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1. EDITORIAL

The news came on 3 April 2009: from now on, Australia supports the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (the Declaration). This news, which obviously gives great hope to the Maori of Aotearoa/New Zealand, was announced in a joint communiqué from the Chairs of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP) and the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (PF), along with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, all of whom declare themselves ready to contribute to the operationalization of the Declaration within their respective mandates.

On this point, the Expert Group on the role of the PF in implementing article 42 of the Declaration met on 14-16 January 2009 at UN Headquarters in New York, and recommended, among other things, that the PF decide to: invite participants (…) to present written reports on this topic; appoint a task team consisting of eight members to examine these reports; and encourage States in particular to provide the PF with technical information on the implementation of the Declaration and a reliable assessment of the effectiveness of the Declaration at the national and the local levels. In addition, the provisional agenda for the second session (10-14 August 2009) of the EMRIP includes items on “implementation of the Declaration at the national and regional levels” and “adjudication, remedies, repatriation, redress and compensation”. This agenda is yet to be approved by the Human Rights Council (HRC).

The annual report on the rights of indigenous peoples presented to the HRC at its 10th session (2-27 March 2009) by the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Mme. Pillay, is also meant to contribute to the implementation of article 42 of the Declaration. It contains a review of new, relevant developments arising out of the work of treaty bodies, special procedures, and field presences of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), covering the period 2007-2009, including specific references to the Declaration. It presents a review of the work of these same treaty bodies and special procedures, through the most regularly observed issues, including good practices and challenges. It also includes relevant activities conducted by the Council, such as the reports on safe drinking water and climate change, as well as some good practices by OHCHR field presences. In her recommendations, the High Commissioner invites the Council to consider grouping at one session in the year all the reports concerning indigenous peoples that are to be submitted to the Council; in his statement, the Chair of the Expert Mechanism concurred in this.

The current issue of the Update is devoted almost entirely to the 7th session of the PF, which was honored by the presence of Bolivia’s Aymara president, M. Evo Morales, and by a video communication from Secretary General Ban Ki Moon. We note that upcoming annual meetings of the PF will alternate as follows: one year will be dedicated to issuing recommendations addressed to the UN system (policy year), the other year to reviewing the implementation of these recommendations (review year). 2009 will be a review year. This issue will conclude with the calendar – from July to October 2009 – of conferences and events concerning indigenous peoples.

* * *
2. PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES

7th session, New York, 21 April – 2 May 2008

This seventh session focused on “Climate change, bio-cultural diversity and livelihoods: the stewardship role of indigenous peoples and new challenges” and highlighted IPs’ knowledge and first-hand experience in caring for the environment, their vulnerability to the effects of climate change and mitigation measures, as well as the urgent need to involve them in all related global negotiations. Following a decision by the PF to alternate between policy and review sessions, the eighth session will focus on follow-up to the PF recommendations on economic and social development, indigenous women and the Second Decade. The proposed agenda for the 2009 session also includes a thematic discussion on the Arctic and a comprehensive dialogue with six UN agencies.

Report on the Permanent Forum’s session

Opening Session

Tracy L. Shenandoah, Chief of the Council of Chiefs of the Onondaga Nation, Eel Clan, offers a traditional thanksgiving and expresses hope that the world will be peaceful for coming generations.

Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, PF Chairperson, welcomes the first ever address to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (PF) by a State President, Evo Morales Ayma. She informs on her participation in the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) COP 13 in Bali (2007) on an unofficial basis, as the UNFCCC has yet to invite the PF. More information is needed on how climate change and proposed solutions affect indigenous peoples (IPs). Climate change is the ultimate evidence of the dominant development model’s unsustainability, and the strongest argument for a radical change (also CLAI). IPs have adapted to climate change for millennia, but the present situation is particularly challenging. She informs on some reports provided for the session, as well as on the new Guidelines on Indigenous Peoples’ Issues published by the UN Development Group to help country teams better integrate IPs’ priorities (also Jomo Kwame Sundaram). The focus on the Pacific aims at identifying challenges and possible cooperation to improve IPs’ situation (also Ban Ki Moon), particularly in the view of the phenomenon of “environmental refugees” and its consequences for IPs’ rights and sovereignty. Finally she pays tribute to the world’s IPs who are realizing, in the face of all odds, their self-determined development.

In a video message, Ban Ki Moon, UN Secretary-General (SG), highlights the historical adoption of UN Declaration on the Rights of the Indigenous Peoples (the Declaration) (also Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, Jomo Kwame Sundaram, Leo Merores), which the PF will translate into a living document, thus promoting the UN vision of development for all. As custodians of the world’s most biologically diverse areas, IPs have accumulated first-hand knowledge about environmental degradation. They must play a role in the global response (also Evo Morales Ayma). Protection of indigenous languages will advance the protection of IPs’ rights and dignity, and preserve the cultural diversity of humanity.

H.E. Evo Morales Ayma, President of Bolivia, calls for the PF to support IPs in their continued struggle against threats of extermination and in defence of their access to land and basic services, and to encourage world leaders to play their part in the fight for justice and equality. IPs want to “live well”, which is not possible under the capitalist system that seeks to buy and sell Mother Earth. World leaders must collaborate with IPs to establish a new model, for which President Morales offers a series of “ten commandments”, beginning with a call to end: capitalism, exploitation of human beings and pillaging of natural resources, excessive consumption of goods, and accumulation of waste. Second, the world should denounce war, end military occupation and reallocate funds to make reparations for damage caused to the Earth. Third, the world must free itself from imperialism and dependence, and States engage in complementary relationships. The UN Security Council should be democratised. Fourth, access to water should be a human right, and its privatization be banned. IPs should propose an international convention on water. Fifth, the world should promote alternative, clean and eco-friendly energies, and stop wasting energy. Promoting agro-fuels is a serious mistake (also Abya Yala Indigenous Caucus), which even the World Bank (WB) and International Monetary Fund (IMF) are recognizing. Sixth, Mother Earth should be respected instead of being bought and sold. Seventh, basic services must remain accessible for all, and not be privatized. Eighth, consumption should be limited to what is necessary and produced locally, to end free market trade, where countries suffering hunger are forced to export their food.

This report is based on oral and written statements presented orally during the debates, as well as on the UNDPI press releases. The official report of this session is document E/C.19/2008/13.

Published on April 30, 2009
Ninth, diversity of cultures and economies must be promoted. Tenth, the world should try to “live well”, but not at the expense of others. President Morales stresses the role of social movements in bringing about change. In Bolivia, the provisions of the Declaration have become law (applauded by the Asian Indigenous Caucus, INET); hopefully other countries will follow this example.

H.E. Ambassador Leo Merores, President of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), looks forward to the PF’s suggestions on implementation of the Declaration. He encourages its contribution to the work of ECOSOC and subsidiary bodies. The focus on climate change and discussion of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) reflect a wish to act in a coordinated manner within the UN system. He commends the PF members’ ability to reach consensus while addressing most difficult issues.

Jomo Kwame Sundaram, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, on behalf of Sha Zukang, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, underlines that the PF is fulfilling its mandate to make indigenous issues more visible for policy action, and to promote indigenous issues in the UN development agenda. He urges the international community to take action for the well-being of IPs, with their full and effective participation, so as to begin implementation of standards and policies on indigenous issues.

Bernie Yates, Deputy Secretary of Australia’s Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, reports on the apology issued by Australia’s new government to the Stolen Generations (the thousands of indigenous children removed from their families and communities), an acknowledgement to past injustices and claim to a future of reconciliation. The government is committed to closing gaps between Australia’s general population and its IPs in the areas of health, education, employment and life expectancy, and to protecting neglected indigenous children in the Northern Territory. Detailed consultations on the Declaration are being held (the Pacific Indigenous Caucus welcome this).

### Members of the Permanent Forum, 2008-2010

#### Indigenous-nominated Members
- Ms. Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, Igorot from the Philippines
- Mr. Lars Anders-Baer, Saami from Sweden
- Mr. Hassan Id Balkasm, Amazigh from Morocco
- Ms. Elisa Canqui Mollo, Aymara from Bolivia
- Mr. Mick Dodson, Yawuru from Australia
- Ms. Tonya Gonnella Frichner, Onondaga Nation from the USA
- Ms. Margaret Lokawua, Karimjong from Uganda
- Mr. Pavel Sulyandziga, Udege from the Russian Federation

#### State-nominated Members
- Mr. Simeon Adewale Adekanye, from Nigeria
- Mr. Bartolomé Clavero Salvador, from Spain
- Mr. Eugenio A. Insigne, from the Philippines
- Ms. Paimanach Hasteh, from Iran
- Mr. Andrey A. Nikiforov, from the Russian Federation
- Mr. Carlos Mamani Condori, from Bolivia
- Ms. Liliane Muzangi Mbella, from Congo
- Mr. Carsten Smith, from Norway

### Item 2 – Adoption of the agenda and organisation of work

On behalf of all PF members, Bartolomé Clavero Salvador proposes a sub-item 4.1 “New mandate of the PF under article 42 of the Declaration”, so as to comply with, and give visibility to, the new mandate received from the General Assembly (GA) on implementation of the Declaration (also Victoria Tauli-Corpuz).

### Item 3 – “Climate change, bio-cultural diversity and livelihoods: IPs’ stewardship role and new challenges”

Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, PF Chairperson, and Aqqaluk Lynge, Rapporteur on the impact of climate change mitigation measures, present their report, “Impact of Climate Change Mitigation Measures on IPs and on their Territories and Lands” [E/C.19/2008/10].

Throughout the 2008 session, their findings are affirmed globally, and elaborated upon regionally and locally, in statements by scores of speakers. PF members and participants strongly emphasize that human-caused climate change continues to profoundly – and disproportionately – affect IPs and their lands and territories worldwide.
Although IPs add the least to the causes of climate change, they suffer the most from its negative impacts on health, food security, land security and other human rights.

IPs have for decades observed worsening climate-related disease rates; increasing desertification leading to loss of subsistence and loss of biodiversity; excessive rainfall and prolonged drought affecting nomadic IPs; coastal and riverbank erosion and thawing of permafrost; reduced animal populations and changes in migration routes; increase in vegetation-destroying pests; coastal erosion exacerbated by rising sea levels; stronger hurricanes and typhoons leading to loss of land and dislocation of IPs – and conflicts over expropriation of their lands; massive floods; and food insecurity. IPs suffer further marginalisation and poverty by being pushed out to infertile, fragile lands, and enduring unprecedented spells of extreme cold leading to hypothermia and disease. These effects threaten IPs’ very existence in places like the Arctic, small islands, high altitude areas, drylands, and other vulnerable environments.

IPs own or use 22% of the world’s land surface – containing 80% of the world’s biodiversity – and manage 11% of the world’s forests. With their knowledge of sustainable production and consumption, they contribute significantly to reduction of carbon emissions and are proven experts at adapting to environmental challenges. Their worldview, which looks at earth’s environment as a whole, makes them a leading force in changing the way the world understands biodiversity: not just as a source of “energy”, but as an entire interdependent system. Their traditional knowledge of coping with ecological disasters and maintaining harmony with Mother Earth could be beneficially utilized to fight the effects of climate change, and to boost worldwide efforts to make processes and mechanisms of mitigation more effective.

Validating IPs’ specialized knowledge (including women’s specific stewardship) of threatened ecosystems, and their cultural practices and worldview that fortify this knowledge, will help society at large cope with upcoming challenges. Women are crucial actors in risk reduction precisely because of their key role in households, where their contributions include transmitting knowledge from past to future generations.

Yet IPs’ contributions to mitigation of, and adaptation to, the effects of climate change are largely being ignored. In spite of all their knowledge of coping with climate change, IPs have been excluded from processes such as the UNFCCC and the Kyoto negotiations. IPs, and organisations that support them, urge the UNFCCC to support IPs’ participation by developing a dedicated seat for them, and giving them direct access to decision makers and a platform to offer their knowledge in constructive ways.

In addition IPs demand adequate opportunity to participate fully and actively at all levels of local, national, regional and international decision-making processes and mechanisms in climate change, and ask the PF to facilitate this, ensuring that free, prior, informed consent is respected in design and implementation.

IPs deplore the market-driven development and mitigation strategies – from nuclear power to carbon trading schemes such as the WB’s Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation in Developing Countries (REDD) mechanism – that have been undertaken without IPs’ free, prior, informed consent, making things worse by contributing to further environmental degradation and human rights violations.

To enable IPs to pursue their own self-determination and development, the principles in the Declaration must be translated into substantive and sustainable actions. All UN Member States and agencies should include, in their climate change strategies, a mechanism to evaluate impacts of mitigation measures on IPs’ rights.

Concerning the Arctic, where climate change has been felt most intensely thus far, Victoria Tauli-Corpuz and Aqqaluk Lynge refer to the impacts on marine habitat and hunting that result from thinning sea ice and the shrinking polar ice cap. Sovereignty may be impacted as transnational corporations (TNCs) intrude on IPs’ territories through the Northwest Passage, where newly navigable waterways may bring even more threat to IPs’ lands and ways of life. They urge each UN agency working on climate change to develop a special Arctic focal point.

### Relevant documentation for the 7th session of the PF

**Documents submitted for the session**

In this summary report, we mention some of the documents submitted to the 7th session, where relevant, but not all of them. In particular, the reports submitted to the PF by UN agencies and governments are not systematically mentioned here. All the session’s documents (complete list in document E/C.19/2008/INF/1/Rev.1) have a symbol beginning with E/C.19/2008 and are available on the website of the PF Secretariat at [www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii](http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii) (go to the page for the seventh session, then to the section *Documents*). These documents are also available at doCip, upon request.

Other documents relevant to the session’s debate include the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (see Update 79-80), which was widely referred to as fundamental standard on IPs’ rights and basic
framework for the PF’s work, as well as the “Study on treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements between States and indigenous populations”, by Miguel Alfonso Martínez (E/CN.4/Sub.2/1999/20)

**Statements presented on the floor during the session**

All the written statements presented on the floor during the session and collected by doCip are available on our website at [www.docip.org](http://www.docip.org). Choose **Online documentation** in the menu **Documentation Centre**, then choose the **Conferences** mode and select **Permanent Forum 2008**: you will find the statements by agenda item. You can also use the **Search** mode if you look for a particular content and/or author (you can change your **Search preferences**, under **Preferences**, in order to be able to use several key words in each query).

The statements are available in their original language. doCip may have unofficial translations for some of them. If you are interested in a particular statement that is not in a language you understand, please ask doCip (giving the author’s name, agenda item and conference where the statement was delivered). We will check if translations are available.

**Dialogue with agencies**

The **UN Development Programme** (UNDP) will distribute the video made by indigenous participants at the PF’s fifth session (2006), and additional participatory video facilitation will be available. One-third of the annually awarded Equator prizes continue to be won by IPs.

The **International Telecommunication Union** (ITU) says that although proliferation of information and communication technologies (ICT) does add to greenhouse gas emissions, it nevertheless contributes to monitoring the impacts of climate change. It indirectly reduces emissions by reducing the need for travel; it promotes reduced paper use; and it contributes to transportation, warehousing and infrastructure efficiency (also **IPACC** for Africa).

The **UN Population Fund** (UNFPA) calls attention to its expanded work on indigenous issues with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) on data collection and training programmes for IPs, including for indigenous women leaders.

The **International Labour Organisation** (ILO) informs on its “Green Jobs Initiative” to develop practical approaches to climate protection, ones that are compatible with economic development, job creation, and IPs’ rights. ILO applauds Nepal’s ratification of ILO Convention 169 (also **Asian Indigenous Caucus**).

**UNICEF** points out that the majority of the world’s 370 million IPs are children or adolescents, and informs on the importance of disseminating the Declaration in indigenous languages (also **UNFPA**, **CAF**, **Asian Indigenous Caucus**).

In light of the extreme effects of climate change, the **UN International Strategy for Disaster Reduction** (UN/ISDR) underlines the importance of adapting and translating traditional knowledge and successful practices into action – as exemplified by communities whose transmission, from generation to generation, of local knowledge of earthquakes and early warning signs enabled them to survive the Indian Ocean tsunami.

**UN-HABITAT** reports on its policy guide to IPs’ housing rights, including in urban settings. It addresses climate change impacts on the future of human settlements, and is particularly concerned with climate change challenges faced by IPs in the Arctic.

The **UN Environment Programme** (UNEP) emphasizes its role in environmental protection, and encourages IPs to participate in the UNEP decision-making process with other major groups.

**UNITAR** reports on trainings for IPs in Asia and around the world, meant to increase their effectiveness in analysing and dealing with conflict by strengthening negotiation skills – and emphasizes that 40% of their participants are women.

