

**Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples  
(EMRIP)**

**July 7-11, 2014**

**Global Indigenous Youth Caucus Statement**

**Item 7: United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

Thank you Mister Chair,

We, the Global Indigenous Youth Caucus, recognize and reaffirm the entirety of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the imperative role it plays in the facilitation of ensuring the promotion and protection of Indigenous human rights.

In accordance to the Human Rights Council resolution 21/24 in 2012, a questionnaire for Indigenous Peoples and States on the views of best practices regarding appropriate measures and implementation strategies to obtain the goals within the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples was passed and completed, by a minimal amount of UN states.

The ongoing work at the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and all other avenues associated with Indigenous Peoples within the UN mechanisms, provides some space for Indigenous peoples to ensure that UN states are held accountable for situations where the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is neglected and/or completely disregarded.

In saying this, it is fundamental that UN states, mechanisms, and all other human rights bodies fully commit to ensuring that the minimum standards of Indigenous Peoples rights, which are expressed in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, are fully recognized and sanctioned within all social, political, cultural, and economical agendas.

We recognize the inadvertence and oversight of UN states achieving the fundamental and basic rights designated within the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and would recommend the following to ensure that the plea for basic fundamental Indigenous human rights is no longer a commonality between Indigenous peoples and the UN states:

That EMRIP promotes and continues the survey on views of best practices regarding appropriate measures and implementation strategies to obtain goals of United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a very limited amount of UN states (20 states) completed the survey for an impactful report. Also that EMRIP ensures this report is concise, and conglomerated into a single, uncomplicated document.

Indigenous Peoples continue to recognize and reaffirm that the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is a minimal standard basic human rights document and continue striving for not only the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples to be honoured and fully implemented within all UN states, but for further steps to be

taken in order for Indigenous Peoples to achieve equality and reconciliation within themselves and their communities first and foremost.

Indigenous youth continue to be mentored, remain engaged, and acquire full and effective participation in all mechanisms associated with implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This can be supported by the UN Voluntary Fund, EMRIP, and the Permanent Forum.

EMRIP, the Permanent Forum, and all UN mechanisms ensure that the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples becomes promoted, and as prominent as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The minimal capacity and knowledge that UN states have in relations to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is dismal and requires a substantially higher level of awareness in order to ensure the further promotion and protection of Indigenous Human Rights within said states.

In stating the above, the GIYC would like to extend gratitude for all those continuing to promote and protect more than the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, but also promoting and protecting the lives and generations of Indigenous peoples around the world. The United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is more than a declaration, it is a compilation of the livelihoods, legacies, and cosmologies of those who defied, and continue to defy, genocide globally.

Thank you Mister Chair.