase II to be completed by December 2002: A field-based participatory assessment of two or three projects in a few selected countries (e.g., Peru, Guatemala, India);

2. Invitation to Indigenous Peoples and NGOs to submit comments
The OED is inviting comments from indigenous peoples and civil society organisations regarding:
a. the quality of compliance with the World Bank’s Indigenous Peoples policy in specific projects or programmes;
b. the overall impact of the World Bank’s portfolio on indigenous peoples in a particular country (i.e., investment projects and programmes and sectoral and structural adjustment);
c. factors affecting the quality of compliance: what went right or wrong in the implementation of the indigenous peoples’ policy and why?
d. recommendations about how the policy provisions and their application on the ground should be improved;
e. suggested benchmarks to measure the effectiveness of projects and programmes affecting indigenous peoples;

3. How to respond
What to send:
• past letters, leaflets, press releases, meeting notes, studies or reports that detail how World Bank’s policies, projects or programmes have affected indigenous communities in your country;
• specific comments on a project or programme detailed in the attached list of World Bank’s operations about which you have knowledge and experience;
• general observations and recommendations regarding your experience with the World Bank in your country or local region;
Questions to address:
• How have individual projects or programmes financed by the World Bank affected indigenous communities and territories?
• What was the quality of indigenous participation in these operations?
• To what extent has OD4.20 been complied with?
• What have been the obstacles to effective implementation?
• Were indigenous communities better or worse off after the World Bank’s intervention?
• How can World Bank’s policy and practice be improved to respect the rights of indigenous peoples?
Send to:
Mr. Sekou A Mark, OED OD4.20 Evaluation Team, OED, World Bank Group, Washington DC, USA. Fax: +1 202 522 3124. E-mail: ggopal@worldbank.org
Deadline for input to Phase I: November 30th, 2001
Note: past experience indicates that OED will receive and take account of information received after a deadline. Information may therefore be submitted in 2002 during Phase II of the evaluation.

7.4. Indigenous Fellowship Programme at the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
The 2001 Indigenous Fellows:
• Mr Fritz Cornelius Markus, Nama First Indigenous Peoples Form in Namibia
• Mr Piya Sansee, Inter Mountain Peoples Education and Culture Association in Thailand (IMPECT)
• Ms Vonda Moar, Torres Strait Regional Authority (TSRA), Australia
• Ms Mirian E. Masaquiza Jerez, Federación Nacional de Organizaciones Campesinas Indígenas y Negras (FENOCIN), Ecuador
• Ms Mama Amiliah Matihogo Rampadi, First People of the Kalahari, Botswana

The 2001 Latin American Fellows:
• Mr Luis Arturo Xep, Consejo de Organizaciones Mayas de Guatemala, COMG
• Ms Alicia Tsukank, Federación Interprovincial de Centros Shuar, FICSH
• Ms Eva Tranamil, Asociación Indígena de Mujeres Pehuenches “Kdau Mahhuida”
• Mr Santiago Flores, Moskitia Asla Takanka, MASTA
• Mr Santiago Manuin, Servicio Agropecuario para la Investigación y Promoción Económica, SAEIPE

7.5. Publications

Publications on Indigenous Peoples’ Rights

• People or Peoples: Equality, Autonomy and Self-Determination: The Issues at Stake of the International Decade of the World’s Indigenous Peoples. 1996
  Part I: Issues Affecting the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in International Fora by Denis M. Marantz
  Part II: The Legal Value of Self-Determination: Vision or Inconvenience by Maiv Clech L
• Evaluation of the Options for Indigenous Peoples to Ensure Application of ILO Convention 169
• Protecting indigenous women's intellectual property: current issues and opportunities for action
• Indigenous Women’s Art Designs: Inter-American Workshop on Intellectual Property Rights, Ottawa, April 21-24, 1999
• About the World March of Women in the year 2000
• Olowaili Declaration: Third Continental Meeting of the Indigenous Women of the First Nations Abya Yala Panama, March 5 to 8, 2000
• Statement By The Indigenous Spokesperson During The World March Of Women In The Year 2000 in New York
• Rights & Democracy and Assembly of First Nations to send a Joint Mission to Colombia - Biographical notes on mission members

These documents are available at the following address:
Rights and Democracy, 1001 boul. de Maisonneuve est, Bureau 1100 Montreal, QC, H2L 4P9 Canada – or by e-mail: publications@ichrdd.ca
They are also available at doCip as attached documents by e-mail (html, Explorer or Netscape): e-mail: doCip@docip.org

WIPO

WIPO Report on Fact-finding Missions on Intellectual Property and Traditional Knowledge (1998-1999) has been issued. It presents information compiled by WIPO from nine fact-finding missions conducted in 1998 and 1999 on the intellectual property needs and expectations of holders of traditional knowledge covering the following regions:
• the South Pacific;
• Eastern and Southern Africa;
• South Asia;
• North America;
• Central America;
• West Africa;
• the Arab Countries;
• South America - Mission to Peru;
• South America - Mission to Bolivia;
• the Caribbean Region

The report will also be made available in Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish as soon as possible (www.wipo.int/globalissues/tk/report)
INDISCO Guidelines No 5: Our Project. Participatory Project Planning and Evaluation for and by Indigenous and Tribal Peoples

Published by INDISCO Programme and ILO, Geneva, 2001

"In order to capacitate indigenous and tribal partner organizations and their leaders and staff, INDISCO prepared a series of guidelines, which were tested and finalized by the project partners, printed and disseminated by the ILO. Some of these guidelines have already been translated into local and indigenous languages by the project staff in India, Thailand, Vietnam, Laos and Belize. The latest INDISCO publication, Our Project, is the fifth in a series of guidelines and deals with the procedures of participatory project planning, implementation, evaluation and phasing out".