The **UN University** (UNU) informs on its Traditional Knowledge Centre to support and promote indigenous leadership at the international level, promote the importance of traditional knowledge, and support research and training on issues regarding retention, maintenance and promotion of traditional knowledge (details at [www.unuuki.org](http://www.unuuki.org)).

The **International Organisation for Migration** (IOM) calls attention to the problem of environmental migration (also **Michael Dodson**), and informs on its collaboration with the Interagency Support Group (IASG) (also **Global Indigenous Women’s Caucus**). A report on IPs’ migration is available online at [http://www.un.int/iom](http://www.un.int/iom).

The **World Intellectual Property Organisation** (WIPO) says a committee on traditional practices has been formed to exchange information on local approaches to preserving cultures and practices.
Dialogue with IPs and States

The Indigenous Global Caucus call for urgent unprecedented action by the ECOSOC and all UN bodies and agencies including the Security Council (also Global Access Project: Training for IPs 2008) to implement rigorous greenhouse gas level reductions.

The Global Indigenous Women’s Caucus call on polluter countries to take responsibility for their share of the harm (also Indigenous Youth and Pacific Caucuses, PIA, ONIC/OPIAC/FMW/CECOIN, ECUADOR, Preparatory Meeting for the PF 7th session). They call for a global moratorium on genetically-modified plants and animals, exploration and extraction of fossil fuels, large scale nuclear power development, and privatisation of water (also Indigenous Youth Caucus, IEN, Pygmy Indigenous Organisations of DRC for forest development); they ask the PF to organize an expert workshop on the right to water (also NPMHR/APIYN, CAPAJ).

IWBN ask the PF to recognize the crucial role of indigenous women and youth (also Indigenous Youth Caucus) in developing mitigation and adaptation measures, and ask for a “Working Group on IPs and Climate Change” to be established within the UNFCCC (also Abya Yala, North American, Asian and Pacific Indigenous Caucuses, Saami Parliamentary Council, IPACC for Africa, Global Access Project: Training for IPs 2008).

The Indigenous Youth Caucus ask the PF to support communities that directly suffer from the effects of climate change, saying that if the degradation is left un-addressed, much more assistance will be needed in future.

The participants of the Global Access Project: Training for IPs 2008 call attention to immediate dangers posed by the impacts of climate change on islands such as Tuvalu, which is actually sinking into the ocean.

To facilitate IPs’ participation in climate change negotiations, IAITPTF/IIFPCC urge the creation of a voluntary fund (also North American Indigenous Caucus, INBRAPI/FPCI), and call for IPs’ full participation in the UNFCCC Nairobi Work Programme, including subsidiary bodies’ programs. They ask the Human Rights Council (HRC) to monitor the impacts on IPs of climate change mitigation and adaptation (also NKIKLH/KAHEA/KF/WHCC/IWA/HIHR/KCHS, Asia Indigenous Caucus, AIWN/TF).

The participants to the Preparatory Meeting for the PF 7th session request the PF to promote and disseminate information on climate change (also RIMW, Pacific Indigenous Caucus). They welcome the approval of the draft Political Constitution of the Bolivian State, establishing IPs’ rights to the environment (also Global Indigenous Women’s, North American and Caribbean Caucuses, PIA, NICARAGUA, NPMHR/APIYN).

Central and South America

The Abya Yala (Latin American) Indigenous Caucus assert IPs’ relationship with Mother Earth over the millennia, and affirm the importance of the Declaration for their survival (also PIA, ONIC/OPIAC/FMW/CECOIN, BOLIVIA, Pacific Indigenous Caucus, AIWN/TF, Saami Parliamentary Council, IFAD).

The Caribbean Indigenous Caucus lament the greed that causes climate change (also PIA, NICARAGUA), saying that though Caribbean IPs were originally the namesake for their entire region, their designated ancestral lands have been reduced to an area of one and a half square miles.

PIA demand fulfilment and implementation of international agreements such as ILO Convention 169, the Kyoto Protocol, the Declaration (also IEYC, World Indigenous Water Caucus, CONAVIGUA), and support the commandments set forth by President Morales (also Michael Dodson, Working Group on Indicators of the IIFB for Asian Development Bank policy, WPIA for West Papua, FPCI/LL, FOEPNG).

ONIC/OPIAC/FMW/CECOIN charge that far from protecting biodiversity and promoting policies to mitigate climate change, the Colombian government has instead promoted a series of legal and constitutional reforms that open the country’s doors to forest industry, mining and agro-fuels by companies that endanger IPs’ lives and biodiversity through the use of paramilitary groups. They lament that under the auspices of combating drug trafficking, the US and Colombian governments have demonised the coca leaf and spray with glyphosate, poisoning the environment along with the Awá people in particular.

FPCI/LL emphasize that participants at the 2007 Third Abya Yala Indigenous Summit distrust the way international organisations, governments and the private sector are implementing climate change “mitigation and adaptation” policies (also PIA).

MEXICO informs on its study to document and analyse the effects of climate change on IPs and their territories; identify prospects for mitigation, reduction and/or adaptation; and elaborate public policy recommendations.

NICARAGUA urges UN organisations and States to join in contributing funds to post-hurricane reconstruction in indigenous areas, congratulates Paraguay’s election results, and expresses hope for increasing unity among Latin America, the Caribbean and IPs.
**VENEZUELA** emphasizes indigenous languages, which express the unique environmental perspective and cultural worldview of IPs (also **YW**). Venezuelan law guarantees IPs’ collective intellectual property rights. With 90% of its population living along its below-sea-level coastline, **GUYANA** is threatened with inundation as sea levels rise. It recognizes the key role of standing forests in carbon sequestration and eco-system services, and is trying to establish national protected areas in consultation with IPs. It recognizes the dangers posed to IPs by increasing contact with outsiders, development schemes, and economy-driven outward migration of youth – challenges that must be met by empowerment, strengthening their community organisations, and investing in IPs’ economic and social development.

**SURINAME** focuses on the way climate change affects the lives of all women and children, and particularly IPs – who should be seen as valuable agents of change, rather than as victims. Though **COLOMBIA** deplores the destruction of the jungle by the illegal drug trade, it informs that it has had some successes against illicit coca cultivation.

**ECUADOR** says IPs are satisfied with the current government’s efforts to accept them in their diversity and recognize them as equal and full citizens of Ecuador.

**BOLIVIA** says that in spite of opposition, IPs’ rights were incorporated into the new Bolivian Constitution, and indigenous languages acknowledged as national languages. Indigenous identity is now on par with that of other communities – in effect “decolonizing the colonial State” instituted by previous governments (also **Carlos Mamani Condor**).

**BRAZIL** expresses support for their indigenous delegation, and says that since 2004 Brazil has exercised increased control over Amazon forest use, where many IPs live, and which is in danger of being greatly diminished if immediate action against global warming is not taken (also **COICA**). Brazil is working on legalizing and demarcating all recognized indigenous communities as areas where economic activity unrelated to traditional indigenous culture is forbidden. Brazil says it is committed to sustainable agro-fuel production that does not threaten the forests (also **COLOMBIA**), and informs on an international conference on this theme to be held in Brazil in November 2008.

**CHILE** refers to its designation of “Coastal Areas for Original Peoples”, which affords protection to IPs’ ancestral use of coastal areas where they live and work, and informs on a plan for majority indigenous governance of Easter Island (Rapa Nui).

Elisa Canqui Mollo asks about Chile’s ratification of ILO Convention 169 by Parliament, which included a controversial “interpretive declaration” on article 35, and inquires whether IPs will be involved in Consultative Council (also **Bartolomé Clavero Salvador**).

Bartolomé Clavero Salvador asks Chile about reports of police forcing out Mapuche from their lands and depriving them of water rights. He laments that Colombia did not vote to adopt the Declaration, and questions whether Colombia follows “national norms” in its consultations with IPs, since no consultations have been held. He also questions Colombia’s commitment to ILO Convention 169’s provision on free, prior, informed consent.

**CHILE** responds that though the government wants to include IPs, there are not enough votes in Parliament; however those concerns are being addressed.

**COLOMBIA** responds that though it abstained from voting on the Declaration, national legislation is consistent with the Declaration’s principles – with certain exceptions such as subsoil resources and free, prior, informed consent.

**North America**

Reporting on the regional preparatory meeting for the PF, the **North American Indigenous Caucus** refer to the impacts of climate change experienced by IPs in North America, including the disappearance of traditional subsistence foods and plant medicines [E/C.19/2008/CRP.4]. The preparatory meeting affirmed the need for Canada and the USA to adopt the most stringent, vigorous and aggressive carbon reduction plan possible, in accordance with target dates established by the international community (also **Pacific Indigenous Caucus, IEN**). They call for the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of IPs (EMRIP) to conduct a thematic study, following the rights-based approach consistent with the Declaration, of the impacts of climate change on the rights of IPs and the corresponding obligations of States (also **Pacific and Asian Indigenous Caucuses, NPMHR/APIYN, AFN/AFNQL/FNS/NWAC/FSIN** emphasizing women and children, **BRAZIL**). They recommend the PF maintain a list of IPs’ best practices, resiliency solutions and strategies as a resource (also **CAMEROON**).

Regarding a recommendation by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) on regulation of TNCs, **WSDP** request a dialogue and written report from the Special Representative of the UN SG on Business and Human Rights, and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of IPs’ human rights and fundamental freedoms (SRIP), to identify the transnational actors, and detail the behaviours, that threaten IPs’ human rights and self-determination (also **World Indigenous Water Caucus, Pavel Sulyandziga**). They call upon ECOSOC to advise Member States to monitor their respective TNCs, and report to the next GA (also...
Pacific Indigenous Caucus, Indigenous Peoples’ Organisations of Australia, NPMHR/APIYN, DAP for West Papua, FOEPNG). KI say that after the Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug tribal leadership rejected a mining project, the Ontario government jailed them. They invoke IPs’ legal and moral obligation to protect the land for future generations, asking the PF to condemn Canada’s and Ontario’s violations, and to call for the immediate and unconditional release of their leaders.

CANADA says traditional knowledge is being used in mitigation projects, including an Elders Panel on Climate Change in the Yukon.

Africa

Regarding carbon trading impacts, Aqualuk Lynge reports on the Benet of Uganda, who say the eucalyptus carbon sink created in Uganda to offset emissions created by energy utilities in the Netherlands has adversely impacted them. Residents were violently forced out, forbidden to graze their animals in the area or to obtain food or traditional materials from the forest.

The African Indigenous Caucus say the solution to deforestation is not in the proposed mechanisms, but rather in recognition of land tenure for forest communities. IPACC lament that IPs’ traditional ecological knowledge is excluded from African States’ planning on the environment and natural resources, including monitoring and adapting to climate change (also African Indigenous Caucus). They express concern about conflicts in Niger and other nomadic IPs’ territories, and say that failure to include pastoralists and hunter-gatherers in governance and planning poses a risk to peace and development. They remind the PF of their 2007 request to have national working groups established in Africa.

The Pygmy Indigenous Organisations of DRC express dismay at being informed only after the fact about the agreement between the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Rwanda and Uganda, and supported by Spain and by UNESCO, to create a transnational biosphere reserve in the central Albertine Rift. They say Batwa/Pygmy communities’ rights are violated by being excluded from this process (also CNCJA-RDC), and ask the Spanish and DRC governments, and UNESCO, how they plan to involve IPs in this project.

CNCJA-RDC say that because forests in the Congo Basin serve as the world’s carbon sink, and as the techniques and practices used by its inhabitants are globally recognized as good sustainable practice, they should be compensated, as stipulated by the Declaration, for what they have already undertaken to protect forest resources (also DAP for West Papua).

Asia and Pacific

The Asian Indigenous Caucus call on the PF to conduct an analysis of food security and its impact on traditional livelihoods of IPs (also Global Indigenous Women’s Caucus, ILO).

The Pacific Indigenous Caucus urge a fundamental review of the debt obligations of developing countries through the prism of climate change, as many of these nations are still paying for investments in infrastructure that is no longer viable, or whose effective lifespan will be severely curtailed by climate change.

AIWN/TF urge donors to ensure that all funding upholds IPs’ rights and well-being, and delivers benefits for sustainable development, climate, environment and culture (also Asian Indigenous Caucus, NPMHR/APIYN). They urge implementation of the recommendations from the April 2008 International expert group meeting on IPs and climate change [document E/C.19/2008/CRP.9] (also FAIRA/NTNC/MLDRIN/IPONYD/MWRC/NAILSMA/MSHR/NACCHO/NSWALC/ILCUNSW/ATSISJ/NIHEN).

CORE express concern over the inclusion of the Meetei forest (Manipur) in the REDD carbon trading scheme, which allows States and carbon traders to assert more control over IPs’ forests. They say military power is sometimes used to put legislation and programmes in place to dispossess IPs, in anticipation of implementing REDD projects. They call on the PF to recommend to the UNFCCC and Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), and other agencies, that REDD is in violation of the Declaration and is prohibited by CBD’s programme of work on forest biodiversity.

AMAN/CHRO/CPA/NGOF/C/KAIPM/SGC emphasize that local standards should be adopted in approaches to climate change. They call on the Indonesian government to change its plantation law to recognize IPs’ rights to land and resources.

FAIRA/NTNC/MLDRIN/IPONYD/MWRC/NAILSMA/MSHR/NACCHO/NSWALC/ILCUNSW/ATSISJC/NIHEN applaud Australia’s recent signing of the Kyoto Protocol and its support of the Declaration, but say urgent action is needed to halt ecological decline. Rising sea levels in the Torres Strait Islands impact cultural practices, land, and personal property. Economic and technical resources must be made available to IPs to respond to social and environmental challenges created by climate change (also Asian Indigenous Caucus). They call attention to an exemplary project in northern Australia where IPs’ are working to mitigate wildfires, which both reduces greenhouse gases and allows IPs to exercise their customary obligations and rights to the
land. It also helps to maintain continuity of culture and identity by providing economic alternatives to urban migration.

NIKILH/KAHEA/KF/WHCC/IWA/HIHR/KCHS are alarmed at the prospect of decimated coral reefs by 2050, the impact of ocean warming-caused hurricanes on forest diversity, and other severe threats to Pacific islands and coasts, including food stability.

KKF/MoF urge open dialogue between Vietnam and KKF during a PF session, and with the assistance of its members, to address Vietnam’s recognition of the Khmer Krom and the Montagnard as IPs. They recommend dissemination, in the Khmer language, of information on the MDGs and the Convention on Eradication of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women, and request the WB and IMF to work with KKF to fund vocational programs for IPs in the Mekong Delta.

NEPAL says its IPs have been displaced, discriminated against, and marginalized by the so-called high-caste Hindu dominated State. The people of Nepal have voted for change; therefore IPs’ rights to self-determination, ethnic autonomy, and sovereign rights to land and resources must be guaranteed in Nepal’s new Constitution. The PHILIPPINES are dismayed that natural disasters caused by climate change exacerbate the situation of thousands of IPs in remote areas of the Philippines. They acknowledge the role of IPs in protecting the ecosystem, especially the remaining carbon sink – the forests – and in maintaining those forests’ habitability for both humans and wildlife.

JAPAN proposes an international scheme, to begin in 2013, with all major emitting countries participating, with the aim of reducing greenhouse gas emissions on a global scale and protecting vulnerable countries and people – including IPs – from the effects of climate change.

AUSTRALIA informs on its policy intended to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions and help shape a global solution, and informs on its program to train IPs – who already actively preserve the country’s biodiversity using traditional knowledge and practices – as rangers to work on indigenous-owned and managed lands and waters.

Michael Dodson asks the Australian government about the land ranger and sea ranger programme, expressing concern over the recent abolishment of such programmes in Australia’s Northern Territory, which has resulted in the loss of 7,000 jobs, and asks if there are any plans to evaluate the impact of the lost jobs.

Eastern Europe, Russia and the Circumpolar

The Arctic Indigenous Caucus highlight the fact that the Arctic – home of the Saami and the Inuit – is warming faster than any other place on the planet. The present situation in the Arctic prefigures the future of the rest of the world (also DENMARK).

The Saami Parliamentary Council, officially-elected representatives of their peoples in the parliaments of Norway, Sweden and Finland, emphasize IPs’ rights to finance projects without the strict limitations imposed by State budgets.

The Saami Parliament of Finland lament that while negative impacts of climate change can rapidly develop, the administration of indigenous areas is mainly in the hands of the majority cultures; this makes it difficult for Saami, and IPs in general, to properly respond to changes in their situation.

