

## **Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues**

Twelfth session

### **Agenda item 8: Future work**

#### **Statement by the Arctic Caucus**

Thank you Mr. Chairperson,

The Arctic Caucus is grateful for this opportunity to address the agenda item "Future work". We would like to offer some concrete recommendations that we believe could perhaps contribute to enhancing the efficiency of the Permanent Forum's work. The Arctic Caucus proposes:

- That the Permanent Forum conducts a maximum of three studies per year, and that those studies address thematic topics that will be the focus of discussions at the next year Permanent Forum session, and preferably are of universal applicability.
- That the Permanent Forum has a maximum of 50 outstanding recommendations, meaning that when that number is reached, the Forum does not adopt any further recommendation until outstanding recommendations have been implemented.
- That the Permanent Forum reports focus on what progress has been made in implementing previously adopted recommendations by the Forum.
- That the Permanent Forum hold no closed meetings during the session. Rather, the Forum members can meet internally at the end of the session.
- That the Permanent Forum finds ways to make its sessions more interactive.
- That the Permanent Forum each year identifies one issue where it is important for indigenous peoples and States to come to agreement. Indigenous peoples

and States then break up into the seven regions in order to negotiate regional solutions on the issue identified, and report back to the Forum of the outcome of those negotiations. Such negotiations should particularly focus on implementation of indigenous peoples' rights to lands, waters, territories and natural resources.

Thank you Mr. Chairperson.