

**STATEMENT OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES OF AFRICA ON WORLD CONFERENCE  
PRESENTED ON 28<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2013**

Representatives from indigenous peoples from the five regions of Africa, recognizing the wide diversity of indigenous peoples in Africa,

*We welcome* the opportunity to raise the voices of African indigenous peoples as part of the preparatory process of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the UN General Assembly to be known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples as approved in GA Resolution A/65/198;

*We welcome* further GA Resolution A/66/296 specifying the modalities of participation by indigenous peoples in the World Conference;

We would also take this opportunity to congratulate the two facilitators appointed by the President of the UN General Assembly, his excellency Ambassador Luis Alfonso de Alba and Mr John Henriksen for their excellent work.

In November 2012 in Nairobi, Kenya, Indigenous Peoples of Africa met in their preparatory meetings and settled the following themes;

- Rights to land and productive resources, specifically including territorial recognition, Free Prior and Informed Consent, benefits sharing, and evictions,
  - Conflict and its impact on indigenous peoples,
  - Rights to self-determination and self-governance,
  - Discrimination, both direct and indirect,
  - Environmental justice, including climate change and destruction of natural environments upon which IPs depend,
  - Conduct of multinational corporations and conservation organizations in relation to IP communities and lands, especially the link between the actions and omissions of governments and these actors;
  - Impunity for human rights violations, especially extrajudicial killings and enforcement of decisions and judgments that vindicate indigenous peoples' rights,
  - Denial of the right to political/legislative recognition, representation and participation, also including language recognition,
  - Marginalisation from social services, with a priority on education and health,
  - Rights of indigenous women, including concerns over harmful practices, rights of widows, and the impact of displacement and conflict on women and girls,
  - Right of indigenous peoples to receive information , and
  - Right of indigenous peoples to promote and practice their culture and religion.
- Indigenous peoples of Africa would appreciate to continue engaging in the process

Thank you Mr. Chair