DENMARK (along with GREENLAND) calls attention to their Arctic Climate Impact Assessment, and Denmark’s hosting of the 2009 Conference of the Parties (COP) to the UNFCCC. As part of the International Polar Year, the RUSSIAN FEDERATION calls attention to current research focused on the impacts of climate change on IPs. A draft “climate doctrine” for the Russian Federation is underway, and they urge the PF to participate more in climate-related plans emanating from the Nairobi meetings.

SPAIN underlines the importance of strengthening its interest in IPs’ issues in Latin America, and applauds the PF’s role in consolidating Spain’s cooperation policy in favour of IPs.

Hassan Id Balkassm questions Nepal and Ecuador, regarding their strategies to implement the Declaration with the participation of IPs. He also inquires whether Canada’s vote against the Declaration has resulted in an increase or a decrease of funds earmarked for IPs (also CAPC). Responding to Bolivia’s constitutional recognition of IPs, he informs that African constitutions also contain such provisions, and he asks what Bolivia has done to make them effective. He questions Spain regarding the relationship of indigenous Canary Islanders to IPs elsewhere in the world.

Pavel Sulyandziga refers to Russian-Canadian cooperation on IPs’ issues. He laments the lack of action, over the past 8 years, on the Council of Europe’s recommendations on policies for IPs.

Item 4.1 – Implementation of the Declaration

Respect for IPs’ self-determination is a necessary condition for the Declaration’s implementation, which is primarily the responsibility of States (also MEXICO). The Arctic Indigenous Caucus direct specific questions to Canada, Denmark, Sweden, Finland and the Russian Federation (see below for answers by these States). They
also ask whether Norway will recognize and implement the Saami right to benefit sharing on profits from oil, gas and mineral extraction, and if the USA will respond to the CERD’s call to respect and implement the Declaration.

**CANADA**’s position on the Declaration remains unchanged. Canada will not oppose progress on the draft American Declaration on the Rights of IPs.

The Greenland Home Rule Government informs that review of the Declaration’s self-determination provisions is completed. **DENMARK** and **GREENLAND** are now seeking to modify Greenland’s judicial system, based on customary law and aiming at increasing some of its responsibilities. A referendum on self-government is planned in November 2008.

**SWEDEN** says clarification of certain land issues is necessary before ratification of ILO Convention 169. The Nordic Saami Convention is under analysis by Sweden, Norway and Finland, before negotiations can start (also **NORWAY**).

**FINLAND** rejects the Saami discriminatory claim to the sole right to reindeer herding, and claims that all forestry actions by public authorities in reindeer-herding areas were legal, approved by the reindeer herders association, and did not violate Saami rights. Finland is planning to develop a convention on the status and development of the Saami rights.

The **RUSSIAN FEDERATION** informs on its efforts to protect IPs, especially their land rights and living habits, and in particular regarding activities of mining corporations. Responding to **Hassan Id Belkassm**, the Russian Federation explains it has been implementing the provisions of the Declaration, through constitutional amendments and new laws, long before its formal adoption.

Responding to **Hassan Id Belkassm**, **MEXICO** stresses that the Declaration’s implementation requires a creative response across all levels of government. The PF should foster exchange of information among States, and produce a guide for governments, on implementation of the Declaration. **Victoria Tauli-Corpuz** stresses the PF’s wish to further discuss, with its participants, best practices and obstacles to the implementation.

**BOLIVIA** calls for the PF to record and support its efforts to make the Declaration operational, in the face of current obstacles such as land grabbing, or the quasi-slavery situation that some IPs, such as the **Guarani**, still suffer (also **CSTUCB, Abya Yala Indigenous Caucus**).

**LIBYA** objects to the Indigenous Youth Caucus’ criticism that Libya deprives its indigenous youth of using their indigenous language.

**SWITZERLAND** highlights how the PF, SRIP and EMRIP could, within the limits of their respective mandates, contribute in a complementary way to the realisation of the Declaration (also **Ida Nicolaisen**). The PF could integrate the Declaration in all its recommendations by promoting a constructive and solution-oriented dialogue with governments.

**Ida Nicolaisen** stresses the need for all countries to adopt the Declaration (also **HD**). The key players in its implementation are the individual States and their IPs, as the Declaration has to be integrated into the country-specific legal and cultural systems.

**Item 4.2 – Implementation of the recommendations on the PF’s six mandated areas and the MDGs**

**(a) Economic and social development**

The **Global Indigenous Women’s Caucus** emphasize the day-to-day urgency of achieving the mandated areas, and urge recruiting and hiring indigenous women by the UN and other intergovernmental agencies (also **World Indigenous Water Caucus**). States must address previous recommendations by the PF regarding women’s particular vulnerability in migration and forced displacement, and including trafficking within and across national borders. They support continuation of UNDP’s projects on data disaggregation regarding IPs (also **CIR, AIWN/APIYN, Arctic Indigenous Caucus, NPMHR/APIYN**).

The **Asian Indigenous Caucus** urge the Cambodian government to reconsider and consult with IPs on proposed legislation that would break up indigenous communal land and give it to individuals, in violation of the Declaration.

Regarding the MDGs, **CIR** emphasize a rights-based approach to development (also **Pavel Sulyandziga**), informing that in Brazil’s Supreme Court, the IPs of Raposa-Serra do Sol are in danger of losing their land rights on the grounds that designating lands as indigenous will impede economic growth and threaten national sovereignty. They call on States to not only grant land titles to IPs, but also protect those lands and lives, especially in Raposa-Serra do Sol; they urge Brazil to consult with IPs on the next MDG report.

**INBRAPI/FPFCI** say the dominant model of economic development violates traditional forms of social, economic and spiritual organisation, and ignores traditional mechanisms for using and managing natural resources.
To fulfil its obligations to its 32 indigenous groups, Ecuador emphasizes interculturality and sustainability as cross-cutting issues. IPs’ participation in governments’ planning processes must be enabled and strengthened in the context of implementation and evaluation of each MDG that affects them (also FAIRA/ATSISJC/MSHR/NAILSMA/NNTC/NSWALC/MILDRIN/NIHEN for all mechanisms and processes, AIWN/APIYN for women and youth, Muskogee Yamasi people, Qin Xiaomei for all States).

New Zealand informs that its indigenous development approach is based on recognizing, and investing in, Maori people’s strengths and cultural contribution to the wider society. They affirm the capability, initiative and aspiration of Maori to make choices for themselves.

(b) Environment

Michael Dodson introduces a paper in progress on indigenous land rights and land tenure. and requests his mandate as Special Rapporteur (SR) be extended to cover the matter.

COICA express alarm over the situation of IPs in several countries in the Amazon Basin, who live in voluntary isolation and whose existence is threatened by mining companies (also CIPIACI). Their protection can be assured only if States legally acknowledge IPs’ ownership over their territories.

(c) Health

The World Health Organization (WHO) notes that one third of the global population is currently infected by the bacteria causing tuberculosis (TB); nine million suffer from the disease and two million have died. As the cure costs only 20$, the death rate is even more tragic – and the disease is 20-30 times more prevalent in IPs’ communities. They urge the PF to work jointly with WHO to wipe out tuberculosis among IPs (also North and South American, African, Asian, Pacific, and Arctic Indigenous Caucuses). Liliane Muzangni Mbela recommends that copies of the WHO report be made available.

The North and South American, African, Asian, Pacific, and Arctic Indigenous Caucuses urge the PF to assist in implementing the Declaration’s provisions on health, and they request the global indigenous STOP TB initiative to report annually to the PF.

CIPIACI demand that Bolivia act to protect the Yuki people, who are being ravaged by tuberculosis, and who are not receiving adequate attention from the Ministry of Health.

Canada informs it has a new web site to combat suicide among indigenous youth. Recognizing the distinctiveness of Canada’s First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples, they emphasize closing the gap in health status between indigenous and non-indigenous Canadians.

Noting their efforts to fight malaria, TB and HIV/AIDS, Myanmar also says its main ethnic group (comprising some 68% of the population) should be considered as one of the country’s IPs.

(d) Education and (e) Culture

Vernor Muñoz, UN SR on the Right to Education, says the educational objectives of the MDGs are more geared to a development agenda than a human rights one, relegating issues of quality and content to a lower priority, to the detriment of IPs.

The MDG of gender equality has failed in the vast majority of countries, and most countries may not achieve it by 2015, even in the area of primary education (also RIMW). Current development models do not recognize IPs’ identities as such; in addition indigenous children get much less education and suffer much worse exploitation as workers than non-indigenous children do (also FAIRA/ATSISJC/MSHR/NAILSMA/NNTC/NSWALC/MILDRIN/NIHEN, KKF/MoF for Khmer Krom and Montagnard youth). IPs’ education must maintain and express their historical sense of belonging, along with the dignity and diversity of their cultures, languages, indigenous traditions and customary law (also TRP). The need to deepen bi-lingual or multi-lingual capacity is key to this (also Qin Xiaomei). Not only access to schools, but more importantly access to high quality, relevant and culturally sensitive education is crucial for IPs (also World Indigenous Water Caucus, CAI).

FRM urge UN recognition of Maya leadership, the Maya flag and the Maya passport – all necessary readjustments of historical injustice and genocide suffered by Maya people 500 years ago.

Myanmar says ethnic nationalities with sizeable populations will be allowed to form themselves into self-administered zones, each with its own legislative assembly.

(f) Human Rights

The Hawai`i Indigenous Caucus propose an expert seminar – sponsored by the PF rather than the Special Committee – to examine the impact of the UN Decolonization process on IPs in Non-Self Governing Territories
Item 5 – Human rights: dialogue with the SR on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people, and other SRs

Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, Qin Xiaomei, OHCHR, GUATEMALA, CANADA, LIBYA, the Arctic, Asian and Pacific Indigenous Caucuses, Australian Aboriginal Delegations, CONAMI/COIAB/APOINME, AFN/IITC/AFNQL/FNS/MNC have expressed thanks to Rodolfo Stavenhagen and welcomed James Anaya as new SRIP.

Visits from the SRIP are requested by CONAMI/COIAB/APOINME to Brazil; INTII to the Mapuche in Chile; the Abya Yala Indigenous Caucus to Latin-American countries, including the Ecuadorian Amazon forest, and to the Ngobe of Panama (also CEDHUNG); AIDESEP and HAP to Peru; CSUTCB/FNMICB-BS/CIDOB/CONAMAQ to Bolivia; BPFP to the Boro in North-East India; AKD/CNDPA/CAUGERN/SCNC to Kanaky, French Polynesia and Wallis and Futuna; AHIRO/AEHRR/IAAIDE/DSPA to the Ahwazi in Iran; the Australian Aboriginal Delegations to Australia; the Pacific Indigenous Caucus to their region; FAMA to El Salvador; NPMHR/APIYN to Nagaland.

Rodolfo Stavenhagen. Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of IPs, says the Declaration provides a precise normative framework for development policies, based on IPs’ self-determination; free, prior, informed consent; participation; autonomy; territorial control; and non-discrimination. His 2008 thematic report, on implementation of a human rights-based approach to indigenous development and the multiple problems plaguing intercultural bilingual education. Implementation remains a persistent problem for domestic laws in favour of IPs and for the SRIP’s recommendations (also James Anaya, Elisa Canqui Mollo, Australian Aboriginal Delegation, ONIC/CECOIN/FMW/OPIAC). To promote constructive dialogue with governments, IPs and others, the communication procedure is useful, and recalls the necessity of strengthening both IPs’ and States’ capacities (also James Anaya and the Indigenous Youth Caucus, including education of non-indigenous populations about IPs’ rights). The SRIP’s essential collaboration with other UN mechanisms and bodies could still be extended with UN agencies. Strengthening the capacities of UN country teams requires special attention (also Asian Indigenous Caucus).

Incoming SRIP James Anaya pays tribute to Rodolfo Stavenhagen and expresses confidence that progress can be made to overcome the serious obstacles IPs continue to face around the world. The Declaration’s adoption marks a new era for their human rights and fundamental freedoms.
The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) encourages IPs to take advantage of the HRC’s Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process. The OHCHR also underlines, and asks the PF’s support for, consideration of indigenous children by the Committee on the Rights of the Child at its 48th session; preparation of an analytical study on climate change and human rights; indigenous participation in the Durban Review Conference; and elaboration of policy guidance on voluntarily isolated IPs. The OHCHR is also reorienting its activities towards IPs’ main concerns, those directly affecting their communities.

Qin Xiaomei says a regular review of the PF’s work would help monitor the Declaration’s implementation.

Hassan Id Balkassm underlines the multi-faceted discrimination of IPs and calls for reconsideration of incriminated public policies.

Bartolomé Clavero Salvador encourages James Anaya. His role will be of special importance to give the Declaration a priority status (also Arctic Indigenous Caucus, AFN/IITC/AFNQL/FNS/MNC), namely in the UPR (also Asian Indigenous Caucus, CPA/PIPRM/IWGIA/APIYN/AIWN/TF/PIPLinks, Rodolfo Stavenhagen, including the PF and EMRIP). The SRIP’s semi-official country visits are important.

Paimanach Hasteh asks how the SRIP addresses States’ treatment of violence in indigenous communities.

Tonya Gonella Frichner asks how James Anaya will collaborate with the HRC.

Rodolfo Stavenhagen says the UPR mechanism provides an opportunity to examine IPs’ rights, based on the Declaration (also CUBA) and other international human rights instruments. The PF could recommend the OHCHR to further develop its support to IPs in promoting their rights nationally and locally. Responding to Carsten Smith, he stresses the PF’s role in promoting the Declaration (also CUBA) and its interpretation.

During its adoption, no State has opposed the core principles of the Declaration. James Anaya insists that it must now achieve results in IPs’ real life. Remaining concerns will be best addressed in context-specific cases. The Declaration, to be considered in relation to other human rights treaties, is the primary instrument for promoting IPs’ rights. The PF could engage in a continued dialogue on IPs’ rights in the UPR, to find creative strategies with States to implement the Declaration.

SR Ida Nicolaisen presents the study, conducted with SR Wilton Littlechild, on the structures, procedures and mechanisms to effectively address the human rights situation of IPs [E/C.19/2008/2] (welcomed by CUBA, Asian Indigenous Caucus, ARC/AH/SGC). As the PF’s main objective is to watch over IPs’ interests in the UN system, IPs’ human rights are at the very heart of its work. The PF should establish a strategy to motivate States to act effectively towards turning the Declaration into reality. The study proposes a PF “Chamber on the Declaration”.

Wilton Littlechild underlines the high position of indigenous issues in the UN with the PF (subsidiary of ECOSOC), and the new EMRIP (subsidiary to the HRC).

Bartolomé Clavero Salvador underlines the usefulness of this “chamber” in facilitating circulation of reports by civil society groups. The PF could then transmit such reports to the EMRIP for inclusion at the UPR mechanism.

The Global Indigenous Women’s Caucus urge addressing, in a rights-based manner, the discrimination indigenous women disproportionately face due to poverty and insufficient access to justice. Indigenous women must be empowered to participate more in all UN discussions.

Highlighting indigenous youth’s unjustified invisibility and under-representation, the Indigenous Youth Caucus are dismayed that their rights are compromised in the name of national progress. If IPs are to survive, justice for indigenous youth must be prioritised. States must fully incorporate indigenous youth into discourse on human rights violations; and the UN disseminate information on the Declaration (also AIDESEP).

CPA/PIPRM/IWGIA/APIYN/AIWN/TF/PIPLinks express concern that IPs’ human rights issues, and civil society participation, are being marginalised in the UPR process (also CONAMI/COIAB/POINME for Brazil). They detail several measures to be implemented in order to promote full and effective participation of civil society organisations, including IPs, to the UPR process (Wilton Littlechild suggests that an HRC’s agenda item must address indigenous issues), and to ensure States’ accountability and adherence to their human rights obligations (also CUBA, AFN/IITC/AFNQL/FNS/MNC, Pacific Indigenous Caucus for Canada).

IGME request immediate ending of WB’s donation of genetically-modified food to Swaziland; ask the PF to investigate genocide of IPs disenfranchised from their lands in Tibet; call attention to the US government’s denial of indigenous identities. The European Union (EU) should inform its member countries as to their obligations towards their IPs (also RF for Ireland).

Central and South America

The Abya Yala Indigenous Caucus reaffirm the Declaration as minimum standard of coexistence, and call for suspension of WB-promoted REDD projects, which augment adverse effects in indigenous lands, and for increased participation of IPs in UN Treaty Bodies. States must develop MDGs-related affirmative actions for IPs. The PF should suggest that financial agencies and development bodies suspend projects that violate IPs’
rights and affect biodiversity; and the HRC establish a mechanism to monitor the implementation of the Declaration.

