

**UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues**

**Eleventh Session**

**New York, 7<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> May 2012**

**Item 3: Report on the expert group meeting: combating violence against indigenous women and girls, article 22 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Study on the extent of violence against indigenous women and girls in terms of article 22 (2) of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.**

**Project Access Global Training Program Statement**

Thank you Madame Chair,

Indigenous Peoples from Canada, Bangladesh, Kenya, India, and Latin America shared cultural and societal viewpoints with a strong standpoint on Anti-Violence Against Indigenous Women. This is stated in Article 22(1) of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples very seriously as it says that "Particular attention shall be paid to the rights and special needs of indigenous elders, women, youth, children and persons with disabilities in the implementation of this declaration," and Article 22(2) says that "States shall take measures, in conjunction with indigenous peoples, to ensure that indigenous women and children enjoy the full protection and guarantees against all forms of violence and discrimination."

The Declaration provides rights on the issues that effect our Indigenous peoples surrounding the topics of Anti-Violence Against Indigenous Women. These Indigenous issues include, but are not limited to, domestic violence, human trafficking of women, female genital mutilation in Africa, the equitable rights of women and promoting justice to those women who are in violent situations, gender misbalance, the social exclusion of women under superstition in the central part of India, sexual violence, the Panamanian government and the call to respect and ensure the effective application of the rights of young Indigenous women who were raped at the demonstrations over territorial rights, violence against the Indigenous women of Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh by the Non-Indigenous Bengali and the military, and the Canadian governments continual effort in ensuring solutions in the Missing and Murdered Aboriginal Women's Inquiry.

We appreciate the report of the Expert Group Meeting and we also recognize the wide-range of consideration of Violence effecting Indigenous Women including environmental violence. We also appreciate the visit and attention to Violence Against Indigenous Women of the Rapporteur to Papua New Guinea. We, as Indigenous Peoples of the regions mention above, place a call of action and request the following recommendations for the UN Systems to implement surrounding Anti-Violence Against Indigenous Women:

1.) That the UN Systems, global organizations, and the UN's Women's Global Programme on Safe Cities Free of Violence Against Women collaborate effectively to promote awareness and gradually diminish the issues of Female Genital Mutilation in Africa and Maluku and other areas, as well as establish the effective application of the rights of the young indigenous women who are raped at the demonstrations over territorial rights, as they are both subjects concerning sexual violence.

2.) That the Commission on the Status of Women and the Special Rapporteur for the Rights of Indigenous Peoples investigates and appoints a special rapporteur on the epidemic issue of Indigenous Female Human Trafficking on a global scale.

3.) That gender-responsive governance structures and UN Women systems ensure that gender equality and gender misbalance in regards to indigenous women is a topic that is not only educated on, but also responded to around the world by appropriate governance structures for the advancement of effective change.

4.) That the UN Women in partnership with the Security Council on the Area of Women, Peace, and Security, and important governmental structures, continuously engage in critically important dialogue surrounding the issues of ending domestic violence against indigenous women, including the areas of Africa, India, Bangladesh, and Asia.

In conclusion, Madame Chair, we request that the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues informs all the stated above United Nations bodies and agendas and that they continuously stride forward to complete the recommendations to promote betterment for all Indigenous Women around the world.

Thank you Madame Chair