DRAFT REPORT

INTERNATIONAL NGO CONFERENCE ON DISCRIMINATION AGAINST INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS - 1977 - IN THE AMERICAS

Organization. The Conference was organised by a sub-committee of the Special NGO Committee on Human Rights in Geneva. The sub-committee (against racism, racial discrimination and apartheid and for decolonisation) was created within the framework of the UN Decade against Racism. The Conference on Discrimination against Indigenous Populations is the fourth event organised by the Sub-Committee in the framework of the Decade.

The Conference was held from 20-23 September 1977 in the Palais des Nations, Geneva. Some 250 persons took part; 46 international and national NGOs were represented; 27 governments sent one or more observers; 38 nations, associations or indigenous groups delegated 88 representatives or observers. International organisations (UN, UNHCR, UNITAR, ILO, UNESCO) were represented by 10 high-ranking officials. The Conference provided an occasion for contacts with the Genevese authorities, ethnologists and the mass media. The press, radio and television gave the Conference exceptional attention.

The first day was devoted to a plenary session at which welcoming addresses were given and preliminary reports and declarations were made. On the second and third days, the delegates divided into three commissions to study the legal, economic and social-cultural aspects of discrimination against the indigenous populations of the Americas. Each commission formulated resolutions which were submitted, on the fourth day, to a plenary session which adopted a final resolution.

Principal points coming out of the Conference are:

(1) The indigenous delegates, who came from all parts of the Americas, insisted on their mutual feelings of solidarity. The Conference reinforced their sense of being one people. "We are", they said, "from north to south, from west to east, brothers, united in one struggle". (It was the first time that Indians coming from so many different countries had the possibility of working and discussing together.)

./.

(2) The indigenous Americans all expressed the same resentment against the conquerors and colonisers who had deprived them of their nationhood, stolen their lands, dispersed and enslaved their peoples, and who, even today, refuse their right to self-determination, sovereignty over their lands or even the right to use, in their own manner, the natural resources which are found in their territories.

(3) The indigenous peoples of the Americas, so long kept in ignorance, and separated one from the other, desperate, not knowing where to turn, are beginning today to place their hopes for justice into the hands of the United Nations. This Conference was an opening for them to the international organisations; it gave the Indians an opportunity to invite all those who believe in the rights of man to listen to them, to help them, to take up their case and to put pressure on the governments, the international organisations and on public opinion to accord them justice.

(4) The discussions showed that the struggle was the same among all those fighting in different ways, according to their societies, against oppressive forces and structures and in favour of human rights. This realisation gave birth to a feeling of solidarity among the Indians and the other participants at the Conference who had not previously been aware of this reality. The Indians demonstrated their spirituality as well as the unity of their philosophical and political vision; they seemed to appreciate the friendly contact with partners engaged in the same struggle in other forms.

(5) The indigenous populations of the Americas wish to be recognised as "nations", with sovereign rights over their lands. In fact, certain terms have never been precisely defined to the satisfaction of all, and some have questioned an international law based on principles dating from a period when colonisation took place in the name of divine law. The indigenous peoples ask for the recognition of their languages, of their juridical systems, of the right to self-determination and to live in accordance with their own traditions and cultures.

at end of 6

(6) The question of self-determination was studied with particular attention. The delegates and participants coming from North, Central and South America pleaded in favour of self-determination for indigenous populations and for their recognition as nations. The delegates of certain indigenous nations, especially those who represented the Six Nations Iroquois Confederacy and the Sioux Nation demanded that they be immediately recognised as States according

./.

to international law on the strength of the treaties which clearly recognised their status as sovereign nations. Other delegates drew attention to the legal rights of indigenous nations that were not represented at the Conference.

The discussion centered around two principle points. In the first place, the position taken seemed to be in contradiction with the principle of territorial integrity as set forth in the United Nations Charter and elsewhere. Secondly, the extent of the right of self-determination of peoples, incorporated in international Human Rights Covenants, has never been defined authoritatively. It is not certain that the indigenous groups, or which of these groups, could claim this right, in full or in part.

new para

(7) The transnational companies, under the pretext of "progress" or "development" have obtained concessions which threaten the survival of indigenous populations. Documentation brought by the indigenous groups showed the inescapable link between the richness of the Indian lands and the desire of those who wish to eliminate the Indians in order to appropriate or exploit this richness for their own profits. The Indians demand the cessation of the genocide of which they have been victims since the beginning of the conquest and which today takes on new and subtle forms, such as sterilisation in the guise of family planning, the placing of children in non-indigenous families "for their good", or attempts to "integrate" them, reinforced by extortion or by the offer of rewards, etc.