Informing on so-called “clean” hydroelectric power plants producing energy for North America on concessions granted by Panama without the Ngobe traditional owners’ free, prior, informed consent – resulting in environmental degradation and threats to the survival, as well as police harassment, of Ngobe communities – CEDHUNG call for a stop to this and a full consultation.

ONIC/CECOIN/FMW/OPiap inform on the seriously deteriorated situation of IPs’ human rights in Colombia, resulting from militarization of indigenous territories due to the so-called democratic security policy, as well as expansion of so-called environmentally sustainable development projects that threaten IPs. Colombia continues to violate IPs’ right to consultation, and to criminalize indigenous human rights defenders and leaders. Its report to the PF [document E/C.19/2008/5/add.5] is inaccurate. The PF should urge States: to adopt and implement the Declaration; not to criminalize IPs’ struggles; and to ensure survival of disappearing IPs.

The Ecuador Indigenous Caucus request: suspension of all natural resources concessions granted without the free, prior, informed consent of concerned IPs; consultations in indigenous languages, as well as before-and-after socioeconomic and cultural impact studies, for mega-projects; protection of IPs’ biodiversity in accordance with ancestral principles; specific and adequate budget allocations for culturally appropriate health and education programmes; strengthening of intercultural and bilingual education through immersion programmes, relevant curriculum and materials, and indigenous teachers; States to respect the worldview of displaced IPs.

NAZAE draw attention to the threats by oil extracting companies on the disappearing Zápara people, partly living in isolation, and to the usurpation of their identity, in order to raise funds, by NGOs and researchers entering their territories without their permission. Ecuador and Peru must support them and facilitate the demarcation and legal recognition of their lands.

HAP, AMA, AIDESEP and a Quechua parliamentarian of Peru denounce the plundering and degradation of indigenous lands, waters and resources by TNCs in Peru – encouraged by public policies, the auctioning off of the Amazon forest, and delays in the demarcation of indigenous lands – as well as the ensuing persecution and illegal imprisonment of indigenous leaders.

HAP denounce economic measures by the Peruvian State, which are in disregard of widespread extreme poverty, and likely to provoke a major environmental crisis.

AMA recommend: extraction and exploration in indigenous territories to respect international standards guaranteeing life and health; States to establish an independent environmental authority with wide civil society and IPs participation; and that profits from extraction activities on IPs’ territories benefit them.

AIDESEP condemn Peru’s lack of policies – despite its international obligations – to guarantee IPs’ existence and rights. IPs do not want economic growth at the expense of human rights.

CIDOB/CONAMAI propose comparison of Western thought patterns with IPs’ thought processes, to determine which promotes environmental protection and economic development.

CSTUCB object to US protection of former President of Bolivia Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada. As in other parts of the world, IPs in Bolivia are subjected to racism by right-wing families, who were in power in earlier capitalist governments.

CONAMI/COIB/APOINME inform on countless serious violations of IPs’ rights in Brazil, resulting in threats to voluntarily isolated IPs, indigenous children and leaders, without state response. Closer international monitoring of State implementation of indigenous rights is needed.

INTII and CLAI inform on degradation of lands and waters of the Mapuche people by TNCs’ logging and energy production activities. The HRC must request the Chilean government to respect Mapuche autonomy and ancient treaties (INTII). IPs must strengthen their spiritual well-being (CLAi).

A Quechua parliamentarian of Peru recalls the plight of indigenous women in Peru, sterilized in the name of economic development, and now worse off than ever.

GUATEMALA has taken measures to support participative democracy, value cultural and linguistic diversity as an asset for the country, and promote indigenous cultures and languages, including in public services such as the education and judicial systems (Tonya Gonella Frichner welcomes this). Guatemala expresses great pride in the adoption of the Declaration (also ECUADOR) and proposes to include references to the Declaration in GA draft resolutions concerning women, migration and the right to food (supported by ECUADOR).

ECUADOR informs on measures taken to implement the Declaration, such as constitutional recognition of the State as “pluri-national”, and non-exploitation of the oilfield in Yasuni Park, one of the most bio diverse regions in the world, protecting voluntarily isolated IPs. Budget allocations and social investment targeted at improving IPs’ well-being are being increased. Having unsuccessfully called on Colombia to halt aerial spraying of hazardous glyphosate in its border area (also Ecuador Indigenous Caucus, ONIC/CECOIN/FMW/OPiap), Ecuador has decided to bring the issue to the International Court of Justice. COLOMBIA replies that aerial spraying is part of its strategies to eradicate drugs and curb the ensuing violence.
COLOMBIA recognizes specific rights of IPs (Bartolomé Clavero Salvador expresses doubts) based on ILO Convention 169, and of indigenous territories. Social and policing policies have led to reduction in violence, while the State has sought to strengthen its citizens’ human rights, but the struggle against impunity remains a challenge. Legal incompatibilities prevent Colombia from supporting the Declaration, but this does not reduce its commitment to preserve its ethnic diversity.

NICARAGUA is committed to implementing the Inter-American Court of Human Rights’ decision in favour of indigenous communities in conflict with industries over land use. Bartolomé Clavero Salvador urges Nicaragua to use existing laws to resolve problems faced by IPs, and set a timeline for implementing the Court’s decision that complies with the Declaration. A Miskito parliamentarian of Nicaragua explains that the government is ensuring protection of all communities’ property rights, and gives a timeline for completion of the indigenous lands demarcation process.

North America

The IPs’ Caucus of the Americas draw attention to the USA and Canada opposing an American Declaration on the Rights of IPs based on the Declaration. Both States continue to maintain that the Declaration does not apply to them, in spite of the CERD’s recommendation of 7 March 2008 to the USA, which ties implementation of the Declaration to legally binding obligations of States party to the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination.

The T’ndé, Ndé, Nncé, and Diné peoples are peacefully but firmly resisting incursions by the USA and Mexico on their lands along the border; construction of a wall there is causing increased military build-up to repress civil society protests; destruction of traditional ways of life, habitats, environment, biodiversity and water sources; and particular threats to indigenous women. AISF/WSDP/IEN/WWT/NWAC/CPMPX/Tonatierra recommend considering militarization, industrialization, gender and environmental degradation in climate change discussions.

AFN/IITC/AFNQL/FNS/MNC urge Canada to respect the will of Parliament and endorse and implement the Declaration; reconsider any plans that lack IPs’ free, prior, informed consent; respond to IPs’ concerns; and respect IPs’ rights by appropriately addressing inequalities (also INET).

INET say Canada fails to recognize the right to self-determination of the Algonquin of Barrier Lake and the Grassy Narrows First Nation to whom the PF must provide a place to express their frustrations.

ICN inform on an open letter by over 100 academics and community leaders protesting that Canada’s opposition to the Declaration greatly harms its image and impedes international cooperation in the human rights field (also AFN/IITC/AFNQL/FNS/MNC, IPs’ Caucus of the Americas).

IEN/Tonatierra inform on the efforts of Alaska Inupiat, Yupik, Aleut, Tlingit, Gwich’in and Nenaiina Athabascan tribes to resist destructive, widespread, and unsustainable fossil fuel development; and on the human rights violations being perpetrated, with no governmental response, upon the Mikisew Cree and Athabasca Dene of Alberta, as 20 oil companies are trying to exploit Canada’s tar sands. Energy colonization within indigenous homelands must cease, and an emergency world session of the GA fully explore the relationship between climate change, fossil fuel and IPs.

IPs have been warning the UN about climate change since 1978 without success. States have the major capacity – and responsibility – for making the required changes. The PF’s Trust Fund should finance travels for indigenous experts to better serve IPs; and the PF prepare a Declaration of Action for States on Global Warming and work with relevant UN agencies. HD reiterate their objections to misleading amendments brought into the Declaration, and remind States to protect IPs’ rights, not only their own convenience. The EMRIP must remain in Geneva and be the primary mechanism for implementing the Declaration, a task that the PF should not usurp. HD also report on the efforts of IPs in the USA and Canada to discover the roots of imperialism, and recommend a study of the impacts on IPs of the Doctrine of Discovery (also INET).

IHHS request support for the struggle of descendants of enslaved African IPs for respect towards their sacred lands.

CANADA expresses satisfaction at the visit of SRIP Rodolfo Stavenhagen in 2004, and at further dialogue throughout its tenure.

Supporting the Declaration, the HOLY SEE says that the Vatican maintained respect for the religious practices of the San Carlos Apache tribe in building the Mount Graham Observatory, and is prepared to discuss related religious concerns. Tonya Gonella Frichner welcomes this.

Africa

IT inform on the violence facing Tuareg people in Mali and Niger, and call for: a truce, the liberation of political prisoners, a halt to uranium exploitation in northern Niger, an independent commission on these crimes, prosecution of their authors, redress for all prejudice and the holding of an international forum on this situation, based on the Declaration and with IPs’ organisations.
After the recent conflicts in Kenya, resettlement policies have sent immigrants to take over indigenous lands, territories and resources, without IPs’ consent. MPIDO warn UN-HABITAT against this and ask the PF, ILO and UNDP to support a meeting in Nairobi bringing together UN agencies and IPs to address this, and to assist IPs in advocating for the Declaration, given the government’s reluctance.

Support for the Declaration entails a moral and political commitment to implement it. Hassan Id Balkassm enquires upon Libya’s strategy to promote and protect indigenous languages.

Asia and Pacific

The Asian Indigenous Caucus (supported by ARC/AAH/SGC) urge: the HRC to address the implications of anti-terrorist policies on IPs, and update the Treaty Study; States, particularly Asian ones, to recognize IPs as peoples, and to regulate development to mitigate negative effects on IPs; national human rights institutions to address IPs’ issues and include indigenous experts. The PF should address immigration into IPs’ territories; TNCs that ignore free, prior, informed consent; sexual harassment against indigenous women and children; threats and killing of human rights defenders; and extra judicial killings in the region.

The Pacific Indigenous Caucus call for travel grants for IPs’ representatives from the Pacific to attend relevant international meetings. The GA must adopt a resolution to encourage States to implement the Declaration, as part of the Second Decade’s Plan of Action.

The Australian Aboriginal Delegations stress that implementing policies based on IPs’ human rights, particularly collective, requires political and institutional changes, with an emphasis on public policies. IPs’ development should originate with them and their own communities. Australia must take heed of the SRIP’s report [E/HRC/6/15].

FOEI report on their attempts to protect Lake Cowal from contamination by a Canadian gold mining company, as their native title claim to the land is not being recognized, in spite of the fact that Wiradjuri sovereignty has never been ceded. The HCHR must examine and report Australia’s breaches of CERD, and evaluate: IPs’ continued sovereignty claims and assertion of denial of their right to spiritual and religious freedom; the processes necessary for Australia to implement the Declaration and for full and fair reparation for IPs’ human rights violations; the Australian Constitution and its detrimental laws; and the need for Australia to enter into sovereign treaties with IPs.

Lahurnip/NEFIN/AMAN/ARC/PRM/CHRO/NNIW/INUC/CITP/APIYN/NGOFC urge Nepal to remedy obstacles to IPs’ direct representation in Nepal’s new constitutional process, and to comply with its international obligations regarding IPs, including ensuring their free, prior, informed consent in any constitutional provisions affecting them.

BPFP report on the struggle of Boro people in Assam, Northeast India, to regain their self-determination, and the ensuing conflict with India. They ask the PF to support ongoing peace talks and urge India to ensure recognition of IPs’ rights.

KKF/MoF deplore harassment of IPs, and abuses against their rights, by the police in Vietnam, who must realize that implementation of the Declaration is imperative.

In view of current illegal occupation of West Papua by Indonesia, facilitating military build-up, non-indigenous migration, and promotion of a development model based on appropriating IPs’ land, DAP urge a GA review of the Act of Free Choice of 1969, and recommend a UN-mandated international dialogue between Indonesia and the IPs of West Papua.

Given Japan’s reservations about adopting the Declaration, ARC/AAH/SGC recommend that: Japan recognise IPs’ rights for the Ainu and establish a national deliberative body to implement comprehensive measures; the PF recommend States to repeal their reservations on the Declaration, petition all UN agencies to assist States in implementing the Declaration, and help indigenous communities to obtain financial assistance for implementing the Declaration.

Calling for application of the 1998 Nouméa Accord, SCNC draw attention to the marginalisation of the Kanak people, due to decades of French colonisation, immigration, and recent re-colonisation for the benefit of mining companies (also CNDPA). UN agencies should assist the Kanak and facilitate their use of the UN human rights machinery.

CNDPA inform on the Kanak protest against a waste pipe by the Goro Nickel Company, subsidiary to the Vale-Inco Group, which would threaten coral reefs in Kanaky lands (about to be inscribed on UNESCO’s World Heritage List) as well as the marine ecosystem and the very survival of IPs living in the area. CNDPA propose to hold a seminar on decolonization in 2010 in Kanaky.

VIET NAM rejects participation by KKF and MoF on the grounds that they operate outside Viet Nam and pursue a separatist agenda.
Europe, Russia and the Circumpolar

The Arctic Indigenous Caucus look forward to cooperating with the EMRIP, although it could have been stronger, and urge close coordination with the PF and SRIP. They propose a workshop on forms of cooperation between the PF and EMRIP to provide background for an in-depth discussion at next session.

FRSCIP report on increasing attacks and beatings against the Crimean Tatar people, and desecration of their cemeteries, with no response from the authorities. The Tatar people want to coexist peacefully in Crimea. Ukraine must restore the Crimean Tatar people’s human rights; recognize them as an indigenous people of the Crimea, together with their representative body, their language and sacred places; redress all their losses; and resettle them to their ancestral homeland.

RF deplore violations by Ireland against IPs’ rights to their sacred sites, natural resources and water, and prior consent.

AE call on France to grant official recognition to the Basque people, who wish to enjoy self-government and be able to link with their brothers and sisters in Spain’s Basque country.

The President of the Sub-Commission on Human Rights of the European Parliament (EP) says the PF is an example of global cooperation. Aware of the universal value of IPs’ heritage, the EP want the EU to protect and promote their human rights. The EU must ensure that IPs are involved in all international negotiations regarding climate change, and European parliamentarians will promote PF’s and IPs’ recommendations on climate change. The EU must develop a normative, human rights-based framework for dealing with European companies or EU-financed projects causing contamination of, and evictions of IPs from, their lands. The EU has an active policy to protect human rights defenders, to which IPs who peacefully defend their human rights can appeal.

Middle East

The Middle East Indigenous Caucus stress the plight of the Bedouins of the Negev Desert, who suffer land usurpation, state violence and lack of basic services.

AHRO/AEHRF/IAADI/DSPA report on the plight of indigenous Ahwazi Arabs living in south-western Iran, who face poverty and marginalisation in spite of their ancestral lands producing 90% of Iran’s oil revenue. They do not enjoy their rights to their lands, to their language, identity and culture, nor to political representation. Demands for recognition of their human rights are punished as threatening security and territorial integrity. IRAN alleges that the AHRO representative is responsible for several bombings in Iran.

Elisa Canqui Mollo draws the SRIP’s attention to violations of consultation processes, biased by propaganda or disregard for IPs’ representative authorities.

Rodolfo Stavenhagen reiterates the usefulness of the presentation of complaints, accusations and statements about IPs’ situation, so as to inform the international community. However, circulation of such information is difficult, as States tend to refuse dialogue. Even though neither the PF nor the Office of the SRIP are legal mechanisms, they both provide opportunities for dialogue.

Item 6 – Half-day discussion on the Pacific

Michael Dodson says indigenous populations in some Pacific island countries are being reduced to minority status in their own lands, due to colonial settlement and immigration. He deplores that IPs’ lands and waters are being treated as dumps for toxic and radioactive waste from industrial or military operations, often without informing residents of the dangers this poses (also Global Indigenous Women’s Caucus for Hawai‘i, AKD/CNDDPA/CAUGERN/SCNC for New Caledonia, RNP for Rapa Nui). He is dismayed that so little has been done to document climate change-related observations by IPs themselves (also UNESCO). He calls on Member States to redouble their efforts to achieve complete decolonisation of NSGTs American Samoa, Guam, New Caledonia, Pitcairn and Tokelau (also ATSISJC, AKD/CNDDPA/CAUGERN/SCNC).

H.E. Ambassador Collin Beck from the SOLOMON ISLANDS calls for a UN system-wide approach to the effects of climate change, not just from the perspective of development, but also to address food security (also Global Indigenous Women’s, Asian and Pacific Caucuses, ILO), human rights, and nation building.

