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**SESSION OF THE AD HOC WORKING GROUP ON THE PERMANENT FORUM  
GENEVA, FEBRUARY 15 – 19**

**Statement by Mr. Hjalmar Dahl, Inuit Circumpolar Conference**

Debate on the issue of Mandate of the Permanent Forum February 15.

Mr. Chairman;

I'll also like to congratulate you for the election as Chairman of this important body.

To us it is very important to get a clear signal and answer on what we are doing and will work on during this upcoming week before talking about the mandate of the Permanent Forum. There are two aspect which have to be clarified;

1. Are we talking about a 'possible' establishment of a Permanent Forum? Or
2. Are we talking about establishment of a Permanent Forum?

Mr. Chairman:

I think - in using the word 'possible' means that the considerations to establish a Permanent Forum is backing off and weakened.

It will be appropriate to get a clear signal from the Governments what their goals are in regards to the subject we are talking about.

We deserve a clear answer on that issue.

With respect to the issue of mandate of the Permanent Forum it is important that it should have a brought mandate with a political tool to solve problems faced by Indigenous Peoples.

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

Mr. Chairman;

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

In conclusion Mr. Chairman we are supporting recommendations from previous conferences and consultations in regards to the establishment of a Permanent Forum.

Thank you.

WGPF 99/CIR/1

Hjalmar Dahl, Timit Circumpolar

Conference

19.2.94

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very last

On this stage of the session re. the establishment of a P.F. for I.P.s within the U.N. one ~~can~~ think, that the achievements we have gained during the last 34 days can be considered as historical moments in the light of the theme of the Fut'l Decade for the Indi. peoples.

Since the issue of the P.F. was putted on <sup>the</sup> floor back in 1993 during the Conf. on H.R. concrete achievements have been made in regards to the future establishment of a P.F. for indi. peoples within U.N.

The partnership between the Gov't's and I.P.'s we experienced during this session is unique, and one can

continue  
hope that the same spirit will  
show up during the considerations  
of indigenous issues in the <sup>upcoming</sup> session  
of ~~H.P. & C.~~ on H. Rights <sup>next</sup> session next  
month.

We will also welcome the propo-  
sal to hold another session of  
10 days - so hopefully - complete  
concrete proposals towards establish-  
ment of a P.F. for I.P.'s within  
the U.N. ~~economic obstacles~~

We are also satisfied that we <sup>supposingly</sup>  
now are ~~working~~ working on ~~the~~ establishment  
~~of~~ a P.F. and not a possible  
establishment.

I am suprized  
that economic obstacles was expres-  
sed by a country ~~to~~ supposedly without  
such as obstacles.

