



**STATEMENT PRESENTED BY THE DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA  
DURING THE INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE SPECIAL RAPPORTEUR ON THE  
RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**

**24<sup>TH</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL**

**18 SEPTEMBER 2013**

Mr. President,

The South African delegation expresses its appreciation to the Special Rapporteur and the Expert Mechanism on the rights of Indigenous Peoples for their reports, which address the issue of a preferred model for resource extraction, as well as a study on access to justice, respectively.

South Africa is concerned by the activities of Transnational Corporations active in the extractive industries, which have adverse effects on human rights, and has called for them to be held accountable for violations of human rights. While we supported the Protect, Respect and Remedy framework, we have always advocated the elaboration of an international regulatory framework of a binding nature, to hold TNCs accountable for such adverse impacts on human rights. It is for this reason that we read with interest, the new proposed model on resource extraction. We however, wish to establish to what extent this model is supported by Indigenous Peoples themselves, and are also keen to find out how the success rate of prosecutions where TNCs have violated the rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The study on access to justice is a welcome initiative. Our delegation is keen to find out to what extent the Indigenous Peoples Judicial Systems are recognised in various regions of the world, and the impact that they have had in ensuring access to remedies.

I thank you.