Tom Calma, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner (ATSISJC) says the implementation gap between international standards and domestic legal systems is exacerbated by lack of adequate focus on human rights in the Pacific region. He calls for Australia to effectively implement the Declaration, and pay attention to the negative effects of its emergency interventions in the Northern Territory, which are contrary to the new government’s non-discrimination partnership policy and inconsistent with Australia’s international treaty obligations (also Michael Dodson, FAIRA/NNTC/MLDRIN/IPONYD/...
MWRC/NAILSMA/MSHR/NACCHO/NSWALC/ILCUNSW/ATSISJC/NIHEN, TCAS).
Malia Nobrega, on behalf of the Pacific Indigenous Caucus, is dismayed by rogue mining companies still operating with impunity on IPs’ lands, and calls on the UN Committee for Protection of Sacred Sites, and UNESCO to recognize IPs’ role in protecting sacred sites and waters (also World Indigenous Water Caucus). At the request of the IPs of Taiwan (who have been blocked from attending the PF) she calls for an authoritative intergovernmental organization in the Asia to implement human rights and a regional court of justice for IPs. While deprivations continue in the region, the UN Special Committee on Decolonization remains at best ineffective, and at worst an active participant in the systemic denial of IPs’ rights (also Hawai’i Indigenous Caucus, NPMHR/APYNN, IWA/NKIKLI/KF/FAIRA/KCHS/WHCC/HIIHR/CAIPCD/IPTT/PPFM/Hiti Tau, TCN). She recommends that all UN agencies separately identify their operations according to the two sub-regions – Asia and Pacific – and provide equal services (also Indigenous Peoples’ Organisations of Australia).

UNITAR says that participants in its training programme in conflict analysis, negotiation and resolution urged UNITAR to realize its trainings internationally and regionally.
UNESCO informs that, at the request of the Marovo people, a natural history encyclopaedia on Solomon Islands, recognizing the key role of indigenous knowledge, has been developed, indexing to two other Melanesian languages: Hoava and Vanunu. UNESCO invites IPs to participate in the Internet forum on climate change at links@unesco.org.

The Global Indigenous Women’s Caucus call on Pacific region States to ensure immediate funding to address inequity in indigenous women’s health status, and request that the SRIP visit Hawai’i to investigate adverse effects of US military occupation there.

The North American Indigenous Caucus encourage Member States to complete the questionnaire on legal implications surrounding the disappearance, due to environmental causes, of States and other territories.

The Indigenous Peoples’ Organisations of Australia are dismayed at Australia’s failure to recognize right to free, prior, informed consent, and invite the PF Chairperson to visit Australia.

NIHEN deplore that Australia has yet to acknowledge and accept the authority of both indigenous and non-indigenous knowledge systems, and request the PF to call on the HRC to establish a SR for indigenous education.

NSWALC urge an ECOSOC resolution calling on all governments who have forcibly removed indigenous children from their families to provide reparations. They recommend that the SRIP pay urgent attention to the current and likely threats facing IPs in the Pacific Region.

Speaking on the Northern Territory Intervention, TCAS demand that the Australian government immediately reinstate the Racial Discrimination Act of 1975 and repeal the “Northern Territory Emergency Response” legislation of 2007.

BAA call attention to the situation of the Alifuru people of Maluku, whose attempts to regain their identity and sovereignty have been met with beatings, imprisonment, charges of treason, and threatened executions by the Indonesian government. They request that the Special Committee on Decolonization take the Maluku case on their agenda, and call for the speedy release of Alifuru detainees.

WPIA lament that IPs in West Papua continue to suffer from discrimination and threat of extinction and are denied their rights under Indonesian law. They call attention to the ineffective, UN-led, efforts to meet the MDGs, and say that in West Papua, implementation of IPs’ self-determination will enable achievement of the MDGs.

DAP call attention to illegal attempts by TNCs to exploit West Papua’s intact forests for wood floor products, and ask the PF to call on Indonesia to immediately stop logging the world’s last remaining rainforests.

FOE PNG are alarmed by mining projects in Papua New Guinea that cause violations of IPs’ rights including flooding and poisoning of food sources.

AKD/CNDPA/CAUGERN/SCNC say that although the UN Charter affirms that States administering NSGTs must support development of their capacity to administer themselves, IPs in the Pacific still cannot exercise their right of self-determination. This is exemplified by the Kanak, whose fundamental rights are still being violated 10 full years after the signing of the Nouméa Accord. They say in New Caledonia the government appears not to have even heard of the MDGs, much less the need to link IPs’ issues with achieving them.

PPFM/Hiti Tau call for the world’s nuclear powers to take a new level of responsibility for the ongoing effects of their aerial and subterranean nuclear testing, including potential contamination of a wide area, causing environmental and health ramifications (also TCN for Guam). As this is exacerbated by the threat of rising sea levels, a new precautionary clause should be added to the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty.

TCN warn that after being ousted from Okinawa, 50’000 US military personnel will descend on the Chamorou people of Guam. They deplore this latest unilateral decision in the continuing failure of their administering power to guide Guam, an NSGT, toward self-governance. TCN deplore the unchecked speed of US militarization, which could drive the Chamorou to extinction.

RNP say that for development to be sustainable, IPs must enforce their rights – vindicated by the Declaration –

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to permanent sovereignty over their lands, territories and resources. They call attention to the effects of Chilean immigration on Rapa Nui’s fragile ecosystem.

**AUSTRALIA** informs on its environmental protection actions with Papua New Guinea and Indonesia, and its research on adaptation strategies for Torres Strait Islanders.

**NEW ZEALAND** emphasizes its commitment to reducing poverty through meeting the MDGs. It supports various South Pacific environmental action programs and community-level projects on adaptation to climate change, and underlines the need for a new, comprehensive negotiation under the UNFCCC.

Responding to the Pacific Indigenous Caucus, **CHINA** says the province of Taiwan is an inalienable part of its territory, as recognized by the majority of UN Member States and the UN Secretariat.

**Hassan Id Balkasm** asks the new Australian government what it will do differently now, in particular to promote its indigenous languages.

**Item 7 – Half-day discussion on Indigenous Languages**

Informing on the PF International expert group meeting on indigenous languages [see document E/C.19/2008/3], **Lars-Anders Baer** laments that loss of indigenous languages is accompanied by loss of traditional knowledge, cultural diversity and spirituality. Many speakers, (including **Rochelle Roca-Hachem**, **Richard Grounds**, **Anna Lucia D’Emilio**, the **North American**, **Asian**, **Arctic**, **Global Women’s**, and **Youth Indigenous Caucuses**, **World Indigenous Water Caucus**, **MOSOP**, **Saami Parliament of Finland**, a **Quechua parliamentarian of Peru**, **DENMARK** and **GREENLAND**, **GUATEMALA**, **MEXICO**, **VENZUELA**) affirm and elaborate upon his remarks. They deplore the lack of urgency to reverse this trend towards extinction, particularly as loss of an indigenous language means loss of traditional wisdom on managing biodiversity just when this knowledge would be most timely. Since language rights are both collective and individual, and inextricably connected with every other basic human right, participants recommend drafting a convention protecting indigenous languages, with the appointment of an SR for indigenous languages. They urge IPs to take the lead in revitalizing languages, and ask States to support them immediately.

**Lourdes Tiban, Executive Secretary of the Consejo de Desarrollo de las Nacionalidades y Pueblos de Ecuador**, says that more bilingual lawyers, in particular, are still needed in Ecuador, and emphasizes that public respect for indigenous languages must increase.

**Rochelle Roca-Hachem, Programme Specialist for Culture of UNESCO**, refers to its support of mother-tongue/first language instruction in the early years of schooling, and possibly at all levels of education (also **Lourdes Tiban** for Ecuador, **MOSOP** for Nigeria, **KKF/MoF** for the Khmer and Degar). Maintaining indigenous languages depends on native speakers choosing to speak their languages in their homes (also **Saami Parliament of Finland**).

Referring to the relationship between language and culture, **Richard Grounds, Director of the Euchee Language Project**, says that “the Euchee [who only have five native speakers left] will only exist as long as their language is alive” (also, for indigenous languages in general, **Global Indigenous Women’s Caucus**, **MOSOP**). The boarding school system as applied to IPs in North America and Australia deliberately eradicated indigenous languages and caused cultural genocide (also **North American Indigenous Caucus**, **CAPC/ICN/ICEM** for the Montagnais language, **KKF/MoF** for Kampuchea Krom, **Bartolomé Clavero Salvador**). He urges the world to empower communities to bring back those languages and to keep them all, even the numerically smallest, alive (also **Global Indigenous Women’s Caucus**, **Asian Indigenous Caucus**, **World Indigenous Water Caucus**, a **Quechua parliamentarian of Peru**).

**Anna Lucia D’Emilio, Senior Adviser on Education and Excluded Population of the UNICEF Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Office**, says children have a right to be educated in their indigenous languages, no matter how few speakers still exist. UNICEF emphasizes indigenous languages in public services, especially in media, and urges incorporation of linguistic policies within the framework of the public policies of each country (also **Amazigh Indigenous Caucus**, **MOSOP**, **ECKP** for Khakass). IPs should also participate in language-related decisions such as literacy, spelling norms and the elaboration of technical language (**Global Indigenous Women’s Caucus**, **Asian Indigenous Caucus**, **NPMHR/APIYN**, **DENMARK** and **GREENLAND**).

The **Global Indigenous Women’s Caucus** are alarmed at UNESCO’s prediction that the world can expect to lose half its approximately 6’000 languages this century, and that most of these are indigenous languages.

The **Indigenous Youth Caucus** agree, and call attention to the role indigenous languages play in shaping the young people’s worldview by countering some of the debilitating effects of capitalism. Instead of suppressing indigenous languages, governments, educational systems and religious institutions must make efforts to bring them back to full strength – especially in places such as the USA, where “English only” legislation denies IPs’ existence (also **Asian Indigenous Caucus** for North East India/Burma, and the **Ainu** of Japan). Without their languages, when today’s youth one day lead the PF they will be non-indigenous minds trapped in indigenous
bodies (also FAIRA/ATISJIC/MSHR/NAILSMA/NNTC/NSWALC/MILDRIN/NIHEN). They also urge the UN to recognize the value of the Indigenous Youth Caucus (also DENMARK and GREENLAND).

The North American Indigenous Caucus call for States to report to the PF on their implementation of the Declaration’s 19 provisions on protection of indigenous languages. They note with sadness the passing of Marie Smith Jones, Elder and Chief, the last fluent speaker of the Eyak language. The Arctic Indigenous Caucus urge UNESCO to strengthen its relationships with civil society, so that language policies can be implemented directly at the level of indigenous communities (also MOSOP, GUATEMALA). They call for a world conference on linguistic diversity, indigenous languages, identity and education, and ask States to commit political and financial support to it (also World Indigenous Water Caucus, MEXICO).

CAPC/ICN/ICEM say that at the present PF session, indigenous leaders and representatives of States are not equal partners. They urge that indigenous speakers receive equal time, especially in light of the high positions they hold in their respective communities. They are disappointed that only three of Canada’s indigenous languages – Inuituk, Cree and Ojibwe – are considered to be living languages.

MOSOP say government’s actions to decimate Nigeria’s indigenous languages, including Ogoni, while providing state support and recognition for Yoruba, Igbo and Hausa, amounts to cultural genocide.

The Government of Nunavut informs on legislation that establishes Inuit as one of Nunavut’s three official languages, along with French and English.

An indigenous parliamentarian of Bolivia says that although his country promotes its 37 indigenous languages, it groundlessly prohibits of another aspect of traditional culture: the coca plant. Informing that merely documenting a language is not sufficient, the President of the Saami Parliament of Finland says that to understand how cultural and environmental relationships work in practice, the context of the living language is needed.

MEXICO says that in 2003, its multicultural character was constitutionally recognised, along with guaranteeing preservation and enrichment of IPs’ languages, knowledge, culture and identity. Although legislation promotes the use of 22 Maya languages in GUATEMALA, prejudice is still an obstacle to keeping them alive.

CANADA says that while second-language acquisition of endangered indigenous languages serves as a counterbalance to mother-tongue decline, this should not be considered a substitute for learning in the mother-tongue.

NEW ZEALAND focuses on intergenerational language transmission of the Maori language, which has increased both the speaking and the listening proficiency, and has led to more positive Maori and non-Maori attitudes towards the Maori language.

DENMARK and GREENLAND refer to Greenland’s tradition of 150 years of literacy, and inform on draft legislation that will make Greenlandic Inuit the country’s main language. Danish will continue to be taught in school and used in public affairs.

Bartolomé Clavero Salvador calls attention to the gap between international organizations’ optimistic assessment of language issues versus IPs’ less-optimistic one. Responding to Lars-Anders Baer’s proposal regarding language and genocide, he says policies that impede retention of indigenous languages are tools of genocide, and victims should be compensated. Bilingual education might also be “genocidal” [see Expert paper E/C.19/2008/7].

Item 8 – Ongoing priorities and themes and follow-up

The Working Group on Indicators of the IIFB applaud recent proposals for indicators and urge the IASG to spell out specific contributions by its member agencies, as this is an area where UN agencies can make significant contributions to IPs (also ILO, MOSOP, ECUADOR, CANADA). They deplore the Asian Development Bank’s policy on IPs, which – by modifying the language on free, prior, informed consent – has dismantled existing protections on IPs’ rights.

Referring to their Internet portal, the Indigenous ICT Taskforce say that indigenous connectivity is an urgent priority, and ask the PF, ITU and other agencies to support ICTs. They are dismayed that indigenous communications, activities and legitimate political dissent are wrongly being labelled terrorism (also Quechua parliamentarian of Peru).

The Muskogee Yamasi people deplore the negative impacts of colonisation, and recommend that UNESCO and ECOSOC work with IPs and the Muskogee, especially including Yamasi, to develop international standards for urban development relative to IPs.
(a) Indigenous children and youth

The Global Indigenous Women’s Caucus invite the PF to act on the recommendations of its 2002 session on indigenous children and youth. They deplore: the environment-related deterioration of family continuity and community relationships that make indigenous children and youth even more vulnerable to abuses such as trafficking and sexual exploitation; unemployment; illiteracy and high drop-out rates; incarceration and lack of legal protection; discrimination; suicide; HIV/AIDS; lack of health care services; and lack of culturally appropriate education (also CAF for francophone youth, CRA, CONAMAQ, Australian Indigenous Youth delegation).

The Indigenous Youth Caucus inform on the youth-led development initiative for a Borderless Region, being carried out with twelve IPs’ groups from Central America. The North American Indigenous Caucus commend the Shingwauk Education Trust for its concern with protecting of indigenous kinship institutions.

FAMA deplore El Salvador’s denial of IPs’ existence, its usurpation of IPs’ communal lands, and the systematic destruction of their identity.

CONAMAQ express concern about pressure put on IPs to change their religion and traditional naming customs.

COICA call for UN agencies to prioritise indigenous children in their children’s rights programmes.

IEN urge the GA to convene an emergency world session to fully explore a human rights approach to climate change.

FEWF/FRMT say in the USA and Canada, state-sponsored removals of indigenous children and youth into foster care and incarceration profit the government and damage IPs’ communities. In the USA indigenous youth are vastly more likely to serve out their whole custodial sentence, while in Canada, government estimates indicate that one in every 18 indigenous children is held in state-sponsored foster care – a higher number even than during the residential school era (also North American Indigenous Caucus). They urge the PF to organize an expert seminar on this in the next year, with results to be presented at the PF’s 2009 session (also AFNQL).

AFNQL point out the gap between Canada’s high standard of living and the poverty of IPs (also FSIN), saying it is no surprise that Canada’s indigenous youth – dispossessed of their territory, culture, identity, way of life, and dignity – are in the grip of drug addiction.

FSIN welcome the apologies recently made by Canada’s Prime Minister Stephen Harper. They call attention to cooperation between IPs and government leaders in Saskatchewan, and emphasize that all FSIN’s actions are intended as a model for the rest of the world’s IPs.

KHC/FINCA/SACCCW/Y4CSA lament that lack of government action in South Africa has led to forced migrations, and that childhood pregnancy and youth alcoholism, along with high rates of gang membership, are not being addressed. Citing the situation outlined in the report of the SRIP [E/CN.4/2006/78/Add2], they ask the PF to seek mechanisms to engage the South African government on this.

The Australian Indigenous Youth delegation urge all nations to prioritise action on climate change, social exclusion, and poverty issues, and recommend a holistic approach from all levels of government in partnership with IPs’ communities.

FAIRA/ATSIJSJC/MSHR/NAILSMA/NNTC/NSWALC/MILDRIN/NIHEN say Australia has not yet incorporated its obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) into domestic law.

