

6(b)

**Working Group on Indigenous Populations,  
24th session, 31 July-4 August, 2006.**

**Theme: Other matters**

**6(b) Cooperation with other United Nations bodies.**

Mr. Chairman, thank you for giving me the floor. This is my first intervention at the Working Group.

I wish to express my appreciation to the UN Voluntary Funds for their support of my presence and participation.

In my capacity as the Secretary General of Dewan Adat Papua (Papua Customary Council) it is encouraging to acknowledge the presence of other UN bodies in my native homeland: Papua.

The United Nations bodies present in West Papua today are the International Labour Organization (ILO), United Nations Economic, Social and Culture Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) and World Health Organization (WHO). We also recognize the presence of the World Bank.

Dewan Adat Papua (Papua Customary Council) is calling for its effective and full involvement and cooperation with these United Nations bodies not only at the implementing level but also in the planning, controlling and monitoring process of the program for the benefit of Papua indigenous peoples.

Therefore, as the Secretary General of Dewan Adat Papua (Papua Customary Council) I do welcome these agencies to Papua. Furthermore I do welcome any type of cooperation with these UN

bodies to improve the living standards of my indigenous peoples and communities in Papua.

It is highly recommended that Indigenous Peoples should be given the opportunity to enter into genuine Tripartite-partnership between governments, indigenous peoples organizations with relevant UN Agencies.

Therefore, Mr. Chairman, a Memo of Understanding (MoU) between the Dewan Adat Papua (Papua Customary Council), the Government of Indonesia, and UN agencies in Papua should be signed as a token of genuine partnership in serving the interest, aspirations and needs of the indigenous peoples of Papua.

We do envisage a fruitful cooperation in Papua, emphasizing the urgency of programs and projects in the areas of Education, Health (HIV/AIDS), Human and Technical Infrastructures, and the Millennium Development Goals

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Leonard Imbiri, Secretary General Dewan Adat Papua

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