(8) Statistics show the shocking rate of poverty, unemployment, illiteracy and disease among the Indians. Even in countries where indigenous people are more numerous than the white population ~~(Bolivia, Peru, Equador, etc.)~~ their material situation is incomparably inferior to that of the Whites. Without power, persecuted, often suffering from hunger, the indigenous populations have reached the point of despair. The associations which they have founded in the past years, in North America or in exile, are making a supreme effort today. It is interesting to note the important role which women play in this movement, just as they do among other people that are struggling for their liberation. + one sentence on Sub-Commis.

The Final Resolution of the Conference is joined to this report. In addition to the points raised above, and to being an appeal for aid and for understanding and solidarity, it puts forward concrete actions that could be undertaken by the United Nations and its organs, by governments within the framework of international conventions, and by non-governmental organisations and other groups.

./.

Results of the Conference.

A. Impact on the Indigenous Delegates.

The delegates expressed their satisfaction; they appreciated finally being heard with interest and sympathy. The preparation of documents and the exchanges of views at the Conference helped to clarify certain ideas, such as the possibilities of legal recourse, and to specify the most promising channels. The Official Report of the International Indian Treaty Council and the Final Report of the Sub-Committee which organised the Conference, provide a basis for further study and actions.

B. General Impact.

The Institute Henry-Dunant in Geneva has accepted to house the documentation of the Conference; this will form the core of a more complete collection in support of indigenous populations. Researchers, journalists or students can consult the documents and can make, on the spot, photocopies at a moderate price.

A large number of articles has appeared in the press and in magazines about the Conference or about Indians of the Americas; numerous requests for information have been received.

Following the Conference, groups of indigenous delegates travelled to a number of Swiss cities, and to Holland, Germany, Finland, Bulgaria, USSR and Mongolia.

The Swiss television has made a film assembling sequences taken during the Conference. A Swiss television team will soon go to the United States to make a film there. Film flashes have been transmitted in various countries and copies can be rented by interested groups.

Report submitted by: Pearl Grobet-Secrétan (Intl Federation for Human Rights)
Hans Thoolen (Intl Commission of Jurists)
Jimmie Durham
Alexander Weber (Intl Indian Treaty Council)

REPORT OF THE MEETINGS OF THE WORKING GROUPS FOR THE ECONOMIC AND THE SOCIAL AND CULTURAL COMMISSIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL NGO CONFERENCE ON DISCRIMINATION AGAINST INDIGENOUS PEOPLES - 1977 - IN THE AMERICAS, PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA, 13 JUNE,77

The discussions at both working groups were centred around proposals regarding the issues which should be considered by each commission of the Conference.

Both groups took into consideration the technical proposals that had been prepared by Mr. A. Willemsen Diaz of the UN Human Rights Division at the request of the officers of the Sub-Committee. The discussion showed clearly the need for careful coordination between the work of the commissions. It was recognized that land was a crucial question: it was a legal problem with important economic and social/cultural ramifications.

1. Working group for the Economic Commission

Present: R. Chandra (WPC), J. Chipenda (WCC), R. Michaelowicz (MRAP), L. Weingarten (Conf. Sec't), Mr. A. Willemsen Diaz (UN Division of HumanRights) who had been invited to attend, and Ms N. Berejnaia (UN/NGO Information Officer).

It is proposed that the commission should consider:

A. The concept indigenous people have of land.
The overriding importance of land. Man-land relationship (in the indigenous cultural context).

B. The problem created by pressures coming from the non-Indian Society; the clash of values inrelation to the use of land.

Conflicting situations: Agricultural/pastoral/hunting-gathering societies make economic use of land. Due account should be taken of the different needs arising for them and the conflict with the non-indigenous peoples' expansive settlement policies.