AIWN/APIYN with support of the Asian Indigenous Caucus urge UN agencies, intergovernmental bodies, financial institutions, multilateral agencies and States to support the Third Asian Indigenous Women’s Conference to be held in 2008.

KKF/MoF urge Vietnam to allow monks to again take up their traditional roles as teachers of indigenous languages to children.

CRA call attention to low literacy rates among IPs working on India’s tea plantations, who descended from indentured labourers brought in by the British. Modern plantation owners profit from workers’ lack of awareness of their rights, their total dependency on the plantation, and their lack of interest in education – which, since it is not conducted in their mother tongue, does not catch children’s interest.

ECKP inform on the 3,000-year-long history of the Khakass of southern Siberia, whose language is now being suppressed as a matter of semi-official policy. They also express alarm about rising cancer rates associated with aluminium smelters on their land.

IYCI ask for a discussion in Geneva, between indigenous spiritual leaders in Europe and the European Parliament, on the implications of the Declaration for the indigenous youth of Ireland and Europe.

HT deplore the French State’s continued refusal to officially recognize the Basques and their language, and ask the PF to designate an indigenous expert for the zone “Europe and the West” (also Caucus Euskal Herria, AE). The Caucus Euskal Herria call attention to their people’s fight to defend their Basque lands, which they have occupied since long before the creation of France and Spain. They lament that despite France’s support of the Declaration, it still denies Basque rights (also HT, AE).
(b) The Second International Decade of the World’s IPs

The Board of Trustees of the UN Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations call for increased funding (also 2008 OHCHR Indigenous Fellows) to allow more IPs to participate in various forums and trainings (also CAF). They recommend extending the Voluntary Fund's mandate to include other forums such as the HRC. Given the Second Decade’s mandate, the 2008 OHCHR Indigenous Fellows ask the PF to participate in promoting the programme by disseminating information on it, and allocating funds for participants to attend the PF each year (also Qin Xiaomei).

The Indigenous Caucus of the Greater Caribbean call for increased serious attention to the Caribbean region. They urge the PF to organize a special regional consultative session focusing on Caribbean IPs in collaboration with IPs’ organisations, and emphasize the importance of funding the participation of IPs in the region.

CSUTCB/FNMICB-BS/CIDOB/CONAMAQ recommend that the SRIP submit annual individual country reports to measure progress on Second Decade goals. IPs’ age-old technology is the key to protecting the environment.

IITC inform that the principle of free, prior, informed consent is now the operative human rights principle for treaties and other agreements, and emphasize that the EMRIP should address and report on implementation of the Treaty Study recommendation for a new “bilateral and consensual” jurisdiction for resolution of disputes and redress of violations. The Declaration provides redress for violations, and recognizes IPs’ right to participate in the process of this restitution (also CSUTCB/FNMICB-BS/CIDOB/CONAMAQ).

ICN/CAN say the rights of IPs as presently exercised are not consistent with the Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and call on Canada to stop denying its IPs’ rights.

FAIRA/ATSIJSIC/MSHR/NAILSMA/NNTC/NSWALC/MILDRIN/NIHEN applaud the new Australian government’s target of closing the indigenous health gap within 10 years (also Australian Indigenous Youth delegation), and urge a national plan of action and implementation of domestic policy as it relates to the Draft Program of Action for the Second Decade. They call for recognition of IPs’ potential in developing policies affecting their lives – but they must be given adequate resources (also ICN/CAN).

The Russian Federation calls attention to creation of a legislative advisory group on the educational and cultural rights of IPs, which has developed a methodology to measure and compensate IPs’ losses.

Qin Xiaomei says the PF should raise the visibility of IPs’ rights, and suggests developing a timeframe that integrates the MDGs with indigenous issues.

(c) Urban IPs and Migration

UN-HABITAT says the Expert Group Meeting on Urban Indigenous Peoples and Migration recommended that UN-HABITAT elaborate policy guidelines related to IPs in urban areas (also Qin Xiaomei), and the IASG is implementing these guidelines, with IPs’ participation (also IOM, Global Indigenous Women’s Caucus, Canada).

IOM refers to its publication on the specific peculiarities faced by indigenous migrants, (http://www.un.int/iom), and informs that when IPs migrate to urban areas, they often find that their skill-set (in agriculture or fishing and hunting) makes it hard to find employment. The publication helps IPs base their urban migration on well-informed choices.

The Global Indigenous Women’s Caucus recommend the PF urge ECOSOC and relevant UN agencies to raise awareness of the impacts of indigenous migration, particularly on children and youth. They invite the SRIP to investigate living conditions of indigenous migrant children, youth and families working and living in the agro-industry, including those agro-industries controlled by national or transnational corporations (also CAPC, Arctic Indigenous Caucus).

Informing that the 700-mile USA-Mexico border wall will extend across many IPs’ territories, the North American Indigenous Caucus call attention to the extreme violence perpetrated against migrant indigenous girls and women, and the imprisonment of entire families, in violation of the CRC (also NPMHR/APIYN). They call on the PF to request urgent updates from the USA and others on remedies, and refer to the Declaration’s article 36 on IPs divided by international borders, along with article 14 regarding education in indigenous languages for children living outside their communities (also Arctic Indigenous Caucus).

The Arctic Indigenous Caucus deplore the dearth of research and disaggregated data on the health of Inuit and Saami in urban areas. They note the prevalence of mental illness among IPs in urban areas, exacerbated by identity crises and lack of a community safety net.

FAIRA/ATSIJSIC/MSHR/NAILSMA/NNTC/NSWALC/MILDRIN/NIHEN deplore that the relative lack of opportunity (except for pastoralism and mining) for IPs who wish to remain on their traditional lands has been used to justify forced migration (also Tonya Gonnella Frichner). They say that culture-based economies demonstrably benefit IPs who remain on their lands, and serve the broader public interest as well. Rather than...
living in cultural poverty, urban IPs effectively manage bi-cultural lifestyles – often at the risk of having their identity and right to services questioned by mainstream society. Contemporary service delivery policy combined with the ongoing removal of indigenous children from their families is little more than a hybrid of former forced assimilation policies.

Referring to their unique relationship with their lands, ECMIRS support the recommendations made by the Global Indigenous Women’s Caucus.

CAPC deplore the paternalistic Indian Act, which divides IPs’ communities and families into those who are “entitled” and “not entitled” for purposes of access to government services, and is the only piece of federal legislation in Canada exempt from the Canadian Human Rights Act. Most disturbingly, the Indian Act makes indigenous leadership complicit in discriminating against their own people.

NAFC inform on the history of service delivery agencies in Canada known as the Friendship Centre Movement, underlining their goals of promoting IPs’ cultures, especially in cities; they call for other IPs’ centres in urban areas to use it as a model.

CANADA calls attention to its urban indigenous initiatives, and says future funding will emphasize improving access to services, job training, skills development and entrepreneurship for IPs in urban areas.

Tonya Gonnella Frichner laments that although a majority of IPs in the USA live in urban areas, the majority of federal funding goes to rural areas and reservations.

Hassan Id Balkassm applauds the international discussion on IPs’ rights, but regrets the lack of attention at the country level, especially in Africa, where many indigenous communities are marginalized and isolated from the debate. He laments the effect of urban migration on traditional identities, and urges more legislative action, including the incorporation of indigenous communities in decision-making processes.

Item 9 – Future work of the Permanent Forum, including emerging issues

Michael Dodson summarizes five responses to the report on Indigenous Traditional Knowledge [E/C.19/2007/10] presented at the PF’s 6th session. He says Western legal frameworks are inadequate for protecting traditional knowledge, and concludes that rather than treating traditional knowledge as just another piece of intellectual property, it should be protected following customary law.

Pavel Sulyandziga reports that at the PF workshop on IPs and industrial companies, held in the Russian Federation in July 2007 [document E/C.19/2008/CRP.10], IPs deplored the lack of standards and mechanisms to deal with private companies’ unfair use of natural resources in indigenous territories.

H.E. Srgjan Kerim, President of the UN General Assembly, stresses the PF’s important role in addressing development, IPs and the MDGs.

Sha Zukang, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs and Coordinator of the Second Decade of the World’s Indigenous People, emphasizes the need for cooperation between IPs, NGOs, UN system partners.

Chief Oren Lyons welcomes the guests to the original territory of the Haudenosaunee, who, he notes, have come together in this place hundreds of years earlier. He says the PF joins together the UN with the work, and goals, of 370 million indigenous souls.

The World Indigenous Water Caucus urge UN agencies and Member States to finance a World Indigenous Forum on Water and Peace, to be led by IPs from local communities and from the PF (also Global Indigenous Caucus). They urge States to recognize and implement IPs’ governance of water, and to include IPs in decisions and processes affecting water (also Quecha parliamentarian of Peru). They urge a moratorium on the privatization of water, and a call for a charter of corporate accountability guided by IPs. They recommend the PF adopt water as the theme for its next session (also CAPAJ, FAIRA/NNTC/MLDRIN/IPONYD/MWRC/NAILSMA/MSHR/NACCHO/NSWALC/ILCUNSWS/ATSISJC/NIHEN).

The North American Indigenous Caucus call on IPs and UN Member States to support the 2010 Winter Games and the World Indigenous Nations Games proposed for August 2012. They recommend that the special theme of the PF’s next session be implementation of the Declaration (also CAF, CAPAJ, CCTAP, Amazigh and Asian Indigenous Caucuses, Arctic Indigenous Caucus insisting on self-determination, AFNQL, FAIRA/NNTC/MLDRIN/IPONYD/MWRC/NAILSMA/MSHR/NACCHO/NSWALC/ILCUNSWS/ATSISJC/NIHEN), and strongly recommend that delegations representing indigenous nations and governments be provided with PF credentials in their capacity as representatives of nations and governments. They express concern about the new regulations for “side events” requiring that States or UN agencies must sponsor all film and video showings by IPs. They urge the PF to develop criteria and regulations in this regard, with the input of all PF participants.

The Amazigh Indigenous Caucus deplore the balkanisation of Tamazgha [North Africa] to the detriment of Amazigh Saharan IPs; and denounce the marginalisation that forces Tuareg to revolt, which leads to civilian
deaths and forced migration (also IT). They call for constitutional recognition of the Amazigh language as the official language of Tamazgha, and recommend creation of national and regional Amazigh institutions to promote Amazigh identity. They express support for the IPs of the Canary Islands and their right to self-determination.

The Asian Indigenous Caucus call for IPs to submit written contributions, in 2009, for the UN Commission on Sustainable Development 2010 review session. The PF should hold a technical workshop on IPs’ rights, corporate accountability and the extractive industries.

FAIRA/NTNC/MLDRIN/IPONYD/MWRC/NAILSMA/MSHR/NACCHO/NSWALC/ILCUNSW/ATSISJ C/NIHEN call attention to the PF’s explicit role in monitoring UN agencies in relation to IPs’ issues, and urge all agencies to report on this to future sessions of the PF. They also recommend that UN agencies and States incorporate the principles of the Declaration into their activities under the Program of Action for the Second International Decade (also NORWAY, Qin Xiaomei).

FAIRA/NTNC/MLDRIN/IPONYD/MWRC/NAILSMA/MSHR/NACCHO/NSWALC/ILCUNSW/ATSISJ C/NIHEN say that to achieve justice for IPs across Australia, it is urgent for the government to bring the Australian Native Title Act into line with the Declaration (also FOEI). They request a response from Australia on this.

CAF propose that the relationship between IPs and official authorities be one of the next session’s major themes.

COICA call for dialogue between indigenous organisations and States, and express concern about organisations’ mutual respect for each other’s spirituality.

CONAMAQ emphasize that IPs have had their own self-governing structures since before colonialism, and inform that the Qullasuyu people are currently designing their own statutes, against the wishes of the Bolivian government.

CONAVIGUA recount the history of hydroelectric power plant construction in Guatemala in terms of genocide, displacement, and other severe human rights violations suffered by the Maya people. The Maya Kiché denounced a government’s current hydroelectric plant, which is being conducted in violation of IPs’ territorial rights. They urge all States to comply with the CBD, urge Guatemala to suspend all mining and hydroelectric projects in territories where they have not received the free, prior, informed consent of IPs. Victoria Tauli-Corpuz says large hydroelectric dams are also being built on sacred sites in Panama and India, with States being offered incentives under emission-trading schemes. She says States and UN agencies need to address the issue, and expresses hope that the World Commission on Dams’ recommendation on free, prior, informed consent will be implemented.

YW warn that future generations of IPs are in jeopardy due to the Peruvian government’s mismanagement. They recommend that the rights of indigenous children and youth be taken into account in the implementation of the MDGs.

CCTAP lament that the more than 60 indigenous representatives from their region have had little opportunity to speak, while other PF speakers have not used their time on the issues at hand.

FRM inform that their designated speaker, a Maya, was unable to get a passport; they are dismayed that Maya people often are forced into national categories that do not correspond to their actual ancestral identities.

DEPIEA say the PF, which belongs to IPs, not the Secretariat, does not seem to know where it is going. They deplore that their representative was denied the right to speak, and recommend that a united indigenous nations be created. Victoria Tauli Corpuz responds that delegates should take the floor with respect as the PF is an international meeting place.

AFNQL say that while Canada offers work, health care and social services to immigrants, IPs suffer living conditions comparable to those in the third world. Despite legal and traditional recognition, IPs in Quebec and Canada continue to be deprived of their lands and territories, and for those under 25 (who make up over half the indigenous population), the future looks very limited.

NAA/ICN ask the PF to evaluate the procedure that would allow the world’s IPs to have permanent observer status at the GA, either through special procedures and mechanisms or by a State-sponsored resolution.

SBCMN inform on the struggle of the Shubenacadie Band of Mi’kmag to gain recognition of their title and treaty rights. They lament one-size-fits-all governmental approaches to negotiation, which reduce IPs’ specific issues to a few common ones that can then be more easily addressed by government bureaucracy. This advances the assimilation of discrete peoples into one “indigenous” culture. They recommend the PF host regional interim meetings and symposia, so that local indigenous governments, communities and organisations that are unable to get to the UN can be represented.

NCS deplore TNCs’ and international agencies’ use of so-called best practices to promote undertakings that are not in the real interest of IPs, or of the planet. They call for the PF to create, in conjunction with the OHCHR, WIPO, and the SRIP, guidelines for corporations and NGOs in their interactions with IPs, covering recognition of free, prior, informed consent, intellectual property rights, traditional knowledge, collective rights and access to benefit sharing and impact assessment measures.
NPNR/APIYN express dismay that States monitor IPs’ movements and create divisions among them, and say in the Asia-Pacific region, militarisation has made youth particularly vulnerable to State brutality, unemployment and HIV/AIDS. They urge continued inclusion of youth as beneficiaries of the Voluntary Fund.

MLC/RECRA express alarm about IPs’ urban migration in Jharkhand, with tens of thousands of women leaving their communities. Indigenous women seeking domestic work are exploited by illegal placement agencies, leading to rape, death from HIV/AIDS, physical and economic exploitation, sexual harassment and low wages.

MLC/RECRA urge obligatory registration of placement agencies, with a central directory maintained by the PF. The Khov and Kalash people in the mountains of northern Pakistan are in danger of extinction: IPSF urge Pakistan to implement the Declaration, in order to protect the language, culture, and folk traditions of IPs in Chitral (also Amazigh Indigenous Caucus for North Africa, HT for the French government). They lament the disappearance of the culturally significant village of Sohoghore, washed away in an avalanche that resulted from glacier melting – and the migration of its former inhabitants, who had nowhere else to live, to urban areas.

BFP call attention to the Iranian Baloch, whose language, schools, publications and cultural institutions are prohibited in Iran. Iranian Balochistan’s indicators for life expectancy, school enrolment, adult literacy, infant mortality, drinking water and sanitation, are the worst in Iran, and its people are not represented in economic and political decisions at the provincial – let alone the national – level. They call for release of imprisoned indigenous activists, and urge a fact-finding mission to analyse the situation of IPs in Iran.

LHRC/STP/EP (also WHPC, insisting on the Security Council’s responsibility) call attention to reports by credible sources such as Amnesty International that Hmong Lao people are hiding in the jungles of Laos. They express dismay that the PF has not acted to help them. They deplore the PF’s support of “side-event” censorship, which they say contributed to the suffering of 500 more people who were ambushed, hunted, and killed by the Lao and Vietnamese military. They ask that the PF engage a dialogue with the Thai government to allow the rest of the Hmong Lao refugees to remain in Thailand for proper screening by the UNHCR.

