## Talking points for Mirna Cunningham on the item 7: World Conference on Indigenous Peoples 14 May 2012

- 1. The General Assembly, in its resolution A/RES/65/198 adopted in December 2010, decided to organize a high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly in 2014, to be known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.
- 2. The main objectives of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples is to share perspectives and best practices on the realization of the rights of indigenous peoples and to pursue the objectives of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

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  - 3. The Permanent Forum would like to recognize H.E. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, President of the 66<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly for the appointment of the Permanent Representative of Mexico, H. E. Ambassador Luis Alfonso de Alba and the International Representative of the Sami Parliament of Norway, Mr. John Henriksen, to conduct inclusive informal consultations on his behalf in order to determine the modalities for the World Conference, including the substantive participation of indigenous peoples.
  - 4. Today, we would like to recognize the participation of Ms Hanifa Mezoui, on behalf of the President of the General Assembly. It will be very much appreciated if the Office of the President of the 66<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly share with the membership of the United Nations the main conclusions of this half-day dialogue.
  - 5. Furthermore, it is very important to recognize the establishment of the International Global Coordinating Group (IGCG) and its efforts to realize the principle of full and effective participation of Indigenous Peoples during the preparatory processes leading up to the Conference.
  - 6. In closing, I would to reiterate that the Permanent Forum recognizes that it has a central role to play. In this regard, it would be crucial to call upon the Presidency of the General Assembly at its 67<sup>th</sup> and 68<sup>th</sup> sessions to convene thematic interactive hearings, within the framework the Permanent Forum sessions, with the participation of Member States, representatives of indigenous peoples as well as the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous peoples and the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, in order to facilitate the development of a concise and joint action-oriented outcome document.

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