

Global Indigenous Women's Caucus Statement
Read by Antonette Cordero
Agenda Item 7: UN World Conference on Indigenous Peoples

**Honorable Chairperson,
Distinguished Representatives,
Sisters and Brothers,**

Recommendations to the Permanent Forum

1. The Global Indigenous Women's Caucus supports the resolutions agreed upon at the Open-ended Indigenous Peoples' Brainstorming Meeting on the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples 2014, Copenhagen, Denmark, 13 – 14 January 2012. The Caucus also supports the ideas expressed by the Indigenous Global Coordinating Group today in this room. We would like to emphasize the need to have wide, full, and effective representation of Indigenous Peoples, especially Indigenous women, in the entire process. We ask that the doors be opened to the greatest number of Indigenous representatives.

Recommendations for the Indigenous Global Coordinating Group:

Number of Representatives.

2. In our first meeting on Friday May 4, 2012, we were informed that Indigenous Global Coordinating Group in preparation for the *UN World Conference on Indigenous Peoples 2014*, would be comprised of two representatives and one alternate for each one of the seven regions and by representatives for women and youth. We are still unclear whether Indigenous women will have the same number of representatives as the various regions. Given the importance of prioritizing a gender agenda in any discussion on Indigenous Peoples, as it has been recognized by the PFII, and given the fact that more than 50% of the Indigenous population is women, we ask the Indigenous Global Coordinating Group to ensure that there are the same number of representatives for Indigenous women as there are for each one of the regions. Thus, we call for two representatives and one alternate.

Appointment of Representatives.

3. Regarding the appointment of these representatives, we have resolved that it should be done via a selection process to be determined by the Global Indigenous Women's Caucus and not by individuals or organizations, regardless of their size or composition. This decision is based on the Copenhagen resolution that open-ended consultations with Indigenous Peoples' representatives happened in the framework of the PFII, as well as of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Furthermore, it was discussed that the

selection of Indigenous women's representatives would be done through the Global Indigenous Women's Caucus.

Selection Process. While the specific selection process is still to be determined by the Global Indigenous Women's Caucus, we have agreed to the following:

4. Given the languages of the larger groups of Indigenous women participating at the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and at the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and following the criteria by which we usually select our co-chairs, we have agreed that one of the representatives should be a fluent English speaker from the English-speaking regions and the other one a fluent Spanish speaker from the Spanish-speaking regions.

5. Given the need to have one representative from the English-speaking regions as soon as possible, we have agreed that the Global Indigenous Women's Caucus will decide during the meetings of the Permanent Forum who the representatives will be. The co-chairs will inform the Indigenous Global Coordinating Group of the result. For this reason, it is asked that, in the meantime, this GCG communicates all decisions and relevant matters to the co-chairs of the Global Indigenous Women's Caucus.