To ameliorate the acute, immediate problems of the widely dispersed Zo people in different countries around the world, ZORO/ZINC/BIP0/ UZIP urge formation of an indigenous international council; creation of a Zo university for the study of Zo cultures; and development of a strong standard Zo language out of the 47 existing dialects, while retaining the dialects themselves.

TRP say that in order to progress in an era of globalization, and to promote wellness at an affordable price, IPs often have to adopt the culture of the dominant group. They urge the PF to appoint a body to liaise with the World Conference of Language, Education and Identity, which would help efforts towards the preservation of languages and, thus, cultures.

BATANI say their goal is to establish relations between private companies and indigenous communities to propagate partnerships and understanding, which is an important issue in the Russian Federation.

HT lament that France denies their existence as IPs, and say that even to be allowed to speak their languages is a struggle (also AE, YW for Peru). In Basque country, in order to study further, students are separated from their families and friends, and worst of all, from their country. This prevents them from defending their rights, and when they return to France, they face the effects of tourist-driven inflation.

Lamenting historical and ongoing violations of their rights, PIPE/AWUG/GVC call on African governments to address historical acts of enslavement, and come to the assistance of slaves’ descendants. A survey should be conducted on African slaves’ descendants who leave the USA, and receiving centres be set up in Africa.

EF/ASC/WIAC/MLB/UCTP/EAPB/Bassa People refer to four cases in which IPs’ spiritual rights are being violated: desecration of the Apache sacred mountain (Mount Graham) in spite of intensive Apache efforts to negotiate; the struggle by the Wamba Wamba people in Australia to recover their ancestors’ remains from museums all over the world; the Bassa people, who struggle to defend their sacred land and freely exercise their spiritual and cultural rights in Cameroon, and who denounce the desecration of their sacred mountain, Ngog Lituba, by the Roman Catholic Church; and the indigenous European Breton community in France, who have been excluded from their sacred megalithic site at Carnac for the past 17 years. To preserve all IPs’ rights to their traditional knowledge and spiritual beliefs, they urge States to implement the principles of the Declaration in this regard (also FRM for Maya sites in the Yucatan). They strongly solicit UNESCO to include Mount Graham, the site of Carnac, and the sacred mountain Ngog Lituba as World Heritage Sites; and they urge European States to return ancestor human remains and other artefacts to the Wamba Wamba and Bassa people.

A Quechua parliamentarian of Peru calls attention to children’s health problems caused by pollution from mining, and expresses alarm at USA military personnel coming into Peru to train Peruvian soldiers. She urges withdrawal of US troops from IPs’ territories, and calls for a commission of scientific experts to analyze the alimentary and curative properties of the coca leaf, which is not only not a drug, but is as much a part of Quechua rituals as communion is to Christians. A much more effective tool against drug trafficking would be to expose the banking operations behind the drug trade.
A Miskito parliamentarian of Nicaragua says education is the route to an improved quality of life, and that next year’s PF agenda should include creating a university for IPs.

VENEZUELA informs that it has created a ministry post for IPs. The next PF session should focus on strengthening traditional knowledge and cultures within communities, and expert panels be organized where Venezuela’s IPs could share their ideas.

BANGLADESH refers to its efforts to ensure the rights of IPs in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, and says in order to facilitate implementation of the Peace Accord of 1997, development activities in the region have been accelerated.

INDONESIA says the PF should continue to be an instrument for achieving the objectives of the Second Decade, which include: promoting non-discrimination and inclusion; full and effective participation in decision-making; re-defining development policy from a vision of equity; advocating targeted policies with an emphasis on special groups; and the enhanced protection of IPs’ rights. The PF’s two main challenges – to be more responsive to IPs and to become a more effective advisory body to ECOSOC – should be mutually reinforcing. Indonesia expresses concern about the politicisation of the PF, which has the potential to erode States’ confidence.

VIETNAM expresses concern that KKF and MoF have essentially been repeating the same inaccurate statement under a number of different agenda items. Victoria Tauli-Corpuz encourages participation in the PF by other Vietnamese groups, and all indigenous groups who address the PF to be accurate when presenting their statements.

NORWAY emphasizes the role of indigenous knowledge in mitigating the effects of climate change, particularly IPs’ capabilities, through responsible management of rainforests, to prevent deforestation.

FRANCE calls attention to its co-sponsorship of the Declaration, but recalls that France operates on the principle that collective rights should never dominate individual rights, even as that pertains to IPs. France also informs that they have ratified international human rights mechanisms, as well as the Protocol to the UN Convention against Torture.

GERMANY emphasizes its contribution of $50,000 to the Trust Fund on Indigenous Issues to help IPs fight the impacts of climate change. Thanking Germany for its contribution, Victoria Tauli-Corpuz underlines the PF’s lack of funds and need for funding for projects on the ground.

Qin Xiaomei says that while adoption of the Declaration is a major achievement, the PF still faces the challenges of institutional reform.

Hassan Id Balkassm says that despite France’s international human rights contributions and its role in advancing in the individual rights of its own citizens, the government disregards the rights of peoples whose customary law systems put collective rights first. He questions France’s refusal to ratify the EU law upholding the right to language.

In response to earlier statements by several States, Victoria Tauli-Corpuz stresses that the PF provides the opportunity to engage in dialogue with IPs, some of whom do not, or are not permitted to, live in their countries of origin. As to Indonesia’s claim regarding the politicisation of the PF, she says it indeed is a place where important political questions can be addressed. The right to self-determination is fundamental to the other principles of the Declaration, and gives IPs the possibility to engage in more constructive dialogue with their national governments. While some Member States have feared this would lead IPs to seek secession, she says it is not the principle of self-determination that ultimately pushes IPs to seek separatist agendas, but rather their marginalised situation in their own countries. Thus the PF is intended as a place for indigenous groups to come together with their governments to debate those issues. Recalling the motto of the Second Decade, she calls for recognition that IPs seek to be seen as equal partners with the rest of society and with their governments. The Declaration should serve as the foundation for any proposals, which would allow what takes place in the PF to breathe life into the Declaration.

Margaret Lokawua laments that IPs continue to be denied passports.

Carsten Smith expresses dismay at the implications of data presented in the 7th session, which details the marginalisation and oppression of IPs within the territories of the very States who hail the adoption of the Declaration. The PF will have made a significant contribution if the many voices of this 7th session are brought home by Member States – and amplified.

Item 10 – Draft Agenda for the PF 8th session

Regarding the PF’s redesigned work agenda, Michael Dodson, Rapporteur of the PF, notes that from now on, the PF will alternate between policy years (in which the PF makes recommendations to the UN system, NGOs and other actors in indigenous issues) and review years (devoted to reviewing how the PF’s recommendations have, or have not, been implemented). 2009 will be a review year, at the centre of which will be a comprehensive dialogue with six UN agencies on implementing indigenous issues (also CAPAJ).
IEYC call for respect, for educational systems that include IPs’ stories from their own perspective, for indigenous children to learn their native languages as their original languages, and for good relationships between elders and youth. They call for unrestricted access both to their traditional, historical artefacts, whether publicly or privately held, and to their sacred sites. EWF inform that maternal mortality reflects lack of access to health services, malnutrition, and violence – and is a family, community and country tragedy with irrevocable international consequences. Women need access to health care, trained indigenous midwives, and clean water. And in industrialized countries unnecessary misogynistic obstetrical interventions must be reduced.

CAPAJ suggest that a half day of debate be dedicated to the theme of immigration, considering that multiple statements of IPs from the Americas demonstrate the emergence of a new concept of migration.

**Item 11 – Adoption of the report of the PF’s 7th session**

During adoption of the report, indigenous delegations protested and requested the floor, by interrupting the Chair and saying IPs are the real people of Mother Earth and the PF’s business. The UN security service entered the room and tried to remove one protester, increasing tension and anger as to this way of proceeding against indigenous delegates at the PF. The Chair finally gave the floor to the Abya Yala Indigenous Caucus.

The Abya Yala Indigenous Caucus reiterate IPs’ opposition to current governmental policies of exploiting forests, waters, cultures and biodiversity, which IPs have preserved for common benefit. The PF’s recommendations on the special theme do not reflect IPs’ proposals and concerns about the REDD initiative, the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and the Carbon Market, labelled “best practices” in paragraphs 5 and 37 of document E/C.19/2008/L.2, in spite of total lack of indigenous support. These paragraphs must be removed and the PF base all its recommendations on the Declaration.

After the PF members discussed this statement, Victoria Tauli-Corpuz explains how document E/C.19/2008/L.2, adopted after having been orally amended, does address these concerns. Forests were initially not included in the climate change negotiations, except for reforestation. Then some governments proposed that the UNFCCC should include avoiding emissions from deforestation and degradation, as standing tropical and subtropical forests are contributing to avoiding greenhouse gas emissions. The REDD mechanism, recently adopted by the UNFCCC, has been a very sensitive issue for many IPs, in particular after the WB proposed a Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF), launched at the COP 13 in Bali. There, Victoria Tauli-Corpuz clearly said that IPs will not support this facility unless they are considered in the negotiations, as they already foresee that IPs will be excluded from highly centralised decision-making about forests where they live, and even be evicted from their forests. Under governmental pressure, the WB ensured consultation with IPs, and three regional consultations with IPs took place – in Nepal, Burundi and Bolivia – demonstrating that IPs do not support the REDD mechanisms as currently shaped. This is what the PF has reflected in its report, through an oral amendment making reference to the Declaration in paragraph 37 of document E/C.19/2008/L.2 and addition of paragraphs 41 to 43, to address IPs’ fears on REDD, based on recommendations produced by indigenous representatives during a side event on REDD.

**Closing of the session**

Johann Scholvink, Director of the Division for Social Policies and Development of the Department for Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), underlines the PF session’s contribution to the celebration of the world’s diversity, and its tripartite, creative dialogue to uphold respect for human rights and the indigenous visions of development. Congratulating all participants for an intense and democratic engagement (also Ecuador, particularly to IPs), he pays tribute to the PF members’ creativity and commitment and to outgoing member Qin Xiaomei (also Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, Michael Dodson), as well as to the active engagement of Member States (also Victoria Tauli-Corpuz). The session’s recommendations strongly promote IPs’ participation in all future negotiations on climate change, as well as their protection from adverse effects of mitigation measures, while calling for increased use of renewable, low-carbon and decentralized energy supplies.

Victoria Tauli-Corpuz stresses the adoption of the Declaration, a proof of IPs’ ability to tackle the problems that States face when addressing indigenous rights. It will become the PF’s main framework. The PF 2008 International Expert Group Meeting will focus on ensuring implementation of the Declaration by all parties concerned (also Arctic Indigenous Caucus). Non-state actors, in particular corporations, must be subject to the Declaration, and the PF is planning an International Expert Workshop on extractive industries, corporate accountability and IPs, and should invite the UN Secretary-General Representative on Business and Human Rights. The PF must also involve citizens and parliaments of the countries where corporations have their headquarters; approach bilateral donors to make sure they condition their donations to respect for IPs’ rights; and seek audience with such decision-making bodies as the OECD.
Statements delivered throughout the session urge all bodies dealing with climate change to involve IPs and acknowledge their significant contributions to lowering greenhouse gas emissions. IPs will not carry the burden of mitigation; the countries who have contributed the most to greenhouse gas emissions must change their consumption and production patterns.

To address violations of IPs’ human rights, the PF proposes very close coordination with the HRC, in particular the EMRIP, the SRIP and other SRs. The PF welcomes the suggestion of a world conference on IPs, centred on the Declaration, and of an annual report on IPs by the UN Secretary-General.

Keali‘i‘olu‘olu Gora (KCHS) offers a protection and an inspiration chant from Hawaii, and wishes long lives to the world’s IPs. Mary Simat (IPACC) chants a farewell prayer from Africa. Victoria Tauli-Corpuz pays tribute to IPs’ efforts to participate in what can be described as a global General Assembly of indigenous organisations; to NGOs’ and foundations’ support (also Johan Scholvink); and to agencies’ suggestions on how to further achieve the PF’s objectives. She thanks the Secretariat members for their professionalism and commitment (also Johan Scholvink, Michael Dodson, ECUADOR). The PF expects that the security of every participant will be respected and protected at home, and hopes that this democratic debate will inspire governments, UN agencies and indigenous representatives to open spaces of national and local dialogue and action to improve IPs’ well-being.

PF Expert Group Meetings

The International expert group meeting on the role of the PF in the implementation of article 42 of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was held in New York from 14 to 16 January, 2009. On the PF website at http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/en/EGM_A42.html you will find the final report (in all UN languages) as well as the meeting’s documentation (in original languages).

The International expert workshop on IPs’ rights, corporate accountability and extractive industries was held in Manila, Philippines, from 27 to 29 March, 2009. The documents of this workshop are available on the PF website at http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/en/EGM_IPCR.html.

Climate Change and Human Rights

At the Human Rights Council’s 10th session, in March 2009, the High Commissioner for Human Rights submitted the OHCHR analytical study on climate change and human rights. This document [E/HRC/10/61] is now available in all UN languages on the OHCHR website at http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/10session/reports.htm, and in docip’s online documentation database at www.docip.org (Choose Online documentation under Documentation, then Conferences > Human Rights Council > Sessions > 10th session > Indigenous Peoples and Organisations statements > Item 2: Annual report of the UN HCHR and reports of the OHCHR and SG.)

In its section on the implications of climate change for the enjoyment of human rights, the study specifically mentions indigenous peoples in relation to the right to adequate food (in paragraph 27) and the right to self-determination (in paragraphs 40 and 41). The study also considers the effects of climate change on specific groups, namely women, children, and indigenous peoples (paragraphs 51 to 54).

In the section on climate change-driven displacement, the study refers (in paragraph 60) to the WGIP’s report on the legal implications of the disappearance of States for environmental reasons, undertaken by Françoise Hampson and still uncomplicated.

In its section on human rights implications of response measures, the study highlights existing concerns about effects of agro-fuel production (paragraph 67) and of REDD programmes (paragraph 68) on IPs’ rights to land and resources, to self-determination and to free, prior and informed consent.

Finally, while examining States’ human rights obligations, the study highlights the importance of participation in decision-making and specifically refers to article 19 of the Declaration on free, prior and informed consent.

The OHCHR analytical study on climate change and human rights will be made available to the UNFCCC COP-15 in Copenhagen, Denmark, in December 2009.