C. Government initiatives. What have governments done to overcome this conflict?
Different situations: In Canada and the USA treaty rights - although imposed - guaranteed some land but not the economic basis under which viable living conditions could be assured. Even these rights are increasingly infringed upon by abusive practices in what concerns the exploitation of land. For example, increasing ecological damage intensifies the problem. Indigenous peoples may have land/fishing rights, but foodstocks have been destroyed or contaminated in chemically polluted waters. This includes mercury poisoning. In Central and South America,land rights were derived from different legal sources, but with equally effective limitations. Everywhere, economic development and population pressures of recent decades have brought about increased infringement of established indigenous peoples' rights by expanding national societies. A new and powerful dimension in both the above situation is presented by multinational corporations which aremajor aggressors against the rights and way of life of indigenous peoples. They are carrying on massive development projects for their own ends in some of the last remaining areas in which indigenous peoples had maintained a relatively undisturbed way of life. A process of colonization which comes from both internal and external sources has, thus, acquired a new impetus.
D. Viable models of responsible development would, inter alia, call for putting the necessary emphasis on traditional respect shown by indigenous populations for their environment, as opposed to the disregard displayed and the destructioncaused by "economically advanced" societies in this respect.

2. Working group for the Social and Cultural Commission

Present: R. Chandra (WPC), E. Ballantyne (WILPF), R. Bridel (IFWLC), B. Gibaut (YWCA) Gramegna (WUS), H. Khan (IUEF), R. Manser (ISMUN), R. Michaelowicz (MRAP), K. Talbot, (WPC), L. Weingarten (Conf. Sec't). Mr. A. Willemsen Diaz (UN Divisionof Human Rights) who had been invited to attend, was also present.

This Commission must have a broad mandate, since for indigenous people their culture is of central and vital importance. It will have to deal with traditional aspects of legal, social and economic approaches and with the economic origins of social/cultural penetration. The key to the proper discharge of the commission's tasks

may lie in the recognition of the importance of ethnic identification.

A central theme for the Commission might be that there is no indigenous problem - the idfficulties arise from the attitudes of non-Indian society towards indigenous populations. NGOs should consider plans and programmes of action to help change these attitudes.

Another vital point to be brought out is that of ecocide and ethnocide leading to genocide. It was noted that the Convention on Genovice covers mainly acts committed "with intent to destroy a group", and does not adequately include situations in which the survival of a people is threatened either by ecological changes which fundamentally affect their environment and/or economic and social circumstances which constitute their way of life: both are imposed from the outside. Mention was made of the fact that the Sub-Commission of Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities had appointed a Special Rapaorteur who was carrying out a Study of the Question of the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. The Commission might want to consider whether it can make a contribution to this work. The point was also made, in this connection, that the problem of genocide might, in addition, also be dealt with by the Legal Commission.

3. General discussion relation to the Conference as a whole

Some ideas were also expressed during the meetings on some aspects of the Conference as a whole which it was decided to report to the Sub-Committee.

4. Further Working Group meetings

In view of the fact that representatives of indigenous groups are expected to be in Geneva for the meetings of the Sub-Committee on 12 July, it was decided to hold working group meetings in the morning of 14 July to clear up with them any over-lapping that might be developing as the working groups prepare the work of the commissions.

COMITÉ SPÉCIAL DES ONG INTERNATIONALES POUR LES DROITS DE L'HOMME (GENÈVE)
SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF INTERNATIONAL NGOs ON HUMAN RIGHTS (GENEVA)

BUREAU DU SECRÉTAIRE :
FMANU - WFUNA
3, rue de Varembé
1201 GENÈVE

BUREAU DU TRÉSORIER :
CJM - WJC
1, rue de Varembé
Case Postale 191
1211 GENÈVE 20

2 May, 1977

Sub-Committee on Racism and Decolonisation

To All Members of the Sub-Committee:

Re: ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

Dear Friends,

At the meeting of the Sub-Committee on Racism and Decolonisation of the Geneva NGO Special Committee on Human Rights, held on 26 April 1977, it was decided that at the next meeting, to be held on 12 July 1977, we should hold elections for the officers of the Sub-Committee for the next period of three years.

The procedure which was approved was that all member organisations should be invited to submit nominations within a period of six weeks and that at the same time an indication should be given of the willingness or otherwise of the existing officers to continue to serve. For any offices for which a ballot is needed the ballot will be held at the next meeting, in accordance with the role of the NGO Conference on elections.

The Sub-Committee also decided to increase the number of Vice Chairmen from one to three. Accordingly, the officers to be elected are: Chairman, three Vice Chairmen and Secretary.

The present officers are:

Chairman:	Romesh Chandra World Peace Council
Vice Chairman:	John Ennals Anti-Apartheid Movement
Secretary:	Edith Ballantyne Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

.../..