The use of this booklet: it can be studied individually or used in a workshop; as a programme outline and as session notes for the workshop facilitator

To order INDISCO publications, please write to:
Cooperative Branch
Job Creation and Enterprise Development Department
International Labour Office
4, route des Morillons
CH - 1211 Geneva 22, Switzerland
or
e-mail us on coop@ilo.org
For further information consult our web site: http://ilo.org/employment/coop

* * *

Last minute document on the Permanent Forum: Letter by the indigenous peoples and organizations

This letter is currently being circulated for signatures

To: UN Member State Delegations at the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly, 56th Session

10 October 2001

Dear Sir/Madam;

We, the undersigned Indigenous peoples and organizations, would like to draw the attention of the General Assembly to questions related to the budget for the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

Allow us to also draw your attention to the fact that Indigenous peoples worldwide (1) want the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues to have a Separate Secretariat; and (2) want the Secretariat of the Permanent Forum to be staffed by qualified Indigenous persons.

Financing of the activities of the Permanent Forum:

The success of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues depends very much on the financial arrangements for its activities. We hold the view, that it is crucial that the General Assembly, through the Regular Budget of the UN, provide the necessary financial resources for the functioning of the Forum, including the establishment of a separate secretariat. Moreover, we strongly encourage governments to support the functioning of the Permanent Forum through voluntary financial contributions.

Separate Secretariat:
In the preparatory processes leading up to the establishment of the Forum, Indigenous peoples consistently in their various regional declarations strongly affirmed that the Permanent Forum should have its own secretariat. We strongly recommend the Secretariat of the Permanent Forum not to be attached to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights or any other secretariat of the subsidiary bodies of ECOSOC or any of the Specialized Agencies of the UN.

The Permanent Forum will not only address human rights issues. The ECOSOC resolution which led to the establishment of the Permanent Forum provides that "the Permanent Forum on indigenous Issues shall serve as an advisory body to the Council with a mandate to discuss indigenous issues within the mandate of the Council relating to economic and social development, culture, the environment, education, health and human rights; in so doing the Forum will:

(a) Provide expert advice and recommendations on indigenous issues to the Council, as well as to programmes, funds and agencies of the United Nations, through the Council;
(b) Raise awareness and promote the integration and coordination of activities relating to indigenous issues within the United Nations system;
(c) Prepare and disseminate information on indigenous issues;"

Since human rights is not the only issue to be addressed by the Permanent Forum, attaching the Secretariat to the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights would indeed necessarily imply a narrowing down of the mandate of the Permanent Forum to human rights issues.

The Permanent Forum is a subsidiary body of ECOSOC. Every subsidiary body of ECOSOC has its separate secretariats. For example, the Commission on Human Settlements, a Standing Committee of ECOSOC, established through a resolution of ECOSOC has a separate secretariat based in Nairobi. The Functional Commissions such as the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on Sustainable Development also have separate secretariats.

As far as the costs for a separate secretariat are concerned, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, during the 2nd Ad-hoc Working Group on the Establishment of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Peoples in February 2000, stated that "a separate secretariat for the Permanent Forum with 5 staff costs only US $ 1.5 million per annum".

**Staffing of the Secretariat:**

One of the mandates of the Permanent Forum is to "raise awareness and promote the integration and coordination of activities relating to indigenous issues within the United Nations system."

Indigenous peoples are aware of the UN Secretary General's programmes on "Integrating the human rights of women throughout the United Nations system". Many United Nations agencies also have set successful examples of integration of gender into their programmes and practices, including giving "preference to equally qualified women candidates". The same principle of giving "preference to equally qualified Indigenous candidates" for staffing of the Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues would go a long way to "promote the integration and coordination of activities relating to Indigenous issues within the United Nations system".

We are looking forward to the support of the General Assembly for the establishment of a separate secretariat for the Permanent Forum, and staffing of the Secretariat by qualified Indigenous persons, in particular in all key positions.

With kind regards,

Signatures

* * *
Annex: Invitation to the World’s Indigenous Artists by the:
Organización Tohil Morales (OTM) of the Maya Children of Guatemala

Presentation and Invitation

The Maya-children Organisation OTM, member of the Tukum Umam Organizations Council of Guatemala, is a non-profit entity registered in the Police Prefecture of Paris in France. One of its principal objectives is to promote the project “USA KIRIBAL, The time of the rebirth”, which relates to the Maya children, nature and human beings. In order to collect donations and funds to finance this project, OTM carries out the workroom "Woods of the storm 1999 for the Maya children". The aim of this workroom is to turn into artworks certified woods, with high historical character, which come from trees fallen into famous places from Paris affected by the storm in December 1999. The artworks are proposed by public auction.

By this advertisement, OTM has the honour to invite the painters and wood-carvers of all Indigenous Peoples to apply for carrying on their art during two months in Paris France. The selected artists will paint or carve wood artworks for the workroom. Their two-way travel ticket as well as a daily compensation will be covered by OTM which also commit to diffusing and ensuring publicity of the producers artist name during the art exhibitions which will be organised.

For further information contact at the following address:

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PLEASE NOTE

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– small NGOs: SF 30.-
– large NGOs and institutions: SF 40.-

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