Abbreviations

AAH: Ainu Association of Hokkaido
AE: Autonomia Eraiki

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AEHRF: Ahwaz Education and Human Rights Foundation
AFN: Assembly of First Nations
AFNQL: Assembly of First Nations of Quebec and Labrador
AHRO: Ahwaz Human Rights Organisation, USA
AIDESEP: Interethnic Association for the Development of the Peruvian Rainforest
AIF: Alianza Indígenas Sin Fronteras
AIWN: Asia Indigenous Women’s Network
AKD: Agence kanak de développement
AMA: Asociación de Mujeres Andinas, Perú
AMAN: Aliansi Masyarakat Adat Nusantara
APIYN: Asian and Pacific Indigenous Youth Network
APOINME: Articulación dos Povos Indígenas do Nordeste Minas Gerais e Espírito Santo
ARC: Aini Resource Centre
ASC: Apache Survival Coalition
ATSISJC: Aboriginal and Torres Straits Islander Social Justice Commissioner
AWUG: Afrikan Women United Globally
BAA: Bangsa Adat Alifuru
BATANI: International Development Fund for Indigenous Peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East
BCFNLC: British Columbia First Nations Leadership Council
BIPO: Bawnzo Indigenous Peoples’ Organisation
BPFPR: Boro People’s Forum for Peace and Rights
BPP: Balochistan People’s Party
CAF: Coordination Autochtone Francophone
CAIPCD: Caribbean Antilles Indigenous Peoples Caucus & the Diaspora
CAN: Council of the Atikamekw Nation
CAPAJ: Comisión Jurídica para el Autodesarrollo de los Pueblos Originarios Andinos
CAPC: Congress of Aboriginal Peoples in Canada
CAUGERN: Conseil Autochtone pour la Gestion des Ressources Naturelles
CCTAP: Comunidad Campesina de Tauria, Arequipa Perú
CECOIN: Centro de Cooperación al Indígena
CEDHUNG: Centro de Educación en Derechos Humanos Ngobe Bugle
CFSC: Canadian Friends Service Committee
CHRO: Chin Human Rights Organisation
CIDOB: Confederación de Pueblos Indígenas de Bolivia
CIPIACI: Comité Indígena Internacional para la Protección de los Pueblos Voluntariamente Aislados y en Contacto Inicial
CIR: Conselho Indígena de Roraima
CLAI: Consejo Latinoamericano de Iglesias
CNCJA-RDC: Conseil national de concertation des jeunes autochtones de RDC
ONDPA: Conseil National pour les Droits du Peuple Autochtone en Kanaky
COIAB: Coordinación de Organizaciones Indígenas de la Amazonía Brasileña
COICA: Coordinadora de las Organizaciones Indígenas de la Cuenca Amazónica
CONAMAQ: Consejo Nacional de Ayllus y Markas del Quillayuyu
CONAMI: Conselho Nacional de Mulheres Indígenas, Brazil
CONAVIGUA: Coordinadora Nacional de Viudas de Guatemala
CORE: Centre for Organisation Research and Education
CPA: Cordillera Peoples’ Alliance
CPMPX: Centro de Cultura Pueblo Mapuche Autónomo PELOXARU
CRA: Chotanagpur Rising Association
CSUTCBO: Confederación Sindical Unica de Trabajadores Campesinos de Bolivia
DAP: Dewan Adat Papua
DEPEIA: Defensoría de los Pueblos Indígenas de Ecuador en América
DSPA: Democratic Solidarity Party of Ahwaz
EAPB: Ensemble Allons dans la Paix, Bénin
ECKP: Elders Council of the Khakass People
ECMIRS: Enlace Continental de Mujeres Indígenas Región Sudamérica
EF: Ecospirituality Foundation
EP: Earth Peoples
EWF: Ethiopian Women’s Federation
FAIRA: Foundation for Aboriginal and Islander Research Action
FAMA: Fundación José Feliciano Ama
FEWF: Flying Eagle Woman Fund
FINCASA: First Indigenous Nations Civic Association of South Africa
FMW: Fuerza de Mujeres Wayúu
FNMCB-BS: Federación Nacional de Mujeres Campesinas de Bolivia "Bartolina Sisa"
FNS: First Nations Summit, British Columbia
FOEI: Friends of the Earth, International
FOEPNG: Friends of the Earth, Papua New Guinea
FPCL: Fundación para la Promoción del Conocimiento Indígena
FRM: Fundación Reino Maya
FRMT: Fundación Rigoberta Menchú Tum
FRSCIP: Foundation for Research and Support to the Crimean Indigenous Peoples
FSIN: Federation of Saskatchewan Indian Nations
GCC: Grand Council of the Crees
GVC: Global Village Congress
HAP: Habitatpro Association Peru
HD: Haudenosaunee Delegation
HIHR: Hawai‘i Institute for Human Rights
HT: Herri Topa
IAADI: Indigenous Ahwazi Arabs for Democracy in Iran
IAITPTF: International Alliance of the Indigenous Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forests
ICC: Inuit Circumpolar Conference
ICEM: Institut culturel éducatif montagnais
ICITP: Indian Confederation of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples
ICN: Innu Council of Nitassinan
IEN: Indigenous Environmental Network
IEYC: Indigenous Elders and Youth Council
IGME: Indigenous Grandmothers of Mother Earth
IIFB: International Indigenous Forum on Biodiversity
IHIS: International Indigenous Historical Society
IPFCC: International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change
IIPTT: International Indigenous Peoples Think-Tank
IITC: International Indian Treaty Council
ILCUNSW: Indigenous Law Centre, University of New South Wales
INBRAPI: Instituto Indígena Brasileiro de Propriedade Intelectual
INET: Indigenous Network on Economics and Trade
INTTI: International Native Tradition Interchange, Inc.
INUCE: Indigenous Nationalities Upliftment Centre, Nepal
IOIRD: International Organisation of Indigenous Resource Development
IPACC: Indigenous Peoples of Africa Co-ordinating Committee
IPONYD: Indigenous Peoples Organisation Youth Delegation
IPSF: Indigenous Peoples Survival Foundation
IT: Internationale Touarègue
ITK: Inuit Tapirilt Kanañami
IWA: Indigenous World Association
IWBN: Indigenous Women's Biodiversity Network
IWGIA: International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs
IYCI: Indigenous Youth Council of Ireland
KAHEA: The Hawaiian Environmental Alliance
KAIPM: Kalumaran-Alliance of IPs of Mindanao
KCHC: Khoisan Cultural and Heritage Council
KCHS: Kamakakuokalani Center for Hawaiian Studies, University of Hawai‘i
KF: Koani Foundation
KI: Kitchenuhmawkoosib Innuwug
KKF: Khmer Kampuchea-Krom Federation
LAHURNIP: Lawyers' Association for Human Rights of Nepalese Indigenous Peoples
LHRC: Lao Human Rights Council, Inc.
LL: Land is Life
MGC: Mi'k maq Grand Council
MLB: Menhirs Libres Bretagne
MLC: Mundari Literary Council
MLDRIN: Murray Lower Darling River Indigenous Nations
MNC: Métis National Council
MoF: Montagnard Foundation
MoNK: Mohawk Nation at Kahnawake
MOSOP: Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People
MPIDO: Mainyoito Pastoralists Integrated Development Organisation
MSHR: Menzies School of Health Research
MWRC: Marninwarntikura Women’s Resource Centre
NAA: Nation Algonquine Anishinabeg
NACCHO: National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation
NAFC: National Association of Friendship Centres
NAILSMA: North Australian Indigenous Land and Sea Management Alliance
NAZAE: Nacionalidad Zápara de la Amazonía Ecuatoriana
NCS: Native Children’s Survival
NEFIN: Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities
NGOFC: The NGO Forum on Cambodia
NIHEN: National Indigenous Higher Education Network, Australia
NKIKLH: Na Ko'a Ikaika o Ha lalui Hawai'i
NNIW: National Indigenous Women Network (Nepal)
NNTC: National Native Title Council
NPMHR: Naga Peoples Movement for Human Rights
NSWALC: New South Wales Aboriginal Land Council
NWAC: Native Women’s Association of Canada
ONIC: Organización Nacional Indígena de Colombia
OPIAC: Organización de los Pueblos Indígenas de la Amazonía Colombiana
PFPM: Pû Fenua, Pû Metua
PIA: Parlamento Indígena de América
PIPE: Partnership for Indigenous Peoples Environment
PIPLinks: Philippine Indigenous Peoples Links
PIPRM: Philippines Indigenous Peoples Rights Monitor
RECRA: Rashmi Ekka Chotanagpur Rising Association
RF: Retrieve Foundation
RMIW: Red de Mujeres Indígenas Wayuu
RNP: Rapa Nui Parliament
SACCW: Southern Africa Climate Change Watch
SBCMN: Shubenacadie Band Council of the Mi’kmaq Nation
SCNC: Sénat Coutumier de la Nouvelle-Calédonie
SGC: Shimin Gaikou Centre (Citizen’s Centre for Diplomacy)
STP: Society for Threatened Peoples
TCAS: Tangentyere Council, Alice Spring
TCN: The Chamoru Nation
TF: Tebtebba Foundation
TRP: Transnational Radical Party
UCTP: United Confederation of Taino Peoples
UZIP: United Zo Indigenous Peoples
WHCC: Waikiki Hawaiian Civic Club
WHPC: World Hmong Peoples’ Congress
WIAC: Wiran Aboriginal Corporation
WPIA: West Papua Interest Association
WSDP: Western Shoshone Defense Project
WWT: Winnemem Wintu Tribe
Y4CSA: Youth 4 Change South Africa
YW: Yachay Wasi
ZINC: Zomi Inkuan of Northern Chin Hills, Myanmar
ZORO: Zo Reunification Organisation
3. UPCOMING MEETINGS AND DEADLINES FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, JULY TO OCTOBER 2009

The dates for the sessions of the Human Rights Council are subject to changes. Please check with the Council’s website http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/index.htm (to access the Extranet, the username is “hrc extranet” and the password is “Isession”).

JULY

29 June – 3 July 2009 (Geneva, Switzerland)
14th session of the Intergovernmental Committee on Traditional Knowledge, Genetic Resources and Traditional Cultural Expression/Folklore
World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO)
PO Box 18, CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland
Phone: +41 22 338 9111 Fax: +41 22 733 5428
For email go to: http://www.wipo.int/tools/en/contacts/index.jsp
Web: http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/

29 June – 3 July 2009 (Geneva, Switzerland)
16th Meeting of Special Rapporteurs, Representatives, Independent Experts and Chairpersons of Working Groups of the Human Rights Council
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
United Nations, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland
Phone: +41 22 917 9000 Fax: +41 22 917 9011
Web: http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/Meetings.aspx

6 – 31 July 2009 (Geneva, Switzerland)
Substantive session of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
Division for ECOSOC Support and Coordination
Department of Economic and Social Affairs
1 UN Plaza, Room DC1-1428, New York, NY 10017
E-mail: esa@un.org Web: http://www.un.org/docs/eco soc/

13 – 31 July 2009 (Geneva, Switzerland)
96th session of the Human Rights Committee
Countries scheduled for consideration: Azerbaijan, Netherlands, Republic of Moldova, Switzerland, United Republic of Tanzania.
Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights
Contact: M. P. Gillibert
United Nations, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland
Phone: +41 22 917 9332 Fax: +41 22 917 9022
E-mail: pgillibert@ohchr.org Web: http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrc/hrcs96.htm

20 July – 7 August 2009 (New York, USA)
44th session of the Committee on Eradication of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)
Countries scheduled for consideration: Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bhutan, Denmark, Guinea-Bissau, Japan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Liberia, Spain, Switzerland, Timor Leste, Tuvalu.
Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights
United Nations, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland
Fax: +41 22 917 9022
E-mail: cedaw@ohchr.org Web: http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedaw/cedaws44.htm
AUGUST

3 – 7 August 2009 (Geneva, Switzerland)

**Third session of the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee**
Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights
Contact: Human Rights Council Advisory Committee
Human Rights Council Secretariat
United Nations, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland
Phone: +41 22 917 9401/9732 Fax: +41 22 917 9011
E-mail: hrcadvisorycommittee@ohchr.org
Web: [http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/advisorycommittee.htm](http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/advisorycommittee.htm)

3 – 28 August 2009 (Geneva, Switzerland)

**75th session of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD)**
Countries scheduled for consideration: Azerbaijan, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Ethiopia, Greece, Monaco, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Maldives.
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
Contact: Ms. N. Prouvez, Secretary
United Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland
Phone: +41 22 917 9309 Fax: +41 22 917 9022
E-mail: nprouvez@ohchr.org Web: [http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedr/cedr75.htm](http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/cedr/cedr75.htm)

10 – 14 August 2009 (Geneva, Switzerland)

**Second session of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
Contact: Mr. José Parra, Indigenous Peoples and Minorities Unit
United Nations, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland
Phone: +41 22 928 9164 Fax: +41 22 928 9066
E-mail: expertmechanism@ohchr.org

9 August 2009 (celebrated throughout the world)

**International Day of the World’s Indigenous Peoples**

SEPTEMBER

14 September – 2 October 2009 (Geneva, Switzerland)

**12th session of the Human Rights Council**
Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights
Contact: OHCHR Civil Society Unit
United Nations, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland
Phone: +41 22 917 9656 Fax: +41 22 917 9011
E-mail: civilsocietyunit@ohchr.org Web: [http://www.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/](http://www.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/)

14 September – 2 October 2009 (Geneva, Switzerland)

**52nd session of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC)**
Countries scheduled for consideration: Bolivia, Mozambique, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Poland, Yemen, Turkey.
Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
Contact: Ms. Maja Andrijašević-Boko, Secretary
United Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland
Phone: +41 22 917 9276 Fax: +41 22 917 9022
E-mail: crc@ohchr.org Web: [http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/crcs52.htm](http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/crc/crcs52.htm)

15 September – December 2009 (New York, USA)

**64th session of the UN General Assembly**
UN Headquarters, 1 UN Plaza, New York, NY 10017
Phone: +1 212 963 8811 Fax: +1 212 963 1267
Web: [http://www.un.org/ga](http://www.un.org/ga)
16 – 19 September 2009 (Singapore City, Singapore) Tentative!

**Workshop on Forest Diversity and Climate Change**

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity  
Contact: Mr. Ahmed Djoghlaf, Executive Secretary  
413 St-Jacques Street, 8th floor, Office 800  
Montreal, Quebec, Canada, H2Y 1N9  
Phone: +1 514 288 2220 Fax: +1 514 288 6588  
E-mail: secretariat@cbd.int Web: [http://www.cbd.int/meetings/default.shtml](http://www.cbd.int/meetings/default.shtml)

21 September – 2 October 2009 (Buenos Aires, Argentina)

**Ninth session of the Conference of Parties to the UNCCD**

UN Convention to Combat Desertification  
Hermann-Ehlers-Strasse 10  
P.O. Box 260129, D-53153 Bonn, Germany  
Phone: +49 228 815 2800 Fax: +49 228 815 2898 / 99  
E-mail: secretariat@unccd.int Web: [www.unccd.int](http://www.unccd.int)

22 September – 1 October 2009 (Geneva, Switzerland)

**Assemblies of Member States, 47th series of meetings**

World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO)  
PO Box 18, CH-1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland  
Phone: +41 22 338 9111 Fax: +41 22 733 5428  

28 September – 9 October 2009 (Bangkok, Thailand)

**Ninth session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Further Commitments for Annex I Parties under the Kyoto Protocol (AWG-KP)**

**Seventh session of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action under the Convention (AWG-LCA)**

UN Framework Convention on Climate Change  
Haus Carstanjen, Martin-Luther-King-Strasse 8  
P.O. Box 260124, D-53153 Bonn, Germany  
Phone: +49 228 815 1000 Fax: +49 228 815 1999  
E-mail: secretariat@unfccc.int Web: [http://unfccc.int/meetings/items/2654.php](http://unfccc.int/meetings/items/2654.php)

**OCTOBER**

5 – 16 October 2009 (Geneva, Switzerland)

**7th session of the Intergovernmental Working Group on Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action**

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights  
Contact: Anti-Discrimination Unit  
48 Giuseppe Motta, 1202 Geneva, Switzerland  
Phone: +41 22 928 9208 Fax: +41 22 928 9050  
E-mail: adusecretariat@ohchr.org Web: [http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/racism/groups/index.htm](http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/racism/groups/index.htm)

6 – 7 October 2009 (Istanbul, Turkey)

**Annual meetings of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund**

World Bank Headquarters  
1818 H Street, NW Washington, DC 20433, USA  
Phone: +1 202 473 1000 Fax: +1 202 477 6391  
E-mail: bcoffice@worldbank.org Web: [http://www.imf.org/external/am/index.htm](http://www.imf.org/external/am/index.htm)

6 – 20 October 2009 (Paris, France)

**35th session of UNESCO General Conference**

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation  
UNESCO Headquarters  
7 Place de Fontenoy, 75007 Paris, France  
Phone: +33 1 45 68 1000 Fax: +33 1 45 67 1690  
E-mail: bpi@unesco.org Web: [www.unesco.org](http://www.unesco.org)
12 – 30 October 2009 (Geneva, Switzerland)

**97th session of the Human Rights Committee**
Countries scheduled for consideration: Argentina, Croatia, Ecuador, New Zealand, Russian Federation, Cameroon, Colombia, El Salvador, Estonia, Israel, Poland.
Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights
Contact: M. P. Gillibert
United Nations, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland
Phone: +41 22 917 9332 Fax: +41 22 917 9022
E-mail: pgillibert@ohchr.org Web: [http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrc/hrcs97.htm](http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrc/hrcs97.htm)

18 – 23 October 2009 (Buenos Aires, Argentina)

**13th World Forestry Congress**
UN Food and Agriculture Organisation - FAO
Contact: Mr. Douglas Kneeland, Chief, Forestry Information and Liaison Service
Forestry Department, FAO
Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, 00153 Rome, Italy
Phone: + 39 06 5705 3925 Fax: + 39 06 5705 5137
4. OTHERS

Report of the EMRIP First Session

The report of the first session of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, held from 1 to 3 October 2008, is document E/HRC/10/56, now available in doCip’s online documentation database at www.docip.org (Choose Online documentation under Documentation, then Conferences > Human Rights Council > Sessions > 10th session > Indigenous Peoples and Organisations statements > Item 5: Human rights bodies and mechanisms.)

The second session of the EMRIP will take place in Geneva, Switzerland, from 10th to 14th of August, 2009. As is usually the case before such a meeting, the Indigenous Peoples’ Caucus will probably meet in Geneva on August 8th and 9th, subject to confirmation.

doCip Website and Mailing List

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- by e-mail at: docip@docip.org (Subject: Update)
- by fax at: + 41 22 740 34 54
- by mail at: doCip, 14 avenue Trembley, CH-1209 Genève

Thanks!

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