The Chairman of the Sub-Committee (the World Peace Council) is willing to serve for another term. Edith Ballantyne, who has since been elected President of the NGO Conference, would not be able to spare the time to be Secretary of the Sub-Committee, though she kindly agreed that the Sub-Committee may continue to use the premises of the Women's International League for secretarial purposes. We are contacting the Anti-Apartheid Movement to ask them whether they would be prepared to continue to serve as one of the Vice Chairman.

You are requested to send to the Secretariat of the Sub-Committee (Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, 1 rue de Varembé, 1211 Geneva 20) the names and organisations of any persons whom you wish to nominate for election to any of the elected offices, together with their formal letters of agreement to serve, so as to reach the office not later than 15 June 1977. This will enable a list of nominations to be prepared in time for the next meeting of this Sub-Committee.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Romesh Chandra
Chairman

SUB-COMMITTEE ON DECOLONIZATION AND AGAINST RACISM, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND APARTHEID
of the Special NGO Committee on Human Rights
Geneva

Report of the eighteenth meeting, 1 February 1977, Palais des Nations, Geneva.

1. The Chairman, Mr. Romesh Chandra (WPC) opened the meeting at 14h30. The roll call was taken.

2. The minutes of the meeting of the working group held on 13 October 1976 were approved with two amendments: On page 3, second line from top, the word "testimonials" to read "testimonies"; same page, second paragraph, to add the sentence:"Madame Grobet stressed the need to approach the museums quickly since plans for exhibitions were usually made at least one year in advance."

3. The agenda was adopted with the addition of a report on the follow-up work to the NGO migrant workers' conference of 1975.

Preparation for the NGO Conference on Indigenous Populations in the Americas

4. Mr. Mayers and Mr. Coulter, Institute for the Development of Indian Law, reported on preparations planned by Indian groups and contacts made in North America. Proposals for funding were being worked out by them to allow for four planning sessions and for travel to the Conference of the planning committee members; and to pay for research, editing of material, media development and co-ordination of Indian participation in the Conference. A number of countries in the Americas were being covered. A first meeting had taken place at St. Paul Minnesota where a planning committee and task forces had been set up. The meeting had defined areas of research and had made plans for documentation. Contacts had been made with Indian organizations in Canada, particularly in the Far North. Research concerning Latin American laws relative to Indians and relating to the legal situation of Indians in the US had begun. Similar research would soon be undertaken in Canada. Members of the planning committee had begun research into the other conference subjects, and are developing Indian community involvement.

5. Mr. Durham, International Indian Treaty Council, reported that he had been able to make valuable contacts at a meeting in Panama in December in which representatives of Indian groups from Central America had participated. The Treaty Council was collaborating with Indian groups in many Latin American countries concerning the Conference, and had undertaken to co-ordinate the preparation for and representation at the Conference.

6. He pointed to special problems concerning Latin America: The Indians often lacked skill and resources to properly document the difficulties they had with their governments and with the multinational corporations. Furthermore, in some countries repression was intensive and prevented full participation. Poverty was also a factor with respect to participation in the Conference. The Treaty Council would work with US Indian and non-Indian organizations and individuals to help in compiling documentation on the situation of Indians in Latin American countries.

7. Mr. Mayers and Mr Durham submitted lists of organizations with which they had establishe contact and to which invitations to the Conference should be extended. *

8. The following decisions were taken with regard to the Conference:

- Title of Conference: International NGO Conference on Discrimination against Indigenous Populations in the Americas.** A definition of what is meant by "indigenous" in the context of the Conference is to be given in a memorandum or in a clause in the "rules of procedure".

- Aims of the Conference: To provide information about the situation of the indigenous populations in the Americas to the international NGO community to enable it to better understand the problems and to elaborate programs of action to help eliminate discriminatio

---

* The lists are available on request from the Sub-Committee's Secretariat.

**Subsequently, the title was changed slightly.

- Participation: Invitations are to be sent to member organizations of the NGO Conference, to interested NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC, to interested national NGOs and institutions, to the United Nations and Specialized Agencies, regional inter-governmental organizations, and to governments.

- Documentation: One or two documents not exceeding 15 pages will be prepared by Indian groups for each of the three conference commissions. Member organizations of the Sub-Committee also will be asked to prepare working papers.

- Programme of the conference: The work of the Conference will be carried out in opening and closing plenary sessions and in three commissions meeting simultaneously for two days. The Commissions will deal with

i. Legal aspects (laws and acts, repressive regulations, etc);
ii. Economic aspects (land, resources, employment, trade unions, etc);
iii. Social and cultural aspects (community, education, health, traditions, values, etc).

