

Human Rights Council 15th Session

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Agenda Item 5: General Debate

Mr. President,

On behalf of the Danish delegation I wish to congratulate the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people on the excellent work they have carried out to date.

Together with the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Special Rapporteur and the Expert Mechanism have proven their ability to cooperate effectively in carrying out their respective mandates in a complementary manner.

To reiterate points made during the interactive dialogue, Denmark is impressed with the commitment with which the Special Rapporteur fulfils his important mandate. We greatly appreciate his remarkable dedication to conducting country visits and meeting with representatives of indigenous peoples. The many studies he has carried out to date, including this year's report on the question of corporate responsibility, are a valuable contribution to furthering the understanding of the rights contained in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Mr. President,

We thank the EMRIP for their progress report on indigenous peoples and the right to participate in decision-making. We find that the study is a very timely contribution to the important promotion of good practices and the implementation of key provisions of the Declaration.

We look forward to the final report next year and to engage in an interactive dialogue with the EMRIP on the follow-up to this and other thematic studies.

We reiterate our support for the work on the human rights of indigenous peoples carried out by the Expert Mechanism and by the Special Rapporteur, and by the Office of the High Commissioner, and look forward to future collaboration.

Thank you!

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