EUROPEAN UNION

Permanent Delegation to the United Nations Office and other international organisations in Geneva

UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL 51st session

Interactive dialogue with the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

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EU Intervention

Mr. President,

The EU thanks the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples for its annual report and for its work, including on the enhanced participation of Indigenous Peoples' representatives and institutions at the Human Rights Council on issues affecting them.

The EU also thanks the EMRIP for its study entitled "treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements, including peace accords and reconciliation initiatives, and their constitutional recognition".

As set out in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and in international human rights law, treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements between States and Indigenous Peoples is a matter of international concern. It is therefore crucial for both states and Indigenous Peoples, to be present in discussions around this topic. Furthermore, the full, equal, effective and meaningful participation of Indigenous women and girls must be ensured at all levels of decision-making.

We emphasize the importance in moving forward on the discussions of enhancing the participation on Indigenous Peoples' representatives and institutions at the Human Rights Council.

Members of the EMRIP, what measures should States implement to ensure genuine cooperation between States and Indigenous Peoples on any arrangements between them?

Thank you.