The final plenary session will allow for discussion of possibilities of elaborating a convention; of being heard at international forums, and of priority actions.

The possibility of organizing a reception to enable participants to meet informally is to be explored.

- Time and place of the conference. It was decided to ask the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva whether meeting facilities and services at the Palais des Nations could be provided free of charge for four days during the week of 19 September 1977.

- Finances. To help defray the cost of preparation and the running of the Conference, it was agreed to appeal to the member organizations of the Special NGO Committee on Human Rights for financial contributions approaching 400 Swiss francs, and for help in kind. It was also agreed to charge a registration fee of 60 francs per delegate.

Resolutions against apartheid adopted by the 31st UN General Assembly

9. Attention was drawn to the possibilities for new NGO actions in connection with a number of resolutions and the plan of action adopted by the 31st UN General Assembly. The meeting also noted the GA resolution calling for an international conference against apartheid to be prepared by the UN Special Committee against Apartheid in consultation with a number of UN and non-governmental bodies, including the Geneva NGO Sub-Committee on Racism and Decolonization. It was agreed to consider specific activities at a later meeting of the Sub-Committee.

10. The meeting noted the information about the World Conference against Apartheid, Racism and Colonialism in Southern Africa, called by NGOs and the Liberation Movements, to be held from 16-19 June 1977 at Lisbon, Portugal.

Follow-up to the NGO Conference on Migrant Workers

11. The convener of the Sub-Committee's working group on migrant workers, Mr. René Livchen (ILHR) reported that he had arranged for the migrant workers' associations represented at the 1975 NGO conference to receive on a regular basis documents and information of interest to them from the ILO, WHO, UN, and the Council of Europe. The ILO had become the co-ordinating agency within the UN system of activities concerning migrant workers. It had prepared a detailed program of activities, and copies had been sent to migrant workers' associations by the Sub-Committee's secretariat.

Time and Place of next Meeting

12. It was agreed that meetings of the working group should be convened as needed, and that a meeting of the Sub-Committee should be called some time prior to the September Conference.

COMITÉ SPÉCIAL DES ONG INTERNATIONALES POUR LES DROITS DE L'HOMME (GENÈVE)
SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF INTERNATIONAL NGOs ON HUMAN RIGHTS (GENEVA)

BUREAU DU SECRÉTAIRE:
FMANU - WFUNA
3, rue de Varembé
1201 GENÈVE

BUREAU DU TRÉSORIER:
CJM - WJC
1, rue de Varembé
Case Postale 191
1211 GENÈVE 20

Sub-Committee on Racism and Decolonization

Working Group planning Conference on Indians of the Americas, 13 October, 1976, in NGO Lounge, Palais des Nations, Geneva.

Minutes of the Meeting

Chairman of the Meeting: Mr. Romesh Chandra, vice-president Conference of NGOs in Consultative Status with ECOSOC.

List of Participants:

Riley T. Martin	Int. Commission of Jurists
J. Duncan Wood	Friends World Committee for Consultation
Marco A. Gramegna	World University Service
Priscilla Read	" " "
Pearl Grobet	Int. Federation for Human Rights
Ingrid Vellino	" " " "
Hussain Khan	Int. University Exchange Fund
Romesh Chandra	World Peace Council
Kaziemer Kielan	" " "
Martha Fort	WILPF
Natalia Berejnaia	UN, Office Public Information
Jimmie Durham	Int. Indian Treaty Council
Excused: Rosa Michaelowitz	Movement Against Racism and Anti-Semitism and for Peace

About midpoint, upon the departure of Mr. Chandra, Duncan Wood took the Chair.

This Working Group has the task of planning the NGO sponsored Conference on Indians of the Americas, to be held at the UN in Geneva in 1977. Such a Conference is in accordance with the UN Decade against Discrimination.

It will be a 4 day Conference, the preferred month September, the preferred room Salle XVI which accomodates 200 persons. Mrs. Berejnaia will check the UN Callendar in January 1977 and we shall notify members of the Working Group of available dates. Simultaneous translation in English, French and Spanish can be provided by the UN.

The Conference's aims are
1) to provide an international forum for Study of the Situation of the Indian population of the Americas,
2) to spread knowledge of the situation among NGOs,
3) to enable international NGOs to take part in publicising the situation and to help improve it.

