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STATEMENT OF ASIA INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' CAUCUS:

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on behalf of the Asia Indigenous Peoples' Caucus

Agenda item 6:

Comprehensive Dialogue with United Nations Agencies and Funds  
(Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights)

Madame Chairperson,

We commend the work of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). We reiterate the crucial need to integrate the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in the functioning of the UN human rights mechanisms, including the OHCHR. I take pleasure in presenting the following recommendations on behalf of the Asia Indigenous Peoples' Caucus:

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- For the UN Permanent Forum and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to urge upon all States to *respect and implement the UN Declaration*.
- For the UN Permanent Forum and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to urge all UN Human Rights Special Procedures *to ensure that indigenous peoples' human rights, as outlined in the UN Declaration on Indigenous Peoples, are adhered to in the review of violations committed by States and other parties*.
- For the UN Permanent Forum and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to urge upon the UN Human Rights Council Universal Periodic Review *to include the UNDRIP as part of its framework* in the conduct of review of those states that are inhabited by indigenous peoples.
- For the UN Permanent Forum and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to urge all UN Human Rights Treaty Monitoring bodies *to integrate and use the UNDRIP as part of its policy framework* in monitoring compliance of States members to the provisions of the concerned human rights treaty.
- For the UN Permanent Forum and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to urge upon States to implement the recommendations of the UN

Treaty monitoring bodies regarding the protection and promotion of human rights of indigenous peoples and to conduct follow up activities on the concerned recommendations made by the treaty bodies.

- For the UN Permanent Forum and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to recommend to the UN Human Rights Council to allocate resources for technical assistance to indigenous peoples engaging with the different mechanisms and procedures of the Human Rights Council relating to Indigenous peoples

#### SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS TO OHCHR

- For the OHCHR to *allocate additional resources* to those already set aside, to *promote sensitization of the UNDRIP* among States, National Human Rights Institutions and Indigenous peoples.
- For the OHCHR to *include Indigenous peoples in its Secretariat*, to ensure that indigenous peoples' concerns are duly reflected in the decision-making processes of OHCHR.
- For the OHCHR to *allocate additional resources and additional technical and logistical support to the work of the UN Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP)*.
- For the OHCHR to *allocate additional resources for the work of the Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of Indigenous Peoples* to enable him to visit more than two countries per year, and to hold regional consultations and other meetings with indigenous peoples.
- For the OHCHR to *actively engage with National Human Rights Institutions* for the mainstreaming of the UNDRIP, including awareness raising and capacity building of National Human Rights Institutions and other relevant institutions.
- For the OHCHR to *establish partnerships with indigenous organizations in capacity building activities*, including trainings in using the different human rights mechanisms and procedures for the promotion and protection of the individual and collective rights of indigenous peoples
- For the OHCHR to *expand or establish offices in countries* where there are serious cases of human rights violations committed with impunity and where National Human Rights Institutions are absent or weak.
- For the OHCHR to *designate Indigenous Focal Persons* in country offices (where existent) where serious cases of human rights violations against indigenous peoples are present.

Thank you, Madame chairperson.