

Human Rights Council  
Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples  
Third session  
12–16 July 2010

**OPENING OF THE THIRD SESSION OF THE EXPERT MECHANISM ON  
THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**

**12 July 2010**

**10:00 – 11:00**

**(Room XX, Palais des Nations)**

**Opening of the session by the outgoing Chairperson of the Expert Mechanism on the  
Rights of Indigenous Peoples**

I hereby declare open the first meeting of the third session of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples [GAVEL].

I now have the pleasure to welcome the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Ms. Navanethem Pillay, you have the floor.

**STATEMENT BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS**

[.....]

I would like to thank the High Commissioner for Human Rights for her presence today and kind words of support for the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

I also have the pleasure to welcome the President of the Human Rights Council you have the floor.

**STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL**

[.....]

I would like to thank the President of the Council for his presence and kind words of support for the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

**Item 1 – Election of officers**

Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Distinguished experts,

Let us now proceed with the first item on our agenda which is the election of officers in accordance with rule 103 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly.

Based on the principle of rotating Chair, there is an agreement among the members for a new Chairperson-Rapporteur. I now invite one of my distinguished colleague to make the nomination.

I recognize TBC, you have the floor.

Statement by TBC, for the nomination of Chairperson.

[.....]

In the absence of any objections, it is my privilege to declare TBC, Vice Chairperson-Rapporteur of the third session of the Human Rights Council Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples by acclamation.

[GAVEL]

Would the Chairperson-Rapporteur please come to the podium to take his/her seat and assume his/her functions?

[Elected Chairperson joins the podium]

**Newly Elected Chairperson, TBC**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the honour you have given me and the confidence which you have placed in me by electing me Chairperson-Rapporteur of the third session of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. I am looking forward to working with you during these five days in order to provide expertise on the rights of indigenous peoples to the Human Rights Council.

I would now like to share with you some preliminary considerations.

STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRPERSON-RAPPORTEUR

[.....]

I would like now to give the floor to Mr. Melakou, member of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations.

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STATEMENT BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
THE UNITED NATIONS VOLUNTARY FUND OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

[.....]

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**Item 2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work**

**Adoption of the agenda**

The Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is now called upon to adopt its agenda for its third session.

In this regard, I draw the attention of members to the provisional agenda contained in document A/HRC/EMRIP/2010/1.

PRESENTATION OF THE AGENDA ITEMS

Does any member wish to make a statement with regard to the provisional agenda?

I see none. May I therefore consider the agenda for the third session of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples adopted? [GAVEL]

**Programme of Work**

Let us now proceed with the consideration of the programme of work in accordance with rule 99 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly.

You have before you a programme of work agreed upon by the members of the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This timetable shows the order and distribution of meeting time for each agenda item for the third session, according to the adopted agenda.

PRESENTATION BY CHAIRPERSON-RAPPORTEUR  
OF THE PROGRAM OF WORK

**Item 3. Study on indigenous peoples and the right of indigenous peoples to participate in decision-making**

According to the adopted agenda, I would like to open the agenda item 3 on the Study on indigenous peoples and the right of indigenous peoples to participation in decision-making. I would like to invite my colleague, TBC, for some introductory remarks on the advanced version of the progress report, document A/HRC/EMRIP/2010/2, to be discussed under this agenda item.