The format for the Conference will likely be: first day: plenary sessions; second and third days working groups; fourth day: plenary sessions: to hear group reports and new ideas, and to take action.

It is tentatively planned that there will be 3 working groups. They will be formed around areas of study (1) legal, political (2) economic (3) Social, health, family, cultural, educational. There was discussion as to what extent the working groups will take up Indian problems in particular countries. Also of the representation of Indian views. It was suggested that the working groups run themselves like hearings: that there be a presentation, a question period for exchange of views, followed by recommendations for action. These group sessions might be accomplished in 1 1/2 days, leaving 1/2 day for consideration in each group of use of means to publicize Indian problems.
A media committee could prepare in advance information on media resources and how to use them, and contribute this knowledge to the working group to be used by them and by the Plenary when actions are decided upon.
An exact time table will be made at the next planning meeting.

As to which Indians will speak for Indians, which Indians will be invited to the Conference, from what countries they will come, Jimmie Durham was delegated by this Working Group to coordinate this planning. He has already been working with several Indian organizations in the US, Canada, Mexico and South America. Ingrid Vellino, as a free lance writer, had recently interviewed Indian women in western USA. Hussarin Khan and Marco Gramegna have Central and South American contacts who may be able to obtain participation from Chili, Paraguay, Guatemala, if not of Indians, of persons who are concerned about Indian problems in those countries where repression is severe.
Members of the Working Group having recommendations about Indian representatives are to communicate them to Mr. Durham. His Organization will make the final selections.

The matter of financing the Conference requires further attention. It was requested that an overall budget be estimated, known provision described, and the amount of the gap to be met brought back to the members of this organizing committee. Mr. Durham is to undertake this report to next meeting. He at first estimated that the delegation would total 35 Indians. In view of financial limitation, he considered 25 a possible number. All the Indian organizations are hard pressed financially and he is as yet uncertain as to what extent they can meet so large an expense as international travel.

A question was raised as to government representation. Will governments and/or government agencies be invited, as the Bureau of Indian Affairs of the USA? There are governments such as Panama which are trying to do something constructive about Indian problems. It was thought that governments would not be invited but would be kept informed about the Conference.

The possibility of Conference overlap with the work of UN Commissions and sub-committees will require some attention from the planners.

There was a long discussion about preparatory materials for the Conference. There should be provision for a compilation of testimonials sent in by Indians of the Americas. Currently a task force of Indians in USA is accumulating documents from --USA, Canada, and some from Mexico. Source material from Central and South America will also be the responsibility of that task force. It was suggested that contact be made with World Council of Indigenous People, The Anti-Slavery Society, and the Minority Rights Sub-Committee as potential sources of documents. A particular effort should be made to get information out of the countries where repression is most flagrant.
It is recommended that a concise summary of the accumulated materials be made available to each participant in the Conference well in advance of September 1977, in the participant's working language. The 3 languages of this Conference being French, English, Spanish, the documentation should be made in all 3 languages.

Madame Grobet gave an encouraging account of her visit to the Geneva Ethnographic Museum where the director and the head of the Indian Division agreed to 1) an exhibit of art and artifacts brought to Geneva by the visiting Indians, 2) a parallel exhibit of Indian materials owned by the Museum, perhaps including a photo exhibit from Musée de l'Homme, Paris, 3) the use of a room in the Ethnographic Museum for a reception and press conference for the Indians. Madame Grobet has given Edith Ballantyne a memo on this.

It was in 1925 that a first delegation of American Indians came to Geneva to the League of Nations. The publicity given at that time might be brought out of newspaper files and other archives and displayed at the time of the Conference.

Film documentaries of Indians could be shown at a local Geneva theatre in connection with the Conference, such as the studies of the Amazonian Indians, Wounded Knee, etc. Mr. Durham is to identify films and inquire into the matter of providing French subtitles for showing to the public in Geneva.

As to accomodation for Indians representative to the Conference while they are in Geneva they would prefer to be together. Madame Grobet offers to inquire about rates at Union Chretienne, Foyer John Knox and Masaryk Center.

As Mr. Durham returns to New York City immediately and as Edith Ballantyne, president of the Organization of NGOs, will be in New York City for the Board Meeting 3 and 4 November 1976 he will confer with her there.

Copies of these minutes will be sent to Board Members prior to the November Meeting.

The next Meeting of this Working Group in Geneva will be called by Mr. Chandra as need arises, and definitely before February 1977.

Respectfully submitted

Martha Fort